

SETON HALL'S ASIAN VOICE

FALL 2011

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Welcome from the Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Welcome to our wonderful Asian Studies Program of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, where you will find excellent courses, delightful colleagues, and great students.

We also have a striking International Month that opens a whole new world to the Seton Hall Univer-

sity campus community and celebrates our Eastern legacy.

Furthermore, we offer a variety of study abroad programs, including our June in China Program and our SHU-Sophia Exchange with Sophia University in Japan. Do join us!

-Dr. Anne Mullen-Hohl

A Message from the Director of the Asian Studies Graduate Program

I would like to, first of all, take this opportunity to welcome all thirty-two graduate students to the academic year of 2011-2012. In particular, please join me in welcoming the ten new students, most of whom have travelled far from China or Japan. Like anyone who has just arrived in a strange place, our newcomers, even including those who grew up and were educated in the US, have discovered, in their first two

months, something unfamiliar, but challenging, as well as exciting on the campus of Seton Hall University. What is their experience about the Masters in Asian Studies Program? What is their life here? In this issue we have featured some new Master of Arts candidates and their initial thoughts of matriculation to Seton Hall's program. I thank each of them for sharing their thoughts and I wish each of our students, current or new, a successful year!

-Dr. Dongdong Chen

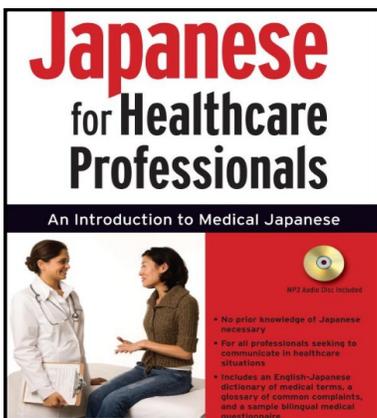
Remarks from the Director of the Asian Studies Program

Welcome to our Fall 2011 edition of Asian Voice, the bi-annual newsletter for the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. This academic year, we are especially excited about our newest faculty member. Dr. Maria Sibau, a graduate from Harvard University with specializations in Chinese literature and civilization, will be teaching Traditional Asia, Chinese Literature, Researcher Methods, and Asian Literature in English Translation courses here.

This is the second year since the merging of the four departments into one - Asian Studies, Africana Studies, Classical Studies, and Modern Languages - to become the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. Together, we are striving for excellence in education at Seton Hall University. Through this newsletter, we sincerely hope to reach out to the students, alumni, and community to introduce Asian Studies activities and events to Seton Hall University.

-Dr. Shigeru Osuka

Recent Faculty Publications: *Japanese for Healthcare Professionals*



The only book of its kind in English, *Japanese for Healthcare Professionals* is the most recent publication of Dr. Shigeru Osuka. This textbook offers a complete language course that teaches Japanese grammar along with the vocabulary of medical care.

With nearly three million Japanese tourists visiting the

United States last year and another five hundred thousand expatriates residing in the United States and other English-speaking countries, it is inevitable that many Japanese speakers find themselves in need of healthcare but are unable to communicate. This groundbreaking book provides a language course, for classroom use or self-study, that

will enable medical professionals to prepare themselves to assist patients from Japan. Covering every step of a patient's interaction with healthcare providers, from appointments to the physical examination, symptoms and illnesses, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up, *Japanese for Healthcare Professionals* fills a vital niche for medical workers and Japanese

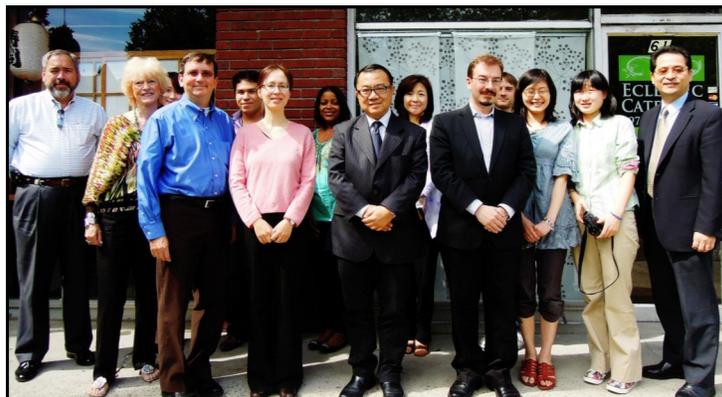
Welcoming Luncheon in Honor of Dr. Maria Sibau

On September 16, 2011, faculty and students of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures gathered at Harusame Japanese restaurant to welcome Dr. Maria Sibau to Seton Hall University.

Dr. Sibau just completed her doctoral degree in Chinese literature at Harvard University and holds an M.A. degree in East Asian Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles. Her dissertation, titled "Reading for the Moral: Exemplarity and Heroism in *Xingshi Yan* and the 'Fiction of Moral

Duty,'" is a study of the ways in which traditional moral virtues such as filial piety, loyalty, and chastity are represented in short stories from the mid-seventeenth century.

Her research interests include classical and vernacular fiction of the Ming and Qing dynasties (fourteenth to early twentieth century), popular culture in pre-modern China, ethics and literature. Prior to coming to Seton Hall University, Dr. Sibau taught courses in traditional Chinese literature and modern Chinese language at Boston



Faculty and students of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures welcomed Dr. Maria Sibau to Seton Hall University by celebrating at Harusame Japanese restaurant.

University and at Venice University. We are so glad to have Dr. Sibau join the Department and we warmly welcome her to the Seton Hall campus community!

40th Annual Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies Conference



Dr. Shigeru Osuka, Professor Andrasko, graduate students, and alumni of the Asian Studies program at the 40th Annual MAR/AAS Conference held at Princeton University.

The Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies held its 40th annual conference on October 21-23 at Princeton University. Among those presenting at the conference were eleven affiliated with Seton Hall University. Dr. Shigeru Osuka, MAR/AAS Council on Conferences Representative, attended along with many

other Seton Hall professors, alumni, and graduate students.

The title of the conference was "On Human Rights and Social Justice in Asia." Presentations covered a wide variety of topics, such as religion, politics, economy, and covered a range of interdisciplinary research projects.

June-in-China Program 2011



Dr. Dongdong Chen, Dr. Jason Yin, Dr. David Beneteau with June-in-China participants in Beijing.

It has already been two years since I went abroad to get my master's degree. It seems to me that everything has been changing so fast in China; even I can hardly recognize it sometimes. The main impetus behind my decision to attend the Seton Hall June-in-China summer program was to garner deeper insight on the constant, unceasing transformation taking place in my motherland – so began this journey to China with newfound perspectives and values.

During the trip, we jaunted through Beijing, Xi'an and Shanghai, the three most representative cities of China. Throughout the journey, I observed the blending of East and West, the contrast of ancient and modern, and the changes in the way people think and live their lives.

Xi'an is a city laden with history. It is known as the eternal city, a continuing record of the great changes in Chinese civilization that has been developing over the last 3,100 years. One night in Xi'an,

our program arranged for us to watch an amazing large-scale song and dance show "A Song of Everlasting Sorrow" at a scenic spot called Huaqing pool. It talks about the legendary love story of Yang Yuhuan and Emperor Xuanzong of Tang.

The last few days of the trip, we visited the most modern area of China: Shanghai and its surrounding cities. Shanghai is considered to be more of a true commercial center of China than Beijing.

The changes I witnessed there included an increase of local brands continuing to come to the fore and become popular. Some of our American friends on the trip were surprised by the high quality and low price of the Chinese-made products. They realized that "Made in China" does not mean cheap and low-quality as much as it did before.

-Fangzhou Zhang, Asian Studies M.A. Candidate 2012

SHU-Sophia Exchange 2011

From late July until late August this past summer of 2011, SHU students attended the exchange program at Sophia University. The students felt the experience was well worth it, the classes were filled with energy and information, and the trip itself contained enough excursions to give them a better sense of Japan's culture and geography.

While staying away from the north-east due to safety concerns, students traveled to Mt. Fuji, Hakone hot springs, and Kamakura, all along the way making side trips and stops to take in the wide variety of events and culture that Japan had to offer, from an ice cave with historic meaning to a farm meant to help encourage Japan to eat a wider variety of foods and to gain a better un-

derstanding of the agricultural process.

While the workload was difficult—attending class 6 days a week for most weeks—it was highly rewarding in knowledge and the classes were both practical and interesting. The students said they would highly recommend that anyone who has the opportunity to attend the exchange program with Sophia University to do so, as the program was well organized and planned by Dr. Osuka. The atmosphere of learning from fellow students while studying abroad is greatly rewarding and the cost one saves on tuition while on the trip is an amazing amount of money for what the trip entails.

-Victor Dunn, Asian Studies M.A. Candidate 2012

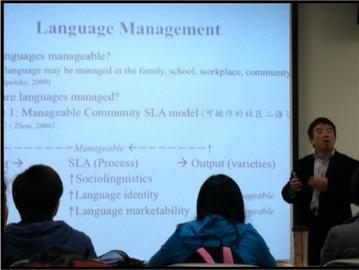


SHU-Sophia Exchange participants and Dr. Shigeru Osuka pictured in the shadow of Mt. Fuji.

Join the Asian Studies Association

Please contact Andrea Aguirre at andrea.aguirre@student.shu.edu or Dr. Dongdong Chen, advisor for the Asian Studies Association, at Dongdong.Chen@shu.edu if you wish to join the Asian Studies Association.

International Month Celebration 2011



Dr. Minglang Zhou of University of Maryland gave a presentation on Language Planning and Harmonious Sociolinguistic Life in China for International Month.

For International Month 2011, the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures featured several presentations and workshops on various cultures. Special events promoted a diverse background of cultures, languages, and current events to the campus community.

October 25th featured Ms. Itoko Kobayashi, an origami master, to share the techniques of Japanese Origami with the Seton Hall. Ms. Kobayashi showcased her best work and gave demonstrations on how to make Origami so students and faculty could participate.

On October 26th, Professor Xiao-qin Li and Professor Cynthia Fellows led a Chinese Calligraphy Workshop to show the basics of this beautiful Chinese art. Students then put what they had learned into practice. Later that afternoon, Professor Eva Cheng-Lee, Professor Xiao-qin Li, Professor Cynthia Fellows, and Professor Qingrong Liu presented on the history of Chinese dumplings. A following workshop taught

students and faculty how to make their own dumplings and provided a great opportunity to take part in Chinese cuisine and culture.

Mr. Kazuhiko Takahashi, owner-chef of Wasabi Japanese restaurant in Ridgewood and Englewood, visited on October 27th to give a short lecture on the history of sushi and then diligently made sushi for almost an hour, supplying the students and faculty with as much sushi as they could eat.

On November 3rd Professor Minglang Zhou, Associated Professor of Chinese at the University of Maryland, spoke on "Language Planning and Harmonious Sociolinguistic Life in China." This lecture discussed how languages

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are actually managed by the state and how they can be managed to achieve a harmonious sociolinguistic life.

On November 14th, a demonstration of Chinese acupuncture, Thai Chi, and Yoga was held for the campus community. "Healing Around the World – East Meets West" featured meditation exercises and discussed the importance of folk medicine.

Overall, the events for International Month 2011 encouraged the further study of both traditional and modern cultures as well as their histories and languages. This celebration was able to offer students of all majors some first-hand experience of various international cultures and customs.

Master of Arts Candidates: New Student Profiles



Name: Yang Wu
Hometown: Beijing, China
Major: Asian Studies, Teaching Chinese Track
"It's my first time coming to America but fortunately I'm not a homesick person. I love the clear sky with white clouds, the spacious grasses, and the buildings here. But what I love most is the people here, no matter if they're strangers, students, or professors. The professors are strict with students but also offer the biggest help. In just three months I've already made many new friends. I also met my true love here. To sum it up: I love our program and I love America."



Name: Teruo Katsukawa
Hometown: Osaka, Japan
Major: Diplomacy & International Relation and Asian Studies, Dual Degree
"While attending the dual masters program of Diplomacy and Asian Studies, I have enjoyed my first semester and the various learning opportunities that Seton Hall University offers. Close interactions with the supportive faculty members and students in the program have helped my studies even beyond the required coursework."



Name: Hawkins Licheng Zhu
Hometown: Macao
Major: Diplomacy & International Relation and Asian Studies, Dual Degree
"I cherish my opportunity to study here where the faculty is of high quality and they incorporate their experience into the courses. With regular discussions and seminars, I am able to participate in a unique knowledge-pursuing environment. Secondly, dual degree programs allow students to focus on interdisciplinary topics while staff members are always ready to help once difficulties emerge while learning or researching."



Name: Paul Capobianco
Hometown: New York, New York
Major: Asian Studies, Japan Area Studies Track
"As a new graduate student and teaching assistant for the Japanese program I have been warmly welcomed by the department and have enjoyed every part of my graduate experience thus far. The course load has been challenging and the class structure is much different from undergraduate classes. Graduate classes at SHU are more engaging, discussion-based, and emphasize critical thinking skills by having students form their own ideas."

The Japanese Program Presents

Japan Table
日本のテーブル

Mondays
Fahy Hall, Room 203B
Language Resource Center Screening Room
1:30-3PM

Japan Table provides an opportunity for students of Japanese and Japanese exchange students alike to come and speak and practice Japanese, receive tutoring help, watch Japanese television, exchange cultures and customs, and enjoy Japanese refreshments.

Japan Table meets every Monday, 1:30-3 PM in the Language Resource Center Screening Room, Fahy Hall 203B.

