



CHINESE & JAPANESE STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Valparaiso University

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

JANUARY 2002

Freeman Grant will boost Chinese and Japanese Studies

Valparaiso University was recently awarded a \$1.79 million grant from the Freeman Foundation to highlight students' interests in East Asian studies across VU's full curriculum and to offer valuable learning experiences that combine classroom activities with extensive undergraduate research and internship opportunities both in the US and in Hangzhou, China.

Under this grant, a VU China Center will be established to oversee a variety of initiatives that will enable students from College of Arts and Sciences as well as those in professional colleges to participate. These initiatives include summer short courses in China, multiple research grants for students to engage in research projects related to China, internship grants, a new program focusing on studying Chinese urban culture and literature, student travel grants, and an expanded annual conference on China. In addition, the grant will allow VU faculty members to develop and offer more East Asian related courses or add East Asian components to the existing courses, build up library resources, and upgrade the teaching and research facilities.

For more information on the initiatives to be launched by the China Center, please contact Professor Zhimin Lin (zhimin.lin@valpo.edu).

Welcome Back!

Professor James Nelson and nine VU students have recently returned from China after spending the fall semester in Hangzhou, China. They are: Sarah Fevig, Bron Johnson, Ryan Lockridge, Lisa Lombardi, Jessica Pleuss, Joel Russell, Brian Shingledecker, Aaron Stamper, and Tiffany Woynaroski. Welcome back to all!

Join us for another Chinese New Year Dinner!

This year, the Chinese lunar year (the year of Horse) starts on February 12. To celebrate the Chinese New Year, Chinese and Japanese Studies Program invites you to a dinner party in Huegli Hall on 2/14 (Thursday) starting at 6:30 PM. The Chinese New Year dinner features presentations by students returned from China and a short music program, in addition to all your favorite Chinese dishes. For group or individual reservations, please contact ASAP Jan Rubsam (x 5309, Jan.Rubsam@valpo.edu).

Welcome to Valparaiso!

This semester, we are pleased to be joined by Professor Wenjuan Chen, visiting scholar from Zhejiang University. While on campus, Professor Chen will conduct research on literary criticism as well as attend some classes. Welcome to Valparaiso!

Annual LCCC Conference on China

The annual LCCC (Lutheran Colleges' China Consortium) Conference on China will be held in Huegli Hall on February 9. It is a one-day conference with the morning session devoted to the reflections on the Hangzhou experience and the afternoon session focusing on research and current development in China. Breakfast and lunch are provided for all participants (40 or so participants from seven colleges are expected to attend). For anyone who wants to participate or needs more information, please also contact Jan Rubsam.

Rachel Gretencord is the Resident Director of the Fall 2002 Hangzhou Program

Rachel Gretencord was recently appointed the resident director of the fall 2002 Hangzhou program. Currently a study-abroad advisor in the International Studies Office, Rachel will bring with her extensive experience in cross-cultural and international education. There are still spots available for participants of the fall program in Hangzhou. For more information, please contact Rachel directly (x 5333, Rachel.Gretencord@valpo.edu).

Sign up for Introductory and Intermediate Chinese Landscape Painting Classes

Registrations are now being taken for two non-credit classes in Chinese Painting, taught by Professor Qingguo Ren. **Introduction to Chinese Painting** (Mondays, 7:30-8:45 p.m., February 4 through April 15) will cover central concepts and key brush techniques used in traditional Chinese painting, proper use of materials, brush sketching techniques, and formal spatial arrangements will be covered. No prior training in drawing or painting is required. **Intermediate Chinese Painting** (Wednesdays, 7:30-8:45 p.m., February 6 through April 17) is offered as a continuation of the introductory class. Students will master the use of traditional Chinese painting materials (Chinese brushes, ink, and paper) in order to design, paint, sign, and mount a final landscape painting. Classes will

not meet during Spring Break, the first two weeks of March. The cost of the classes is \$30 with VU ID, and \$130 for non-VU registrants. Both classes meet in Room 19 of the Art/Psychology Building. Jan Rubsam is taking registrations for the classes.

Noodle Lunches Begin

Noodle lunches are offered each Monday at 11:00 a.m. in the kitchen area of Huegli Hall. There is no cost, and all students who are interested in practicing Chinese or Japanese are invited to join. For more information, contact:

Nate Ruhter (nathan.ruhter@valpo.edu)

Joe Rodarte (joseph.rodarte@valpo.edu).

Other Announcements

The following Chinese films will be shown in Mueller 114 at 8 p.m. (free of charge): Email Professor Robin Visser (robin.visser@valpo.edu) for more details about the films.

February 4	Raise the Red Lantern
April 8	Small Happiness
April 15	Not One Less

Faculty News

Robin Visser, assistant professor in Christ College, has a chapter entitled "Privacy and Its Ill Effects in Post-Mao Fiction" forthcoming in *Chinese Concepts of Privacy* (Leiden: Brill, 2002). Her article "Spaces of Disappearance: Aesthetic Responses to Beijing City Planning" will be published in the *Journal of Contemporary China* this spring. Her translation of Wang Xiaoming's "China on the Verge of a 'Momentous Era'" is forthcoming in *positions: east asia cultures critique*. Her book review of *The Lure of the Modern: Writing Modernism in Semicolonial China, 1917-1937* by Shu-mei Shih will be published in *Journal of Modern Literature in Chinese* (January 2002).

Since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, **Ted Ludwig** has given numerous presentations in various forums on topics of world religions, interfaith relationships, and especially the resurgence of Islam in the modern world. On January 17 he spoke to the Christ College Symposium on "Muslim Values in Conflict in the Modern World," and on January 24 he spoke to a gathering sponsored by the Religious Communities Task Force on the need for religious communities to become more welcoming to people of other faiths.

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 Prof. 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) 5442

Prof. Robin Visser (Christ College) 5423

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Prof. Hugh McGuigan, Director, 5333

Holly Singh, Admin. Asst., 5333

Rachel Gretencord, Admin. Asst., 5333



"A Horse" Xu Beihong