

# EAST ASIAN *Studies*

*Alumni Newsletter*



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## “What do you do with a degree in East Asian Studies?”

is a question I hear a lot, from prospective concentrators, from nervous seniors, from prospective applicants to Brown making the rounds of East Coast schools, and from their parents. (Most often from their parents, truth be told.) My usual response is to point out that concentrations at Brown don't map all that well onto particular vocations, and that this means that our graduates go on to do all sorts of interesting things. While I suspect that the parents of prospective applicants are after more definitive, reassuring answers, it has long seemed to me that EAS students in particular are hard to pigeon-hole.

The expanded collection of reports from our *alumni*, featured in this issue of the newsletter, certainly reinforces that impression. Reading through these accounts, the creativity, ambition and persistent intellectual curiosity of our former concentrators shine through. If you haven't yet contributed to the newsletter, please think about doing so. We'd like to hear from you, as would your classmates: [east\\_asian\\_studies@brown.edu](mailto:east_asian_studies@brown.edu). Another reason to keep in touch; future editions of the newsletter will almost certainly be distributed in digital format, as opposed to hard copies, and we'll need a valid e-mail address to reach you.

The Department also continues to serve the needs of the growing number of students with an interest in language training, sometimes but not always as part of a concentration in East Asian Studies. This past summer, for example, the Department supported eighteen undergraduates in summer language and internship programs (in China, Japan and Korea). Reflections by some of the students involved in these programs, as well as comments from a recent medical school graduate on his Chinese language training at Brown, are included in this issue of the newsletter. The funding which allows us to support summer language training and internships in China comes from Brian Leach, a former student of Jimmy Wrenn's. We remain very grateful for his generosity. As *alumni/ae*, if you or an organization of which you are part would be interested in hosting interns from Brown, and East Asian Studies concentrators in particular, please let me know.

One final note about the undergraduate experience as an East Asian Studies concentrator. We are this year reviewing the current concentration requirements, now some twenty or so years old, and more or less unchanged since they were first set out. This review is attempting to identify our current strengths, and recommend revisions which will allow us to both reflect those strengths and meet evolving student needs. At the same time that this review goes forward, a different faculty committee is drafting plans for a graduate degree program, to

be housed in the Department. The development of a graduate program in East Asian Studies faces some significant challenges, but the potential benefit to the Department, and to our concentrators, could be considerable.

The Department welcomes two new faculty this fall. **Samuel Perry** ('91) joins us as Assistant Professor of Modern Japanese Literature, and in so doing returns to Brown, and to the Department. Sam was an EAS concentrator at Brown and part of the first group of students to attend the Kyoto Center for Japanese Studies. After graduation he participated in the JET program for several years, and taught at Phillips Exeter Academy before entering the University of Chicago's graduate program in East Asian Languages and Civilizations. Sam's current research focuses on the literary works, authors and institutions of the proletarian cultural movement in Japan and Korea in the late 1920s and 1930s. As one of a new generation of scholars with extensive training in both Japanese and Korean languages, Sam moves with ease between texts in either language, and engages with scholarly communities in Japan, Korea and the United States, with equal facility. Sam's work as a translator is also unusual. He has already completed a translation of Kang Kyŏng-ae's classic Korean novel, *The Country and the City*, as well as a number of shorter works. This semester, he is teaching an advanced seminar on translation and a lecture course on popular culture in Japan and the Koreas. His return to Brown has provided me with yet another way to answer the “What do you do with a degree in East Asian Studies?” question.

Professor **Janine Sawada**, whose work focuses on the interaction between and among religious traditions in Japan, joins the Departments of East Asian Studies and Religious Studies in a joint appointment. Janine taught early in her career at Grinnell College, and comes to Brown from the University of Iowa. She is the author of two books, *Confucian Values and Popular Zen: Sekimon Shingaku in Eighteenth-Century Japan* (University of Hawai'i Press, 1993) and *Practical Pursuits: Religion, Politics and Personal Cultivation in Nineteenth-Century Japan* (University of Hawai'i Press, 2004), as well as numerous book chapters and articles. Among Janine's course offerings for EAS are a seminar on Buddhist symbolism in Chinese and Japanese works of literature, poetry and drama, and an intermediate-level class on early modern Japanese culture.

Both Sam and Janine's research, training and wide-ranging scholarly and teaching interests resonate with the goals of this department, and with the premises underlying East Asian Studies as a mode of study. We're happy to have them here.

Finally, a concluding note about what a pleasure it has been working with such fine colleagues over the past three years. East Asian Studies and Brown are fortunate to have not only a dedicated and talented cohort of faculty, but also an equally gifted and supportive staff. Kathryn Spicer and Melina Packer deserve far more praise than they'll allow me to get away with here.

Please keep in touch, and best wishes for the year ahead.

Kerry Smith  
Chair, East Asian Studies; Associate Professor, History

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# NEWS FROM THE *Faculty*

Maggie Bickford is studying visual dimensions of Song and Yuan culture, especially with regard to: the construction of the Chinese cultural heritage at the Song courts; illustrated-manuscript and print culture; and, literati cultures of the Song-Yuan transition. She continues to explore issues in auspicious visuality in China throughout the imperial period and to develop methodologies for computer-assisted visual analysis of old Chinese paintings. The particularities of these interests are represented by her recent publications, papers and her works in progress.

**Maggie Bickford**  
*Professor,*

*History of Art and Architectures*

Her most recent book is *Emperor Huizong and Northern Song Culture: the Politics of Culture and the Culture of Politics*, a collaborative volume, co-edited with Patricia Ebrey (Harvard University Press, 2006). They recruited and convened fourteen specialists from the U.S. and Asia; their research areas ranged from frontier relations and political rhetoric to medicine, music, poetry, painting, religion, and historiography. Together, she and Professor Ebrey reconsidered the traditional paradigm of Huizong as the weak last emperor of Northern Song. Funding from Brown's Watson Institute for International Studies and the Provost's Contingency Fund, together with contributions from EAS and History of Art and Architecture, supported workshops and lectures in Providence and publication of this book.

Her most recent scholarly article is "Making the Chinese Cultural Heritage at the Courts of the Northern Sung," which will be published this year in the proceedings of the international conference on "Founding Paradigms, the Art and Culture of the Northern Sung Dynasty," National Palace Museum, Taipei, Taiwan. The conference convened in early 2007, in Taipei, where she read her original paper.

Last summer (2007), she was a member of the international workshop, "First Impressions: the Cultural History of Print in China (8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries), convened at the Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, Harvard, where she presented her research on "Displaying Visual Knowledge during the Song Period: The Aesthetics of Particularity." At the end of the year, she presented some of these findings together with a short history of illustrated books in China to the Bartlett Society at the John Hay Library.

Other speaking engagements during the course of the past academic year included: "Learning from Emperor Huizong," New England East Asian Art History Seminar, Harvard University; "Works before Words: Putting Paintings First in Writing the History of Chinese Art," Wesleyan University, in honor of Charles Chu; and "Bronzes and the History of Chinese Art," international conference on "Art and Archaeology of the Erligang Civilization," Princeton. This summer (2008) she will participate in the invitational Clark

Art Institute/Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) colloquium, "The Work of Art History in the Digital Age," to be convened at the Clark Art Institute, Williamstown.

**Laura Hess**  
*Adjunct Assistant Professor,  
East Asian Studies,  
Associate Director, Sheridan Center*

Laura Hess is the Associate Director for the Humanities and Social Sciences at the Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown's center for professional development in pedagogy. At the Sheridan Center, she runs teaching certificate programs for graduate students and postdocs; organizes seminars and programs for the Brown teaching community; and consults with faculty, postdocs and graduate students in the humanities and social sciences. She also regularly serves as a first-year and sophomore advisor.



**Lung-Hua Hu**  
*Senior Lecturer,  
Chinese language*

After five summers of recuperation from teaching at Columbia University's summer program in Beijing, I went back to Beijing to teach for Duke University's intensive language Chinese program in the summer of 2007. One of the highlights of that summer was the dinner I hosted, on behalf of the EAS Department, for Brown students who were attending various language programs. Approximately twenty-five students came to the dinner. I was very pleased to see how much progress everyone had made in just a matter of weeks. It was a great opportunity for everyone to share their experiences in

Beijing, and it was amusing for me to see everyone comparing notes on which programs had the strictest language pledge and the most workload.

Thanks to the Olympics and China's growing economy, Brown students have become increasingly enthusiastic about studying abroad in China; at the same time, highly selective programs such as Princeton in Beijing (PiB) and Associated Colleges in China (ACC) are accepting more and more Brown students into their programs. All of this has been extremely rewarding for me as a study abroad advisor and a Chinese instructor.

In the summer of 2008, I taught a pre-college mini course at Brown. It was a new and exciting experience for me. High school students are a lot of fun to work with too! Beginning in the fall of 2008, I will teach Basic Chinese and continue to serve as the study abroad advisor for programs in China and Taiwan. I predict many more students from Basic Chinese will choose to study abroad in China or Taiwan in the summer of 2009.



*Lung-Hua Hu (center) and her students enjoy an afternoon of karaoke-singing and dumpling-making. [Photos courtesy L. Hu]*

I taught Intermediate Japanese, Advanced Reading in Japanese (fourth-year level) and Business Japanese courses this past academic year. It is challenging to teach fourth-year level courses as it is rather difficult to predict who will be enrolled in the course. Every year I have a totally different mix of students with varied backgrounds, proficiency levels and interest areas. In Japanese we say "juu-nin to-iro" (ten people, ten colors, similar to "different strokes for different folks"). In my case, I try to mix and match different colors to satisfy my students' needs and preferences.



**Yuko Imoto Jackson**  
*Senior Lecturer,  
Japanese language*

Professor Levy is the recipient of the *John Rowe Workman Award for Teaching Excellence in the Humanities* for 2007-2009. In addition to her familiar courses in traditional Chinese literature, she has taught a new freshman seminar, "The World of Lyric Poetry," which brings together forms of lyric expression from China and the West for an intrepid band of advisees. While chairman of Comparative Literature (2002-2005), she revamped the program in Literary Translation, taking over the graduate seminar that David Lattimore taught for so many years. In the last couple of years, she has continued her research on various perspectives of reading Cao Xueqin's masterpiece, the Qing dynasty novel *The Story of the Stone*, and has published several essays. She was a member of Brown's delega-

**Dore J. Levy**  
*Professor,  
Comparative Literature*

tion to the Chinese University of Hong Kong last June, where she delivered a lecture, "The Designer of the Garden of Total Vision," to the Department of Chinese Linguistics and Classical Literature.



**James L. McClain**  
*Professor, History*

The past year held its share of memorable moments for Professor James McClain. One of the happiest came in late May 2007, as his daughter Katie joined her sister Anne ('05) and her mother Chang ('82) as Brown graduates, leaving Professor McClain as the only member of his family not to have earned a Brown degree!

Professor McClain continues to work on his book project *Tokyo Modern: The Importance of the Middle-class in Twentieth Century Japan*, which eventually will appear from Oxford University Press. Although personal circumstances compelled him to decline a Japan Foundation Senior

Research Grant that would have permitted him to be in Japan for the 2007-2008 academic year, he did forge ahead using materials at collections in the United States. He also presented his research at a series of workshops and lectures at the Japan Society in New York. Professionally, Professor McClain concluded another term as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Society for Japanese Studies and was appointed to the Editorial Board of its publication, the *Journal of Japanese Studies*.

Although Professor McClain did not teach in 2007-2008 because he was on sabbatical, in the spring term of 2007 he introduced a new undergraduate course on the history of modern Korea. That initiative reflected new research and teaching interests that he is cultivating. It also was designed to respond to growing student interest in the history of the peninsula and, hopefully, over time to integrate the study of Korea more fully into the curriculum being developed by the Department of East Asian Studies. He will offer that course again in 2008-2009, together with his more traditional courses on Japanese social and cultural history.

**Samuel E. Perry**  
*Assistant Professor,  
East Asian Studies*

I am thrilled to be returning to Brown this year as an Assistant Professor in East Asian Studies, having graduated from the Department myself over fifteen years ago and more recently received

my doctorate from the University of Chicago.

My research to date has focused mainly on the proletarian cultural movement in Japan and colonial Korea, a revolutionary arts movement that flourished during the late 1920s and early 30s as it sought to re-envision not only the form and content of art and literature, but also its very institutions. I

have been particularly interested in the proletarian avant-garde, revolutionary children's literature and fiction written by women in the Japanese colonies.

This year I look forward to teaching a variety of new courses at Brown, including an introductory course on alternative cultures in East Asia, a class on revolutionary culture in Japan, the Korean colony, and North Korea, a seminar on translating short fiction and animation, and a survey course on traditional and modern Japanese literature.

My future plans include publishing a translation of a Kang Kyöng-ae's 1934 Korean novel *The Country and the City*, and new research on the Korean War as it was affectively experienced and later remembered throughout East Asia.

Harold D. Roth is Professor of Religious Studies and East Asian Studies. Roth is a specialist in early Chinese religious thought, Daoism, the history of East Asian religions, the comparative study of mysticism and is a pioneer in the newly developing field of Contemplative Studies. This field finds serious engagement with the meditative traditions of East and South Asia, and studies them, along with other contemplative traditions, from scientific, humanistic and creative arts perspectives.



**Harold D. Roth**  
*Professor, Religious Studies,  
East Asian Studies*

In the past year Roth has published two book chapters, "Four Approaches to the Study of the Laozi" in *Teaching the Daodejing*, edited by Gary DeAngelis and Warren Frisina, pp. 14-45, Oxford University Press, 2008 and "Nature and Self-Cultivation in Huainanzi's 'Original Way'" in *Polishing the Chinese Mirror: Essays in Honor of Henry Rosemont Jr.*, edited by Marthe Chandler and Ronnie Littlejohn, pp. 270-292, New York: Global Scholarly Publications, 2007. And he has at long last completed the first complete English translation and study of the last great untranslated work of Classical Chinese thought, the early Han Daoist compendium *Huainanzi*. He completed this 1498 page typescript with a team of three other scholars he first assembled in 1995. It will be published in the spring of 2009 under the following title: *The Huainanzi: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Government in Early Han China*, by Liu An, King of Huainan, translated, annotated, and introduced by John S Major, Sarah Queen, Andrew S. Meyer, and Harold D. Roth, New York: Columbia University Press.

In addition, Roth finished his ninth year as Concentration Advisor for the China track in East Asian Studies, served as Director of the Contemplative Studies Initiative on the Arts and Sciences and Co-Director of Brown University School of Medicine's Scholarly Concentration Program in Contemplative Studies. Finally, in the spring of 2008, Roth gave named lectures

at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma and at the Graduate Theological Union of the University of California at Berkeley. The former was entitled, "To Treat Oneself as Other: The Psychodynamics of Early Daoist Meditation;" the latter was entitled, "Against Cognitive Imperialism."

**Janine T. Anderson Sawada**  
*Professor, Religious Studies,  
East Asian Studies*

Janine Anderson Sawada, previously Professor of Japanese Religions at the University of Iowa, joins the East Asian Studies faculty of Brown in fall 2008. During the past year she has continued to study the political implications of images and texts associated with Mt. Fuji devotion in early modern Japan. In April 2007 Professor Anderson Sawada presented a series of lectures on "Religion in Japanese History and Culture" at the Japan Society in New York City. In 2006 and 2007 she participated in a series of workshops on Confucian and Buddhist thought, sponsored by the Nanzan University Institute of Religion and Culture, in preparation for the publication of the new Sourcebook of Japanese Philosophy — to which she will contribute translations and commentaries on the works of several Tokugawa Japanese thinkers. In 2007 Professor Anderson Sawada conducted summer research in both Italy and Japan under the auspices of University of Iowa International Studies and Arts & Humanities grants, respectively. She presented some of her findings in April 2008 at Amherst College in a lecture called "Magic Mountain: The Power of Fuji Images in Early Modern Japanese Religion."

**Kerry Smith**  
*Associate Professor, History*

Books about disasters, natural and man-made, have over the past few years become something of a growth industry for historians and non-fiction writers more generally. No doubt 9.11, Hurricane Katrina, and global warming have provoked some of the recent scholarly and popular interest in catastrophe, but it also seems to me that changes long underway in the questions and methodologies employed by historians have helped make disasters rich subjects for inquiry. Those changes include a willingness to analyze cultural production — literature, imagery, music — at all levels of society, for insights into the lived experiences of disasters, and into efforts to fit those events into broader narratives about the nation, about national identity and about fate. Historians have also turned to disasters for what they can reveal about otherwise invisible structures of power and discipline in modern society.

I've been working for some time now on a book about the Great Kantō Earthquake of 1923, which leveled much of Tokyo and Yokohama, killing more than 100,000 people. This past year, during conferences at Brown and the Australian National University, I presented some of the more recent pieces of this book project. Those pieces focus on post-quake violence, and more

specifically on the trials and public discourse prompted by acts of state-sanctioned terror against leftists and minorities, and by the attempted assassination of the Crown Prince, later Emperor, Hirohito, by the son of a respected Parliamentarian. Both the acts themselves and subsequent attempts to describe and explain them in the courts shed light on otherwise hidden aspects of modern Japanese history.

As is often the case at Brown, my research and teaching interests overlap, and I've been fortunate over the past year to have been able to develop two new courses which incorporate questions about disasters, terrorism, and national identity. "Crime, Justice and Punishment in Modern Japan" is an advanced East Asian Studies seminar which explores the practices and ideologies associated with the pursuit of justice, state-sanctioned punishment for wrongdoing, and social order in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Japan. "Turning Japanese: Constructing Nation, Race and Culture in Modern Japan" is part of the University's "First Year Seminars" series, and will be offered for the first time this fall. As its title suggests, this course is designed to introduce first-year students to some of the methods historians in particular have used to analyze the creation and persistence of the modern nation state. In Japan's case, we'll be looking at the roles played by heroes, maps, cuisine, and disasters (among other topics) in shaping the nation's sense of itself over time.

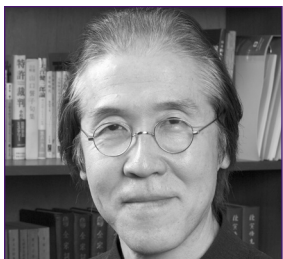
Shelley Stephenson earned her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in East Asian Languages and Civilizations. Her dissertation topic ("The Occupied Screen: Star, Fan, and Nation in Shanghai Cinema, 1937-1945") reflects her interest in modern Chinese history and cultural studies. She has served as the University's Assistant Provost since 2006, working on ventures such as Brown's internationalization initiative, advising the Provost and Vice President for International Affairs on the University's agendas in Asia, and managing a seed-funding program to stimulate new faculty-led projects. Shelley Stephenson also represents the Provost on inter-institutional committees such as the Creative Arts Council, the Brown-RISD Consortium, and the Rhode Island Independent Higher Education Association.

**Shelley Stephenson**  
*Assistant Provost,  
Adjunct Assistant Professor,  
East Asian Studies*

Mark Swislocki completed his book, *Culinary Nostalgia: Regional Food Culture and the Urban Experience in Shanghai*, which will be published in December 2008 by Stanford University Press.

He is currently involved in researching his next project, "Human-Animal Relations as Cultural Frontiers in China." Mark taught a new seminar entitled: "Taiwan: Past and Present" in spring 2008, and will be teaching a new first-year seminar in fall 2008 on the subject of "China in the Literatures of Travel."

**Mark Swislocki**  
*Assistant Professor,  
History*



**Hiroshi Tajima**  
*Lecturer,  
Japanese language*

Internationalization is a key issue in college education these days and teaching culture is an integral part of it. I'm going to present my paper titled "New Perspectives and Objectives for Teaching Culture in Japanese Class" at Rutgers University this fall. I graduated from Rutgers and I am really looking forward to visiting the campus to refresh my memory.

In my paper, I will discuss intercultural communication theories, such as "Low-High Context Culture" and the "Values Continuum" to determine the most effective approaches for teaching culture in language classes. I will emphasize three areas the students must consider for developing

their own perspectives on culture: (1) the personal level, (2) culture-specific phenomena, and (3) "universal" aspects of human nature. This will help them to reassess and synthesize their own ideas and gain broader perspectives. Finally, I will introduce the three concepts of "third culture," "third place" and "new world view," as possible goals for teaching language and culture using integrated methodologies.



**Hsin-I Tseng**  
*Lecturer, Chinese language*

Putting together the first annual Chinese speech competition was one of the most exciting projects of my first year at Brown. This competition of language performance and public speaking skills was also an opportunity to listen to, and interact with, people in different Chinese language classes. This year's speech topic was 'Chinese and I.' Twelve contestants from our advanced level classes shared their enthusiasm on studying Chinese language and culture and how the experience impacts their thoughts and life. Their speeches were all very impressive and touching, giving judges a hard time deciding on

prizewinners. I hope everyone had a great time, and we look forward to having the second speech competition and more in the next academic year.

Back in the classroom, I have been trying to change the curriculum to create a more diverse and interesting advanced course. Instead of sticking to one textbook, I collected readings in different writing styles and categories. Topics included: business, Chinese society and values, Chinese literature, Chinese history, headline news in China and the US, etc. Students read various newspaper articles, works of prose, poems and speeches. It has been a fun experiment and a great challenge, both for the students and me.

I am currently working with colleagues from different departments to improve the perception of language studies at Brown. We will soon need feed-

back or testimonials from current and former students of Chinese, Japanese and Korean. If you have anything to share, please don't hesitate to send me an email.



*Chinese language students enjoy the first annual Chinese Speech Contest. [Photo courtesy of Z. Zeng]*

Professor Meera Viswanathan does research in classical Japanese poetry and prose; Western medieval court literature; and comparative poetics. She is currently on leave from Brown to take up her post at King's Academy in Jordan as the first recipient of the Sheikh Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa Distinguished Chair in the Theory and Practice of Knowledge.

**Meera Viswanathan**  
*Associate Professor,  
Comparative Literature*

I have recently completed my book *Frog's Tears and Other Stories: Readings in Korean Culture*, which is now in print by Cheng & Tsui. Since my return from a sabbatical last fall, I devoted most of my time, when not teaching, to this book project while also editing a new volume of Korean Language in America, a journal of the American Association of Teachers of Korean (AATK), for which I am the editor. I am currently working on a paper entitled "Folk Tales in Korean Culture and Language Learning" that I will be delivering at the annual meeting of the AATK at the end of June.

Since last summer I have also been working on hosting the inaugural Korea-America Student Conference (KASC) with



**Hye-Sook Wang**  
*Associate Professor,  
East Asian Studies*

the support of EAS and other departments on campus. This conference will be taking place at Brown from July 12<sup>th</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup>. KASC is an educational and cultural exchange program for university students, organized by International Student Conferences, a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. Forty students from the United States and South Korea gather every year to discuss a variety of topics such as politics, culture, religion and education. The theme of this inaugural conference will be “A New Look at the U.S.-Korea Alliance.” I have been coordinating this project by working closely with the D.C. office and other local organizations and communities, such as the Korean Consulate General of Boston and the Korean Society of New England, for necessary support.



**Lingzhen Wang**  
Associate Professor,  
East Asian Studies

Professor Wang specializes in modern Chinese literature and culture, gender and literary theory, film studies, and Chinese women writers and film directors. Her first major research project centers on Chinese women's life and writing in the long, turbulent twentieth century. Her book, *Personal Matters: Women's Autobiographical Practice in Twentieth-Century China* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2004) studies a group of both well known and lesser-known Chinese women writers in relation to dominant discourses of Chinese modernity—nationalism, revolution, socialism, and market commodification—and emphasizes aspects of women's experience, especially their subjective, emotional, psychic, and bodily activities, that tend to be dismissed in mainstream studies of history and literature. The book reconfigures Chinese women's autobiographical writing as an important means of self-negotiation and re-theorizes the concept of the personal in feminist and literary criticism.

Professor Wang's second major research project focuses on gender and Chinese visual modernity, examining particularly the role of female film directors in constructing mainstream Chinese cinema and/or negotiating gendered and different spaces in the second half of the twentieth century. With emphatic attention to social and historical conditions and transformations in modern China, the project also critically reexamines existing feminist theories of gender and cinema, questioning and revising the prevalent Western feminist approaches to women directors and visual culture that are based on binary models of “sexual difference.” She has published several articles on the following female film directors: Huang Shuqin, Zhang Nuanxin, Hu Mei, and Ma Xiao Ying. Her other research and writing projects include translations of Chinese women writers into English, a study of transnational feminism in the contemporary globalized world, and a critical re-examination of the socialist legacy on gender, politics, and identity formation.

In June 2007, Professor Wang formally began as the coordinator of the Transnational Collaborative Program on Women and Gender, a project that brings together the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Science at Nanjing University, People's Republic of China, and the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, the East Asian Studies Department, and the Cogut Center for the Humanities at Brown University. The collaborative program intends to address both the potential and the problems produced by capitalist globalization with regard to politics, higher education, and gender in today's world, and aims to forge important and concrete alliances among scholars in gender studies and feminist theory in China and the United States, creating a critical platform that highlights the connectedness of gender studies in today's highly globalized world.



*Pictured from left to right: Elizabeth Weed (Pembroke Center), Lynne Joyrich (Modern Culture and Media), Lingzhen Wang (East Asian Studies), Michael Steinberg (Cogut Center), Lü Xiaoping (Chair, Dept. of Chinese Drama and Film, Nanjing University), He Chengzhou (Associate Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies, Nanjing University), Yukiko Koga (Cogut Center and East Asian Studies), Mary Ann Doane (Modern Culture and Media) and Kerry Smith (East Asian Studies). [Photo courtesy of L. Wang]*



**Yang Wang**  
*Lecturer, Chinese language*

I came to Brown in 2005. I have taught Beginning Chinese (CHIN0100-0200) and Advanced Modern Chinese (CHIN 0500, 0600), and am currently teaching Intermediate Chinese (CHIN0300, 0400) and Advanced Beginning Chinese (CHIN0150-0250). Before coming to Brown, I taught at Beijing Language and Culture University (formerly Beijing Language Institute), The Ohio State University and Williams College. I have also been teaching at Middlebury Summer Language School for the past three years.

My research interests include Chinese pragmatics, multimedia learning material development, and curriculum design and evaluation. I have given presentations on Chinese language pedagogy for upper level Chinese courses at various national conferences including CLTA/ACTFL. Last year, I also gave presentations on the application of technology in Chinese teaching at United States Military Academy at West Point and University of Macau.

My ongoing research projects include writing workbooks for the textbook *Basic Spoken Chinese*, and a series of teaching materials on narrative writing for intermediate and advanced learners. I serve as a First-Year Advisor and Second-Year Advisor in the East Asian Studies Department. I have also served on Brown's Fulbright Committee for the past two years and helped Brown undergraduate students apply for Fulbright teaching/research scholarships overseas.

Learning a language as different from English as Chinese is not easy. I have a lot of "tough love" for my students. Fortunately, they have appreciated it (knock on wood). I also believe that learning a foreign language should be functional and fun. Seeing the sparkles in my students' eyes can really make my day.



*Students in Yang Wang's Advanced Modern Chinese 1 class perform a scene from contemporary Chinese director Zhang Yimou's movie "To Live." [Photo courtesy of Y. Wang]*

The new academic year has started and I am enjoying fresh young faces that are eager to master Japanese. It always makes me feel excited.

This summer I visited my home in Tokyo, where I grew up. It was a time of reflection and slight sadness. Since both of my parents passed on, I will be giving up the home where I grew up and will be living in this country. I grew up in the Tokyo University area; walking distance from Ueno Park and very close to Asakusa. Anybody who took Beginning Japanese should be familiar with those names. The neighborhood is filled with Buddhist temples and schools and bookstores. There are numerous historical sights since the town used to have estates of Bushi, who served the Shogun during the Edo period, since the Edo castle was nearby. Tokyo University actually used to be one of these estates. Writer Natsume Soseki's house, where he wrote "I am a cat," is a two-minute walk from my house. There were quite a few modern era writers and scholars who lived nearby, since in the Meiji era, Tokyo University was the only university in Japan. I spent the summer reading books written by Soseki and others, even though I read them when I was much younger. I felt so much more affection to where I grew up and also realized it will always be part of me. Now I am not sad since I know that whenever I want to go home, I can just pick up a book.



**Toshiko F. Wilkner**  
*Teaching Associate,  
Japanese language*

Professor Yamashita specializes in historical linguistics, Japanese linguistics, and language pedagogy. Her research interests include pragmatics, communication strategies, discourse analysis, and the language policies and national language of Japan. She is on sabbatical leave fall 2008.



**Kikuko Yamashita**  
*Associate Professor,  
East Asian Studies*



**Fumiko Yasuhara**  
Teaching Associate,  
Japanese language

I taught Basic Japanese with Professor Yamashita, who directed these courses, and Advanced Beginning Japanese, with Mr. Tajima directing, during the 2007-08 school year. Students enjoyed making movies of uniquely creative versions of "The Tale of Urashima."

I continue communicating with and assisting the R.I. community as a member of the Japan Society in the Japan Language and Cultural Center of Rhode Island: [www.jlccri.org](http://www.jlccri.org). I volunteer for cultural activities organized to introduce Japanese culture and custom to the community. Events included a Japanese dinner party at International House and the "Night in Japan," during Diversity

Week at R.I. College, in which I did a demonstration of the Japanese tea ceremony. I was also invited to the "World Literature" class at Shea High School in Pawtucket to lecture on Japanese language and custom.



**Meiying Zhang**  
Senior Lecturer,  
Chinese language

Meiying Zhang has been teaching Chinese at Brown for twenty years. She is the 2007 winner of the *Harriet W. Sheridan Award for Distinguished Contribution to Teaching and Learning at Brown University*.

Her recent research focuses on the teaching of Advanced Chinese language. After delivering her paper "Pedagogical Approaches in Teaching Phrases in Advanced Chinese" at the fifth New York International Conference on Teaching Chinese in May of 2007, she read her second paper, "The Necessity and Cruxes to Enhance the Teaching of Advanced Chinese" at the ACTFL/CLTA Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas, November 16-18, 2007. Her third paper, "Principles in Selecting Literary Works as Texts in Teaching Advanced Chinese," has been accepted, and will be read, at the 2008 ACTFL/CLTA Annual Conference.

Meiying Zhang is a co-author and an associate editor of the book, *Chinese Grammar Made Easy* (originally titled "Teaching Chinese Grammar, 150 cases"). The first print of the book by Yale University Press is available for order in May 2008. It "discusses 150 of the most fundamental and frequently used grammar points that students need to learn in order to communicate successfully. Each grammar point is accompanied by various learning activities to engage students and provide structured practice."

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### "Why did you study Mandarin Chinese?"

As a student in the Program in Liberal Medical Education (PLME), I wanted to take advantage of the unique opportunity that Brown offered me by taking as many humanities classes as possible. After all, I knew I would have four years of medical school and the rest of my career to focus on the sciences. Already a Classics/Latin concentrator, I chose to broaden my horizons further by taking Beginning Mandarin Chinese, as its tones, characters and ideographic nature always intrigued me. When I first enrolled in Chinese, I never expected that I would actually study abroad in China. The course at Brown was exceptionally well organized, and the teaching staff was enthusiastic and dedicated. It was during that class that I learned a very important lesson that I carried with me through my medical training: "close is not good enough."



**Benjamin Mathis**  
BA '04, MD '08

After a successful year in Beginning Chinese, I studied abroad in Hangzhou, China. There I significantly improved my speaking and reading skills in Mandarin, and was astonished with how quickly I progressed in an immersion environment. The ability to communicate with locals in their own language allowed me to learn a lot about how Chinese people live, their political views, and Chinese values — knowledge that I would not have been able to obtain had I not spoken Chinese. "Cultural competence" is a fairly new and important part of many medical school curricula and residency training programs. I know that my experience in China greatly enhanced my cultural competence and allowed me to view various problems from diverse perspectives.

Many teachers recognize that Chinese is a very difficult language for Westerners to master, and while the teaching staff at Brown would always compliment us on what we did well, they were not afraid to tell us when we erred. In this learning environment, not only did I learn how to speak Chinese better, but I also learned how to teach better. During residency, physicians are expected to teach medical students and other residents on a daily basis. As a pathologist, I plan to remain in academic practice and become heavily involved in medical education. The lessons that I learned from my Chinese teachers on how to teach are just as important as what they were teaching me. I hope one day to return to China and integrate my medical knowledge with my love for the Chinese language.

# VISITOR *Profiles*

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## CURRENT VISITORS ALSO INCLUDE:

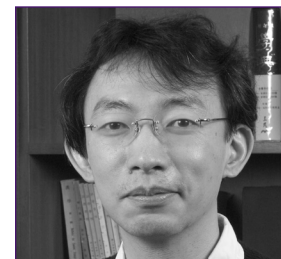
Roger Keyes .....	<i>Visiting Scholar, East Asian Studies</i>
Zhennan Zeng .....	<i>Visiting Scholar, East Asian Studies</i>

# CURRENT *Visitors*

Two years have passed since I came to Brown. This year, I taught Japanese language courses at intermediate and advanced levels and two directed content courses: “Introduction to Japanese Linguistics” and “International Cultural Relations of Japan.”

Currently, I am interested in teaching Japanese based on the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning, particularly, in teaching Japanese culture through Japanese language. I am developing a “Standards”-oriented approach to teaching Japanese language and culture, which is based on the concept of conflict resolution as the content, and the process, for teaching or learning, through a connection between Japanese language programs and International Relations. This approach has been presented in Association of Teachers of Japanese Special Interest Group (Culture) and the 15<sup>th</sup> Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Workshop and will come out soon as a paper in the proceedings of the latter conference.

As for my research on linguistics, my paper on phrasal compounds in Japanese was accepted by a journal “Lexicon Forum No.4” (Hituzi Publishers) and will be published this coming summer. I also submitted another paper on purpose clauses in Japanese to MIT Working Papers in Linguistics (to appear) as a proceeding for the conference “The 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics.”



**Hitoshi Horiuchi**  
*Visiting Assistant Professor,  
East Asian Studies*

I am currently working on developing supplementary materials for Chinese 0150 and Chinese 0250. I still remember ten years ago, when a non-heritage student in Chinese 0200 (second semester of Basic Chinese) told me how she wished that we could have a separate program for heritage students. Eight years ago, we began to offer Chinese 0150 and Chinese 0250 for heritage learners.

With the increasing popularity of the use of simplified characters for Chinese teaching and learning, it is also one of my teaching goals not only to help students build a solid foundation of the writing system they choose to learn, either traditional or simplified, but also to acquaint students with knowledge of character simplifying rules. My current interest is how to incorporate technology into my Chinese teaching to reinforce character recognition for students.

**Jia-Lin Huang Hsieh**  
*Visiting Lecturer,  
Chinese language*


**Yukiko Koga**

*Post-doctoral Fellow,  
International Humanities,  
East Asian Studies*

This will be my second year in the Department as a post-doctoral fellow. Last academic year was a wonderful year full of both humbling and rewarding experiences, and I particularly enjoyed the challenge of teaching two new courses, “After Empire: History, Memory, and Mourning” and “Anthropology of Urban China.”

This coming academic year, I continued to work on my book manuscript entitled “The Double Inheritance: The Afterlife of Colonial Modernity in the Cities of Former ‘Manchuria.’” It explores the process of coming to terms with the past in urban Northeast China, where Japanese are once again present, this time as businessmen and tourists within the emerging political economy of the new China.

With a combination of urban ethnographies in three major cities—Harbin, Changchun and Dalian—and a cultural analysis of the intricacies of post-imperial and post-colonial relations between Japanese and Chinese in Northeast China, the study addresses the question of modernity, the problem of historical responsibility and the work of memory.

The manuscript remains to go through major transformations, but one of the chapters from the manuscript was recently published as an edited book chapter: “The Atmosphere of a Foreign Country: Harbin’s Architectural Inheritance,” in *Consuming the Entrepreneurial City: Image, Memory, Spectacle*, edited by Anne M. Cronin and Kevin Hetherington with a Foreword by Sharon Zukin (New York and London: Routledge, 2008).

I received a short-term summer travel grant to Japan from the Northeast Asia Council of the Association of Asian Studies for my next project, “The Body Impolitic: Narration, Nation, and the Politics of Redress in China and Japan.” This summer, I plan to consult considerable newly available archival materials and conduct follow-up interviews in Japan and China to augment rich ethnographic materials gathered during my dissertation field research in Tokyo in 2003-4, during which I worked with Japanese lawyers representing Chinese war victims *pro bono* in their lawsuits against the Japanese government and corporations. Whereas my first project explores the political economy of colonial inheritance in the built environment of Chinese cities, my new project investigates the disappearance and appearance of injured bodies of war victims—another form of historical remainder, whose political mobilization now is creating ever stronger pressure for settling past accounts. Focusing on wartime forced laborers, this study traces the postwar trajectory of two modes of compensation in China and Japan since the end of the war in 1945: one is the logic of compensation surrounding monetary loss and the other the moral economy of compensation for past injustice.

I’m from Taipei, Taiwan, and came to Brown last year. I received my BA in Chinese literature from National Chengchi University and MA in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language from National Taiwan Normal University. My thesis was entitled “Double Negation in Chinese.”

Prior to coming to Brown to be a visiting lecturer, I taught Chinese at the Mandarin Training Center at National Taiwan Normal University for two years and at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Poland for one year. I taught basic and intermediate Chinese, Chinese news and Classical Chinese. I like to travel very much, so that’s why I like being a Chinese teacher—I can meet people from all around the world, and teach them this beautiful language and culture.

I’m interested in Chinese linguistics, sociolinguistics, and contrastive analysis and error analysis, and I also like to do studies in language and culture, introducing Chinese or Taiwanese culture to my students. I also like to write teaching materials, and have been working with a Taiwanese company to develop textbooks for computer learning.

I co-taught Chinese 0100-0200 and Chinese 0300-0400 last semester, and will teach the same courses this semester. I had a great time my first year at Brown, and believe I will have a wonderful time again this year.

**Mei-Hui Lee**  
*Visiting Instructor,  
Chinese language*

This is my first time teaching abroad and I’m so happy to join the Department of East Asian Studies at Brown. I was teaching in Taiwan before, where all students were foreigners to me, but here the situation is totally different, because now I’m the foreigner to the students. This difference is quite interesting as it helps me understand more about those who learn Chinese as their second or third language, and all their interests and difficulties.

As a Chinese teacher, I create various activities for students to practice the language, and try to maintain a comfortable learning atmosphere to encourage them to communicate with each other and discuss interesting topics. I like to give challenging assignments to extend students’ learning period and demonstrate “real life” language experiences as well. I am also interested in culture, folklore and computer-assisted instruction. I hope to have a wonderful and fruitful life here.

**Chia-Hui Lin**  
*Visiting Instructor,  
Chinese language*

Kathryn Lowry is Visiting Assistant Professor in East Asian Studies and offers courses in classical Chinese and premodern Chinese literature. She joined the Department this fall, coming to Providence from Shanghai. She is a specialist in the literature and intel-

**Kathryn Lowry**  
*Visiting Assistant Professor,  
East Asian Studies*

lectual history of the 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, the Ming dynasty, especially the history of books and the history of reading. She has interests in music, performance, and new media. Her first book, *The Tapestry of Popular Songs in Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century China: Reading, Imitation, and Desire* (Leiden and New York: Brill, 2005), looks at how street songs spread in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, examining songbooks and drama magazines and the ways in which they could be read. Her current research centers on the life and livelihood of a man who failed the civil examinations and became a literary hack, if you will, and a bestseller in China during the 1610s. Deng Zhimo put together books ranging from guides to romance to love letters to dictionaries and Daoist fiction, adding illustrations and commentary tailored to new readers. She is interested in how this marginal figure reinvented himself as an intellectual and shaped unusual illustrated, annotated books that, in turn, shaped readers in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. She has a passion for books of all shapes and forms.

# HONORS THESES & SENIOR *Projects*

## 2008 Honors Theses

*Tenryo or Not Tenryo: The Search for Identity in  
Ayushi no Ceres*

**Christine K. Chen**

*A Single Silken Thread: Patriotism and the Expression of Hope  
in May Fourth Literature*

**Charles H. Custer**

*Judicial Reform and Changing Perceptions of  
Justice and Democracy in Japan*

**Mai Denawa**

*Immortality and Transcendence:  
Finding the Dao in Quanzhen Daoism*

**Larson DiFiori**

## 2008 Senior Projects

*Zen Buddhism and Poetry*  
**Melanie Carver**

*The Early Development of Mao Zedong's Political Ideology*  
**Corey Lipow**

*Japanese Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature*  
**Dana Guterman**

*The Legend of Mulan in Chinese Historical Context*  
**Miriam Gordon**

*Contemporary Fiction and the Role and Fate of Women  
in 20<sup>th</sup> Century China*  
**Lily Luo**

*Environmentally Sustainable Opportunities and Possibilities  
for China's Economic Development*  
**Jessica Robertson**

*Identity, Love and Gender Roles in the Chinese Films  
Two Stage Sisters and Woman, Demon, Human*  
**Brietta Tsang**

*The Influence of Anime Films and Marketing  
on American Perceptions of Japan*  
**K. Adam White**

*The Nature of Taiwanese Identity*  
**Bo Wong**

## LEACH GIFT & FREEMAN FUND

# Highlights

Thanks to the generous support of Mr. Brian Leach, and a Freeman Foundation Grant, East Asian Studies was able to award a number of grants to students attending Chinese, Japanese and Korean language instruction or immersion programs for the summer of 2008. Students could apply their awards to tuition, travel, or living costs for those programs. The Leach gift and Freeman grant also provided funds for students pursuing eight- to ten-week unpaid or minimally paid summer internships in China, Japan or Korea. Interns with NGOs, companies or government agencies received grants towards travel, lodging and living expenses.

### SUMMER LANGUAGE STUDY AWARD RECIPIENTS

<b>Moctar Aboubacar '10</b>	<i>Ewha University</i>
<b>*Nina Arjarasumpun '10</b>	<i>Princeton In Beijing</i>
<b>Jessica Dai '10</b>	<i>Duke Study In China</i>
<b>*Hilary Johnson '09</b>	<i>Hokkaido International Foundation</i>
<b>Eric Lee '10</b>	<i>Princeton In Beijing</i>
<b>Sheila Lin '10</b>	<i>Waseda Oregon</i>
<b>*Ling Liu '10</b>	<i>Columbia In Shanghai</i>
<b>Tong Liu '10</b>	<i>Waseda Oregon</i>
<b>Tan Van Nguyen '10</b>	<i>Princeton In Beijing</i>
<b>Jinsol Park '11</b>	<i>Princeton In Beijing</i>
<b>*Andria Payne '10</b>	<i>Princeton In Beijing</i>

*\*EAS Concentrator*

**Michelle Ramadan '10** *Associated Colleges in China*

**Richard Stein '10** *Princeton In Beijing*

**\*Axel Tifft '10** *Duke Study In China*

**\*Ronghua Tong '10** *Princeton In Beijing*

**SUMMER INTERNSHIP SUPPORT AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**Lisa Gomi '10** *US Consulate in Osaka*

**\*Blaine Eric Grinna '10** *Beijing Olympics Volunteer*

**Chirona Silverstein '10** *International Internships LLC*

*\*EAS Concentrator*

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*For the first time in my life I have multiple pen pals, and since my return I have already several emails that out-do any essays I ever wrote for Chinese class.*

—Axel Tifft

*Making little bows, nodding often, and knowing when to naturally pause as I spoke were things I could not have learned from a classroom environment. Such habits became ingrained so quickly that it took a while to adjust when I returned to the United States. Homestay was such a beneficial experience, and I only wish that it could have been a longer stay.*

— Tong Liu

*Nothing was better for trying to understand just how Korean college students live than to move into a private dorm in the heart of the very college neighborhood of Sinchon, have Korean friends as next door neighbors and have long and slightly awkward conversations with the dorm's cook.*

— Moctar Aboubacar

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**Class of 1985**

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**Cary Netchvolodoff McCall** writes: After Brown, I lived in Tokyo before attending graduate school at Harvard and moving to New York. In New York, I worked first for Estee Lauder, launching their youngest brand, Prescriptives, in Japan and Australia. Following the stint in the retail business, I worked as a consultant for the Sawyer Miller Group before getting married and having four boys: Nick (15), with whom I traveled to Japan in March and who is studying Mandarin Chinese, Peter and Alex (14) and Henry (9). Now that my boys are older, I am working with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to develop income-generation initiatives among refugee populations. The first such project was with the Burmese refugees in the camps along the Thai-Burma border, and in February, I plan to visit the Congo to launch another such program there. I look forward to receiving the East Asian Studies Department newsletter and to reading about what my peers have been up to!

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**Class of 1986**

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**Karen Antell** writes: After graduating in 1986, I attended the Bryn Mawr Post-Baccalaureate Premedical Program and then Yale School of Medicine. I am now a family physician, practicing in Wilmington, DE (after 12 years in Chicago). I teach residents and care for a low-income

urban population with full-spectrum primary care (including prenatal care and obstetrical care). I have two boys, ages 10 and 13. I received a master's degree in public health in 2005.

**Stephen Bloom** writes: I think I've made good use of that East Asian Studies degree. Learning Japanese and spending time overseas while at Brown definitely set the direction I took later on. After stints at AT&T and in consulting, and picking up an MBA at Harvard Business School, I have been working at NTT Communications since 2001. I was in their global strategy group in Tokyo for two years, and have been VP of Business Development at NTT America in New York for the past 5 years. Our customers are large US companies expanding in Asia, and we provide global data networking services. My wife Chio and I live in Chatham, NJ, and have two boys, Kenta, 10 and Noah, 3. I was recently at Brown for graduation weekend with my old roommate, and it was great to be back. It would be good to hear from classmates and professors from the '86 era. My e-mail is [stephen\\_bloom@msn.com](mailto:stephen_bloom@msn.com).

**Brian Palmer** is an independent journalist and filmmaker based in Brooklyn, NY. Brian is now in post-production on *Full Disclosure*, a feature-length documentary about his "embeds" with a US Marine infantry battalion in Iraq. In 2008 he received a Ford Foundation grant to complete the documentary. In addition to working on *Full Disclosure*,

Brian continues to work as a writer, still photographer and videographer. Most recently, he traveled to Bangladesh to shoot a video story on the Pathshala South Asian Institute of Photography. The story is scheduled to appear on the website of *The World Politics Review* in September 2008. Upon graduating from Brown, Brian took a short-term position as a legal proofreader at Lee & Li Attorneys at Law in Taipei. After returning to the States in 1987, Brian worked as an Admission Officer for Brown before moving home to New York, where he entered the MFA Photography Program at the School of Visual Arts and began his career in journalism as a humble fact-checker at New York's *Village Voice* newspaper.

**Jonathan Walsh** writes: I spent my junior year 1984-85 at Sophia University in Tokyo, and moved to Japan the year after I graduated from Brown. I was in Tokyo and Saitama until 1990, first living in an Aikido dojo, then working for Iwasaki Electric's export department, then *Look Japan* magazine's editorial staff. I sometimes met classmates Stephen Bloom, Mike Wiecek, Jeff Spock, and Haruo Iguchi, to each of whom I'd like to say, "Thanks, dude." In 1990 I moved to Kyoto and worked for "ecological think-tank" Elmwood Institute's Japan office, which turned out to be an unpaid position, as our real-estate mogul sponsor went bankrupt when the market crashed. So I did some part-time work, teaching English in Osaka and putting up prefabricated houses in Saitama and Shikoku. In 1992, when the office and I ran out of money, I moved to Hokkaido, which I had visited in 1988 to attend a wed-

ding, and in 1989 for the first annual Ainu "10,000 Year Festival" (see <http://www.snowjapan.com/e/features/niseko-magic-10.html>). Landing my first university job in 1993, I remained a university English teacher until 2007. During this time, I earned a Master of Social Science degree from Syracuse University, and made several trips to Southeast Asia and Indo-Tibet (some of which are documented by fellow traveler Stephen Shucart at <http://molly.honjyo.reccs.akita-pu.ac.jp/> under "Furry Freak Brothers in Nepal," "Mt. Kailash," "The Around the Bend Tour," and "Key to the Highway"). In January 2008, I enrolled in a "Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Primary)" course at the University of Auckland, which was so disappointing that I withdrew after one semester and returned to Sapporo. I am now considering whether to stay in Japan, go back to New Zealand and finish the degree (at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch), or move to Dharamsala, India and manage a guest house recently built by my Tibetan relatives, right behind the Norbulingka (<http://www.norbulingka.org/>).

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**Class of 1987**

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**Mary Ellen (Kivlen) Friends** writes: After graduating I did a year at the Stanford Inter-University Program in Taiwan, then attended a PhD program at Yale. Like so many others, I'm ABD. Since 1995 I have been happy and teaching at Deerfield Academy in Deerfield, MA where I live with my husband, two children (ages 9 and 11) and the family dog. Chairing the History Department takes

a good chunk of my time right now, but I've put my EAS work to use: I teach an Asian Civilizations survey, a modern China senior course, a Contemporary China spring elective, and a Great East Asian Books elective. I have also been lucky enough to co-lead two school-sponsored trips to China as well as direct a Shanghai-based educational program.

**Joan Mauldin Hurst** writes: Upon graduating from Brown in 1987 I moved to London. After coming back to the States, I worked in Executive Search firms in Atlanta and Chicago for 12 years. After my husband and I moved to the D.C. area in 2000, I received a Masters Degree in International Commerce and Policy from George Mason University with the goal of going into Public Service. I now work at USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service as a Senior Economist and Trade Negotiator supporting the WTO agriculture negotiations. I have one daughter who is 8 years old and adopted from China. When we went to China to pick her up, I was amazed at how much the country had changed since my semester overseas from Brown. My daughter and I spoke Mandarin together when she was adopted (at 1<sup>1/2</sup> years old) and currently enjoy going to Chinese school together on weekends.

## Class of 1988

**Peter Slater** lives in Weston, MA, with his wife Alison (Yale, '96) and their two sons Joshua (4 yrs) and Adam (10 months). Peter is a Managing Director in Japanese equity research sales at Macquarie Capital,

a global investment bank, advising Boston-based mutual fund and hedge fund investors. He also heads Macquarie's Boston-based institutional sales efforts. Peter spent his junior year studying Japanese at Nanzan University in Nagoya, and then returned to Japan after Brown to work for seven years in the real estate and advertising industries. He returned to the United States to earn an MBA at Columbia Business School (1998), and joined Morgan Stanley that year. Peter joined Macquarie to establish their Boston office in 2005. He welcomes correspondence from fellow Brown EAS alumni: [Peter.Slater@macquarie.com](mailto:Peter.Slater@macquarie.com)

**Jane Root** and her husband Robert Leizman live in Los Angeles with their twins, Jack and Sarah, born May 23, 2007. She is a research attorney with the appellate division of the Los Angeles Superior Court, and can be reached at [janehroot@aol.com](mailto:janehroot@aol.com).



*Jane Root's twins, Jack and Sarah.*

## Class of 1991

**Nat Chuang** writes: I graduated with double concentrations in EAS and Biophysics, after a year in Japan as a member of the first KCJS class in

Kyoto with Prof. McClain, and fellow Brown students Julia, Liz, Melissa and Sam. I went to medical school and finished my residency in radiology and fellowship in neuroradiology all at UC San Francisco. I was briefly a staff member and assistant professor at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. My wife (Jeannie, also a 1991 Brown graduate) and I then moved back to California. I now work for a large private practice, and my wife is a pediatrician at UCSD. We have two lovable (in our biased opinion) little boys (ages 1 and 4), and are enjoying the family life and great weather here in San Diego. I have visited Japan several times since I graduated, and narrowly missed an opportunity for a medical exchange visit years ago. I do reminisce fondly about my time there as an exchange student. Alas, the life of a radiologist and father of two little boys is not conducive to maintaining my foreign language abilities, and I must admit that my Japanese is getting quite rusty. But I suspect/hope that I could pick it up quickly again if given the opportunity. In the meantime, I will have to live vicariously through the lives of the other EAS concentrators.

**Ping Foong** writes: I graduated from Brown in 1991 with a focus on Chinese Art and worked for the Museum of Fine Arts Boston for some years before graduate school. My Ph.D. was from Princeton University in Chinese Art and Archaeology and I have been teaching at the University of Chicago for over 2 years now. I am still trying to get accustomed to the cold!

**Lara L. Manzione** writes: My husband Robert Kinloch (Australian Na-

tional University '89) and I have been living in Washington, DC for the past 6 years or so. We just welcomed our first child, Maya Odessa, into the world on February 6, one of the last days in the Year of the Pig. She has followed her Chinese sign by eating a lot – just like her parents. We have promised to take her to every country of her heritage by the time her first passport expires and we're hoping to do the lion's share of the travel while she still flies for free! We're planning to visit the relatives in Singapore and Australia this December. A few years ago Robert started his own promotional products firm ([www.monsoon-promotions.com](http://www.monsoon-promotions.com)) and I just celebrated my 5 year anniversary working for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees in the Strategic Communications Department ([lmanzione@afscme.org](mailto:lmanzione@afscme.org)). I have also been keeping busy as the DC-area eBASC chair, coordinating alums to interview applicants to Brown.



*Lara, Robert and baby Maya.*

**Jeffrey Mizrahi** lives in NYC, NY, where he attends Columbia Business School and works in Private Equity.

**Mary Morrison** writes: I currently live in Miami, Florida with two boys ages 4 and 9 months. I have contin-

ued my East Asian Studies interests and started my own children's apparel brand called "Mooncakes" (yes Asian-inspired) carried in many retailers nationwide. My factory is in Shenzhen, China which allows me to travel and use my Mandarin, fun fun! Contact me at: [mamy@moon-cakes.com](mailto:mamy@moon-cakes.com).

## Class of 1992

**Linda Li** writes: I completed a masters in East Asian Study (focus on Chinese Art History) at Stanford in '93, and then quickly grew roots in the San Francisco Bay Area. For the last ten years, I have been at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, coordinating outreach, training and public information for the San Francisco District (which used to include Saipan and Guam, and therefore a little bit of Far East travel!) Perhaps all those years of studying Chinese art has led me to replicate in my own life that tension between civil service and longing for a free artist's life away from it all... I live in Berkeley with my husband and 3 year old daughter and dream of one day painting and writing again (and welcome visits from old classmates).

**Melissa Rinne** writes: I entered Brown with the class of '91, took a year off to stay in Japan after my junior year abroad, and graduated with the class of '92. After graduation, I went back to Japan on a Monbusho scholarship, attended graduate school in art history at Kyoto City University of Arts and Kyoto University, and worked for two Japanese national museums. In 2005, I moved from Kyoto to San Francisco, with my husband Tomoyuki Okada, to

take my current job as assistant curator of Japanese art at the Asian Art Museum. Our first child, Marie, was born the same year.

**Loren Ryter** writes: I graduated in 1992.5 with a concentration in East Asian Studies and Development Studies. I went on to grad school at the U of Washington, and got my Ph.D. In political science in 2002. I taught as an Assistant Professor of Government at Cornell University from 2002-2006. Then I did a research fellowship at KITLV in Holland for a year. Currently I'm a Visiting Scholar at the University of Michigan. My interest is in Southeast Asian comparative political- and anthro-history. I've also been doing some software development for the Mac.

## Class of 1993

**Jason Cox** writes: Currently a Vice President at Goldman Sachs. I've been with GS since 1995, and have just relocated back to New York after four years in our London office. After graduating from Brown, I went to Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs, where I received an M.I.A. in 1995.

## Class of 1994

**Neil Segal** writes: I am a faculty physiatrist, working with Joseph Chen '92, MD '96 at the University of Iowa. I also have an Aikido Dojo ([www.geocities.com/aikijuku](http://www.geocities.com/aikijuku)) where Nick Zakrasek '06 is one of my students.

## Class of 1996

**Mai Lien Nguyen** writes: After graduating, I spent two years in Japan teaching English with the JET Programme. Then I got my Master's in Education at Stanford University. I'm currently teaching AP World History and Honors World History at The Harker School in San Jose, CA. It's been great being able to use everything I've learned from my East Asian Studies and History professors at Brown in my profession! I especially want to thank Professor McClain for having been such an awesome and understanding advisor, and all my Japanese language teachers for their inspiration and patience!

**Matt Ricchetti** writes: I went to the Stanford Inter-University Program in Taiwan for a year, where I avoided the expats and my Chinese became quite fluent. I worked as a translator and editor in both Taiwan and the US before making a career shift into graphic design. I'm now a senior user experience designer in the video game industry, working for Electronic Arts in Redwood City, CA. I had the opportunity to help EA build its new studio in Shanghai over the past few year—traveling to China on the company's dime was a nice upgrade from my study abroad days. I hope to have some continued involvement with China and Chinese culture while remaining based in the SF Bay Area. My Chinese isn't what it used to be, but I can still hold my own and try to get out and practice once in a while. Feel free to join my network on LinkedIn: just search for Matt Ricchetti.

**Eric Yau** writes: Since graduating from EAS at Brown '96, I went to Harvard to do AM in Regional Studies (East Asia), graduating in '97. I then returned to my hometown, Hong Kong, and started a career in investment banking. In 2001, I went back to school to get an MBA at Harvard Business School. Since my graduation there in 2003, I have been back in Hong Kong again, doing M&A while getting married and having two kids in 2005 and 2007 respectively. Earlier this June, I brought my family back to Providence to show them my *alma mater*, and had a wonderful time strolling across the Main Green and shopping at the Brown Bookstore!

## Class of 1997

**Taylor Margis-Noguera** writes: After a few years in investment banking, I went back to school to get my MBA from Harvard. For the last few years I've been busy serving as CMO of Special Ops Media (which was founded by a few of my friends from Brown), getting married and welcoming a baby girl into the family.

**Amy Tunis Shinkman** writes: Early this year I moved to Singapore from London, where I lived for 7 years. I am working as a regional manager and political risk underwriter for *Atradius*, a Dutch credit insurance company. I am here with my husband and one-year old son and would love to get together with other EAS concentrators in Singapore, especially those with young children! I am also looking to make a couple of hires soon, and of course would favor a Brown grad! I can be reached at [amy.shinkman@atradius.com](mailto:amy.shinkman@atradius.com).

## Class of 1998

**Alexander C. Cook** is a Humanities Fellow at Stanford University, where he is working on a book manuscript, "The Cultural Revolution on Trial: Justice in the Post-Mao Transition." After Brown, Alex spent a year at the Mandarin Training Center in Taipei on a TECRO Scholarship. From there he entered the doctoral program in history at Columbia. After conducting dissertation research in Beijing and Shanghai on a Fulbright Grant, he earned his PhD in 2007. Along the way, he returned to Brown as a Visiting Lecturer in fall 2006. Students and *alumni* are welcome to contact him at [acccook@stanford.edu](mailto:acccook@stanford.edu).

**Brantley Turner Bradley** writes: After Brown I attended the Hopkins-Nanjing Program in Nanjing, China for one year and then moved to Shanghai, China. I worked first in advertising for US agency FCB and then worked at local market research firm Jigsaw International, specializing in Chinese youth consumer trends. I returned to the US in 2005 and in 2006 started China Prep, [www.chinaprep.com](http://www.chinaprep.com), an educational travel business. I still travel frequently to China to lead trips and have had some great Brown Alumni/ae work with China Prep. I currently live in New York with my husband and daughter.

**Edward Wang** writes: After graduating in 1998, I received a MS in Construction Engineering & Management at Stanford, then went back to Taiwan, where I worked as a project engineer on the Taiwan High Speed Rail Project. In 2003, I received a

MBA from The Wharton School at U. Penn and worked for a real estate developer in Frederick County, Virginia. I briefly put my EAS degree to use as the Global Immersion Program Cultural Coordinator, during which we toured China, HK, and Taiwan on a month-long trip. In 2004, due to family reasons, I returned to Taiwan where I have been working in the construction industry ever since. Currently, I live with my grandmother, my dad, my sister, my brother, and a poodle. I swam across Sun Moon Lake this past weekend with 20,000 people in an annual swim fest and plan to climb the Jade Mountains in central Taiwan at the end of October.



*Edward Wang, pictured right.*

## Class of 2000

**Stacy Smith** writes: I am currently living and working in NYC as a freelance Japanese translator/interpreter and dabbling in journalism as well. Some of my exciting new assignments are leading Japanese tours at Yankees Stadium this summer and beginning work as an escort interpreter for the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program this fall! I am especially appreciative of all of Professor Smith's help post-graduation with career advice and other insights. I look forward to the chance

to come back to Brown and see how the EAS program has grown and changed in recent years!



*Stacy Smith*

## Class of 2002

**Johanna Cox** writes: Since I graduated, I lived for two years (total) in Tianjin and Daqing teaching English for EF English First. I also earned my M.A. in East Asian Security from Georgetown's School of Foreign Service in 2006, and since 2005, I've worked as a China analyst/linguist for Defense Group Inc., a defense contractor in Washington, D.C. Also, from 12/2006-2/2008, I wrote the fashion blog, "A Serious Job is No Excuse," which strangely enough parlayed into my being cast on the upcoming CW reality show, 'Stylista.' It premieres this fall on 10/22. No decision yet as to which industry I'll ultimately decide to work in.

**Mark Dembits** writes: After graduating in 2002, I moved to Hungary for 2 years, intent on qualifying for the Sydney 2004 Olympic Games in fencing. I had fenced for 4 years at Brown and hoped that with 2 years of intensive training in Hungary (one of the world's leading nations in the sport), I would stand a chance of qualifying as part of the Swiss team. In the spring of 2004, after 1.5 years of intensive training and travelling

for the sport, I had made huge progress, ranking 100<sup>th</sup> in the world. Sadly, the Swiss team did not qualify and I began considering my options. While I toyed with the idea of training for a further 4 years for the Beijing games, I soon decided against that in order to focus on the banking career I had started while working for the Hungarian Foreign Trade Bank during my time in Hungary. In May of 2004, I moved to Zurich, where I joined Goldman Sachs Private Banking. A year later, seeking to marry my interests in finance and an aspiration to do some good in the world, I left Goldman Sachs to join Sindicatum Carbon Capital, a developer of Carbon Credits based in London. Today, I still work for the same company, though as of 2006 fall, I have been based in Beijing, where finally, 6 years after I last studied Chinese at Brown, I was able to get back into the language. I will be enjoying the challenges of developing greenhouse gas reduction projects throughout China for the year to come, before I head back to Europe for my MBA at INSEAD. Still single, I have been blessed with the opportunity of some exceptional travel over the past 6 years, including climbing Kilimanjaro (with friends from Brown), touring Cambodia on a scooter, crossing the Tibetan plateau and skiing in the Canadian Rockies. Amongst other things, I am deeply involved with setting up the Brown Club of China, and as such, would be delighted to hear from any Brown *alumni* currently living in China who want to reconnect to the Brown Network, or other *alumni* across the world who have an interest in all matters Chinese.

**Emily Farrow** writes: After graduation, I lived and worked in Hokkaido, Japan as a Coordinator of International Relations, then in Boston at the Japan Society of Boston. After taking one more year to study Japanese language at the Inter University Center, I entered graduate school at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. I am just about to begin my second year of graduate school, and have transferred to The Fletcher School's new business degree program for a Master's in International Business.

**Erin Kelley** writes: I'm getting my PhD in modern Japanese Art and Cinema at the University of Pennsylvania. Just finished up my third year of course work and received a Doctoral Research Fellowship from the Japan Foundation to begin work on my dissertation. Will be based at Gakushuin University in Tokyo for the upcoming 2008-2009 academic year. Would love to hear from any Brown alum who will be living in and/or visiting the Tokyo area. E-mail contact: [ekelley2@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:ekelley2@sas.upenn.edu).

### Class of 2003

**Corey Byrnes** writes: I graduated in 2003 with an emphasis on premodern Chinese poetry and late imperial fiction, both of which I studied with Dore Levy while at Brown. Between 2003-2005 I completed a masters at the University of Cambridge (Kings College), and after a brief stint working at the main library at Dartmouth College, moved on to UC Berkeley for my PhD. I'm just now starting my third year, and with it, preparations

for my oral exams this spring. My research still includes medieval poetry but has also expanded to include Chinese painting, aesthetics and representations of visual and spatial experience. I'm enjoying the California experience with my partner Tristram Wolff (Brown class of '04), but fantasize about returning to Providence some day soon. I can be reached at [cjbyrnes@berkeley.edu](mailto:cjbyrnes@berkeley.edu).

**Yaniv Gelnik** married Katrina ole-MoiYoi '03 in ceremonies in Israel and Kenya this past August. After a few years of development and strategic consulting work, Yaniv and Katrina have started an organic CSA in Israel. They are also building an eco-friendly residential project on the coast of Jaffa, and plan to move to Seattle this fall for Katrina's graduate studies.

**Brenna Hall Kantrovitz** writes: Since graduating Brown in 2003 I have earned my J.D. from Washington University in St. Louis, School of Law and am currently a litigator with Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP. I took the bar last summer (2007) and afterwards spent 2 months travelling throughout China and brushing up on my Chinese. I was able to travel to the most northwestern regions in Xinjiang, exploring Turpan, Kashgar, Karakul Lake and other amazing places. I also experienced some old familiar memories (KTV and huoguo) as well as noticing the great changes that have occurred since 2002 when I was in China last. I currently live in Newport Coast, California with my husband of three years, also a Brown graduate.

**Lynn Lee** writes: I just attended my 5<sup>th</sup> reunion and had a blast! I'm a correspondent with *The Straits Times* newspaper in Singapore. I've covered education and politics for the paper, and have had the good fortune to travel quite widely for work. Some of my more memorable trips have been to China, the Middle East/North Africa: Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, and South Asia, namely the Maldives. For the past few months, I've been involved in the upcoming revamp of *The Straits Times*, an English-language daily with a readership of 1.3 million. The paper is very keen on wooing young readers and recently, I went on a study tour to Paris and London to find out how media companies are engaging young people. I would love to keep in touch with fellow EAS concentrators and professors - anyone who's visiting Singapore is welcome to get in touch with me.

**Samantha Shib** writes: After graduating I worked at Deloitte Consulting for 3 years as a management consultant. I took a hiatus from working in 2006 when I went to the Johns Hopkins-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies. I recently started my own online fashion company called 9tailors ([www.9tailors.com](http://www.9tailors.com)) that specializes in making custom-made dress shirts. I am also recently engaged and will be getting married in early 2010.

**Mia Simring** writes: After two years in rural Japan (in Aichi, just over the Nagano border), I have returned to my New York City roots. I have been at Christie's (as an administrator in Japanese and Korean Art) for the

past year and a half. Working here has been a wonderful learning experience, and I am really lucky to work with a great team. Right now, we're preparing for our September auction. I went up for my 5<sup>th</sup> reunion this year, and it was a bit overwhelming, having been away for so long. I really miss Providence and Brown!

### Class of 2004

**Joel Dietz** writes: Northwest University, Xi'an, China '04-'05. Strait Talk Symposium ([straittalk.org](http://straittalk.org)) Project Advisor '06-current. Tokyo, Japan, '07-'08. Independent translation from Mandarin Chinese to English and web consulting. Please contact me if you are interested in helping with or contributing to Strait Talk Symposium, a fantastic student-led conflict resolution project bringing students from Mainland China and Taiwan for a week of discussion and peace-building projects at Brown University. Now in its fourth year! Featured in Newsweek! Contact me at [jdietz@alumni.brown.edu](mailto:jdietz@alumni.brown.edu).

**Akemi Johnson** writes: After graduating from Brown, I headed to Phnom Penh, Cambodia where I lived for a year and a half, working first as a middle and high school teacher at an international school, then as an intern with the Asia Foundation's counter-human-trafficking team. In 2006 I returned to the U.S. to pursue an M.F.A. in Creative Writing at the Iowa Writers' Workshop. I finished the program this spring, and in fall 2008 will travel to Okinawa, Japan on a Fulbright grant. There I will research issues surrounding the U.S.

military bases—a project I began at Brown—and gather material for a written creative work.

**Ryan Levesque** writes: I graduated in 2004, and immediately started working for the insurance company AIG, initially based in New York City. After working on several assignments that took me to Asia, my wife and I relocated to Shanghai in 2006 where I currently head up AIG's expansion across China. We've been very fortunate to have a chance to travel across China, South East Asia, and India during our stay, and host a number of fellow Brunonians also making their way out the Far East!

## Class of 2005

**Daniel Hausmann** writes: After graduating, I went to work at Google as an Account Manager, and now as a trainer. I'm now writing this from Japan (so yes, my Japanese has served me well) where I'm helping to evaluate the training program. I might be traveling a bit more across Asia for work, so I'm very excited!

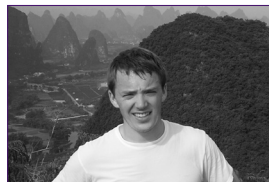
## Class of 2006

**Alex Richardson** writes: I've spent the year since graduation studying at the IUP Chinese Language Center in Beijing. Time outside of class included a brief stint on a Chinese sitcom TV show, which was both lots of fun and very frustrating. I'm hoping to return to Shanghai to begin work with a management consultancy after the Olympics - if I can get the visa!



*Alex Richardson and President Simmons*

**Nick Zakrasek** writes: I began working for an aerospace company called Rockwell Collins immediately after leaving Brown. I was hired into their Leadership Rotational Program, which entails rotating through four different jobs in four different locations over the course of 3 years, in preparation for a leadership role. I started in Iowa City, IA, and am presently located in San Jose, CA - and I will be moving in September 2008 to Heidelberg, Germany. Using vacation time, Elissa Briggs ('06) and I traveled around China in the summer of 2007. We also met up with Matthiah Larkin ('06) in Changzhou, where he is working. In May 2008, I made a two-week trip to Japan with Neil Segal ('94, EAS:Japan) to train intensively in Aikido. Also, Shirley Lo ('06, EAS:Japan), Gabe Nicolau ('06) and I have met up in Boston several times since graduation. If anyone would like to get in touch my email address is [zakrasek@gmail.com](mailto:zakrasek@gmail.com).



*Nick Zakrasek in Yangshuo*

## Class of 2007

**Benjamin Boas** writes: Since graduating in May 2007 as a Japan concentrator, I've been studying at Kyoto University in Japan on a Fulbright Fellowship. My topic is a rare one; I study Mahjong and socialization in Japan. This is a continuation of my research as an undergraduate at Brown University on the same topic. My research is anthropological, so I spend much of my time interviewing Mahjong professionals and businessmen, as well as retired white-collar workers, about their experiences with the game. My fellowship ends in September, at which point I will begin study at Stanford's Inter-University Center for Japanese Studies in Yokohama. The highlight of my year has been being featured in a "manga," or Japanese comic, last fall. It was featured in the bi-weekly magazine "kindai majan," and chronicles the history of how I came to become a Mahjong researcher. If you look in the bottom left panel, you see me talking to a professor, that is supposed to be Professor Kerry Smith.

**Ann Kuo** writes: The summer after graduation, I completed an introductory program in Public Health and Traditional Chinese Medicine in Kunming, China. I am currently a second-year medical student at Brown, and would like to eventually arrange rotations in East Asia (particularly Taiwan or China) sometime in my last two years of medical school. My current plan for the future is to specialize in an area dealing with women's health, perhaps obtain certification in East Asian medicine, and settle down in Houston, Texas (my hometown).

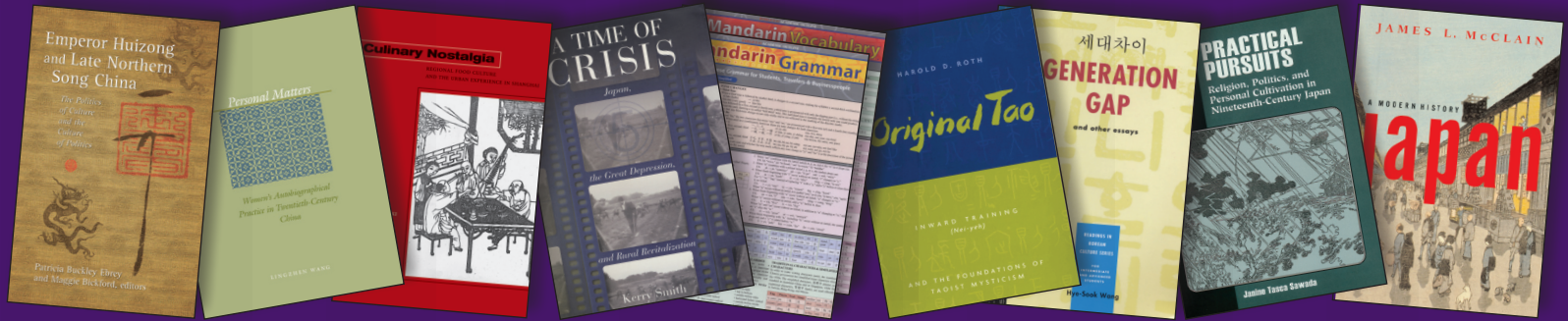


*Benjamin Boas and Prof. Smith in manga form*

**Jonathan "Bucky" Rogers** writes: I lived in Ankara, Turkey for a year starting last August and taught English at Bilkent University. One of the highlights of getting to travel around Turkey was being at Sumela Monastery in Trabzon. In September I will be moving to Berkeley and interning at the Network for Spiritual Progressives and teaching at the School for Independent Learners. I have been admitted to Harvard Divinity School and am planning to matriculate in the fall of 2009.



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A sampling of EAS faculty-authored books, from left to right: *Emperor Huizong and Late Northern Song China: The Politics of Culture and the Culture of Politics*, edited by Patricia Buckley Ebrey, Maggie Bickford (Harvard University Asia Center, 2006); *Personal Matters: Women's Autobiographical Practice in Twentieth-Century China*, by Lingzhen Wang (Stanford University Press, 2004); *Culinary Nostalgia: Regional Food Culture and the Urban Experience in Shanghai*, by Mark Swislocki (Stanford University Press, 2008); *A Time of Crisis: Japan, the Great Depression, and Rural Revitalization*, by Kerry Smith (Harvard University Press, 2003); *Mandarin Grammar Laminated Reference Guide*, and *Mandarin Vocabulary Laminated Reference Guide*, by Lung-Hua Hu (BarCharts, Inc., 2008); *Original Tao: Inward Training (Nei-yeh) and the Foundations of Taoist Mysticism*, by Harold D. Roth (Columbia University Press, 2004); *Generation Gap and Other Essays*, by Hye-Sook Wang (Cheng & Tsui Co., 2008); *Practical Pursuits: Religion, Politics, and Personal Cultivation in Nineteenth-Century Japan*, by Janine Tasca Anderson Sawada (University of Hawai'i Press, 2004); *Japan: A Modern History*, by James L. McClain (W. W. Norton & Company, 2002).