

# CHINESE & JAPANESE STUDIES NEWSLETTER

## Valparaiso University

CHINESE & JAPANESE STUDIES PROGRAM  
Prof. Zhimin Lin, Chair 219/464-5749

SEPTEMBER 2001

***We would like to convey our sincere condolences to those who have lost loved ones in recent weeks.***

### **Please Join Us for a Japan Culture Night**

The Chinese and Japanese Studies Program will sponsor a Japan Culture Night on Thursday, October 4, 6:00 p.m., Lumina Room. The event will start with a Japanese dinner, prepared in part by faculty and students and in part catered by House of Kobe in Merrillville. During the dinner, Professor Mari Ishibashi will describe the Japanese folktale of the moon. There will be a panel discussion of life in Japan by VU students who have returned from Japan, after which a movie, *Shall We Dance?*, will be shown after the panel discussion. Anyone interested in East Asian culture is invited to attend! No reservation is required.

### **Trip to Chinatown**

Professor Jianyun Meng is organizing a one-day tour to Chinatown in Chicago. A bus will leave the Union by 9:30 on September 30 (Sunday) and return to the same place at roughly 4:00 in the afternoon. The trip includes a walk through various points of interests in Chinatown and a lunch at a Chinese restaurant. The bus ride is free, but you are responsible for your lunch. Seats are limited to 40. If you are interested in going, please contact Professor Meng (x5118, [Jianyun.meng@valpo.edu](mailto:Jianyun.meng@valpo.edu)) by September 29.

### **Register Soon for Chinese Landscape Painting Class**

The Chinese and Japanese Studies is happy to announce that it will offer an entry level course on Chinese landscape painting. The course will be offered every Wednesday evening (7:30-8:45) starting October 10 and located in the painting in the Art and Psychology Building, room 19. Participants learn central concepts and key brush techniques used in traditional Chinese painting, proper use of materials, brush sketching techniques, and formal spatial arrangements. No prior training in drawing or painting is required. The fee of \$30.00 per person covers all the materials to be used in the class (send to Jan Rubsam, Huegli Hall).

The course will be taught by Mr. Qingguo Ren, adjunct assistant professor, Department of Art, Valparaiso University. Professor Ren's work has been shown in a number of art exhibitions in various states.

Anyone who wants to register for the course, please contact Jan Rubsam (x5309, [Jan.Rubsam@valpo.edu](mailto:Jan.Rubsam@valpo.edu)).

***The deadline for applying is October 8.***

### **Recipients of East Asian Scholarships**

At the end of the spring semester, two students, Jessica Pleuss and Joseph Harroff each received a \$500 scholarship for their commitment to study in China and for their excellent work in Chinese language classes. Congratulations to both of them! Similar scholarships will be offered at the end of the spring semester 2002. For information and an application form, please contact Professor Zhimin Lin (x5749, [Zhimin.lin@valpo.edu](mailto:Zhimin.lin@valpo.edu)).

## Teaching English in China

Eleven VU students and recent graduates, along with four other teachers, spent about a month this summer in the Hangzhou area of China teaching English. They are Douglas Brown, Melanie Buss, Jarolyn Clow, Kevin Festerling, Kristin Kaltenstadler, Tanya Kim, Timothy Knowles, Tiffany Koogler, Tania Kurth, Laura Maddox, and Laura Moore. All of them did a terrific job teaching Chinese children, aged 7 to 15, conversational English and, occasionally, American culture. Because of this, many of them have already been asked to return next summer. Anyone interested in learning more about such teaching opportunities should contact Professor Lin. Also, Danielle Panza, '01 is on a two-year teaching assignment in Jiujiang Teachers' College, Jiujiang, China. She reported in a recent email that she was really pleased with the location and the school there. "Everyone is so friendly," she wrote.

## Welcome, Professor Jianyun Meng and Professor Mari Ishibashi!

This fall, we welcome Professor Jianyun Meng (x5118) and Professor Mari Ishibashi (5325) to the faculty. Professor Meng is returning to VU after two years of conducting various English language programs in China. At VU, he is teaching first- and second-year Chinese, and CORE courses. Professor Mari Ishibashi graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a Ph.D. in government and international studies. She will be teaching courses in both the history and political science departments.

## News from Hangzhou, China

This fall, a record fourteen students are participating in the Hangzhou Study Program. Among them, nine are from VU: Sarah Fevig, Bronwyn Johnson, Lisa

Lombardi, Ryan Lockridge, Jessica Pleuss, Joel Russel, Brian Shingledecker, Aaron Stamper, and Tiffany Woynaroski. The resident director is Professor James Nelson. After an eight day visit to Northern China in early September, the students have started their formal lessons in Zhejiang University and reportedly are doing very well. Quite a few of them will join Professor Nelson for a trip to Tibet early October.

## Editor's Note

This newsletter, produced by the Chinese & Japanese Studies Program at Valparaiso University (formerly called the East Asian Studies Program), aims to enhance communication among those who are interested in Chinese and Japanese Studies. If you wish to submit an item to the newsletter, contact Professor Zhimin Lin (x5749, Zhimin.Lin@valpo.edu).

To have your name added to or deleted from the mailing list, contact Jan Rubsam (x5309, Jan.Rubsam@valpo.edu).

## CHINESE & JAPANESE STUDIES FACULTY

*Prof. James Bernard (Economics), 5045*  
*Prof. Mari Ishibashi (History), 5325*  
*Prof. Fred Kavanagh (Japanese), 5311*  
*Prof. Zhimin Lin, Chair (Pol. Sci.), 5749*  
*Prof. Ted Ludwig (Theology), 5303*  
*Prof. Jianyun Meng (Chinese), 5118*  
*Prof. James Nelson (Psychology) Hangzhou*  
*Prof. Robin Visser (Christ College) 5423*

## INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

*Prof. Hugh McGuigan, Director, 5333*  
*Holly Singh, Admin. Asst., 5333*  
*Rachel Gretencord, Admin. Asst., 5333*