**Message from the Graduate School**

Readers of the Center for Asian Studies Newsletter should be especially interested to hear that the University of Colorado at Boulder is currently participating in the Internationalization Laboratory program sponsored by the American Council on Education. Founded in 1918, ACE represents the interests of campus executives at more than 1800 colleges and universities. It speaks for higher education on matters of public policy, both in Washington, DC and throughout the nation, and provides a variety of programs and information, as well as a forum for dialogue on key issues.

The Laboratory consists of a small cluster of institutions working closely with ACE over a 16- to 20-month period to advance collective knowledge about the issues surrounding assessment and comprehensive internationalization. Participating institutions conduct a review of their goals and internationalization strategies, develop strategic action plans, and share their learning with other member institutions. This year, CU-Boulder is one of seven participating institutions, ranging from large research institutions such as ourselves to small liberal arts colleges.

On the Boulder campus, the work of the Lab is being conducted by a Task Force consisting of 13 faculty members from across the campus, all of whom have a strong interest in international issues; the group is co-chaired by myself and by Larry Bell, Director of the Office of International Education. CAS is well-represented on the committee by both Director Laurel Rodd and Prof. Dennis McGilvray.

The Task Force is currently reviewing past efforts on campus to promote internationalization as well as designing a survey that will help determine the extent of international activity now underway at CU-Boulder. Armed with that information, the Task Force aims to complete an Internationalization Strategic Plan by next fall, one that will provide goals and guidance as the campus pursues one of the primary objectives of Flagship...
Message from the Graduate School, continued from page 1

2030: to make the University of Colorado at Boulder a “global crossroads.”

The Center for Asian Studies provides a model as well as great leadership for the campus as it pursues its internationalization goals.

John A. Stevenson
Associate Vice Chancellor, Graduate Education
Associate Dean, the Graduate School

Understanding Muslim Communities in the Rocky Mountain Region

The Center for Asian Studies and the Center for Media, Religion, and Culture have been awarded a grant from the Social Science Research Council to support their project: “Understanding Muslim Communities in the Rocky Mountain Region.” The project will bring together scholars of Islam, regional journalists and media practitioners, and Muslim leaders in an effort to improve public discourse on Islam in the region and beyond.

News coverage of Muslims in America is often linked to crisis incidents that cast them as extensions of global politics. The local angle which could help anchor them in communities in cities, towns, and neighborhoods is often trumped by the larger angle which privileges their connection to bigger news stories like the war on terror or the tumultuous Middle East. The core objective of this project is to develop an informative Web gazetteer that will document the nature, history, and extent of Islam in the Rocky Mountain region beyond the crisis story.

For 16 months, a team of researchers will be traveling in Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona to visit mosques, businesses, and organizations. The website will feature podcasts, clickable maps, videos and photos of major Islamic landmarks in the area, as well as short articles about various Muslim communities and individuals.

Other activities of the project include workshops and roundtable discussions about creative ways to cover Muslims in the region, how scholars of Islam can make their expertise accessible to a larger public, and how Muslims can provide better access to reporters so that their communities are represented in all their complexity. This project will lead up to an international conference on Islam and the media in January 2010. The conference will be an opportunity for scholars of Islam and contemporary media, media professionals, Muslim activists and NGOs to reflect on who speaks for Islam today and the implications of emerging critical discursive spaces on Muslims and non-Muslims.

Nabil Eschaibi, Assistant Professor
School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Letter from the Director, continued from page 1

Our four-year Title VI National Resource Center grant from the U.S. Department of Education continues to allow us to expand Asian language offerings, hire new area studies faculty, develop the library collections and increase staffing, enhance curricular offerings, support faculty research travel, and increase support for speakers, conferences and colloquia. Reza Farokhfal and Margaretha Sudarsh, whose positions were underwritten with NRC funds, are developing strong language programs in Persian Farsi and Indonesian.

CAS is also pleased that the other "new" languages added to the CU curriculum in recent years are growing steadily. We now have two faculty in Hindi, Christine Everaert (whose position was seeded with a previous grant from the U.S. Department of Education) and Laura Brueck (whose position was part of a successful interdisciplinary Asia and the Muslim World Cluster hire proposal on which CAS, Asian Languages and Civilizations, History, Anthropology, and Spanish and Portuguese collaborated).

History has hired a faculty member in Chinese/Central Asian history this fall, and Asian Languages and Civilizations (ALC) anticipates hiring a faculty member in Arabic literature--also part of the Asia and the Muslim World cluster hires. Two additional cluster hire positions, in Anthropology and ALC, will be filled in 2009/2010.

Summer and Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships have been awarded to graduate students studying Asian languages as part of their graduate education in a wide range of disciplines. See page 4 for information about the students supported by FLAS fellowships in 2008/09.

The Program for Teaching East Asia continues to provide an impressive variety of workshops, seminars, and study tours for K-12 teachers in Colorado and across the nation with the invaluable support of the Freeman Foundation, as well as funding from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, National Endowment for the Humanities, and U.S. Department of Education. Kunga Lama has joined CAS to offer outreach programming related to other regions of Asia as well, and he will be leading a Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad seminar for teachers in India next summer.

I myself will be leading a similar Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad seminar focusing on Basho's Oku no hosomichi in Japan in July 2009.

This newsletter barely scratches the surface of the 2008 accomplishments of our extremely active faculty, students, and staff. Please visit our web site at www.colorado.edu/cas for regular updates about speakers, workshops, colloquia, films, and performances, as well as ongoing activities.

We look forward to seeing you at upcoming events and welcome suggestions for future activities.

Laurel Rasplica Rodd
**News from the East Asian Library**

**New Home for East Asian Reference Collection**

The East Asian reference collection has moved into its lovely new home on the second floor of Norlin.

As a part of the redesign of Norlin library and the building of an Information Learning Commons on the first floor, the second floor has been reconfigured into a Research Floor including the main research desk, reference collection, and periodical collection. East Asian reference materials and current CJK periodicals as well as major multi-volume sets will be housed in the northeast corner of this new research area. This enables users to have better access to the collections along with other relevant materials, and provides a closer association with the East Asian Studies Research and Instruction Librarian (search currently ongoing).

**Acquisitions Highlights**

The Libraries have made a number of important acquisitions in different fields of Asian studies over the past 1 1/2 years. For the Chinese and Japanese collections, 687 titles in 1549 volumes have been added and another 363 titles have been ordered. These acquisitions strengthen our collection in the fields of early Chinese literature, Cultural Revolution novels, pre-modern Japanese literature, Japanese colloquial studies, women’s studies, reference, etc. We were also fortunate enough to have received donations from prominent scholars of Asian Studies and to have participated in the National Library of China’s “Window to China” program. About 300 donated titles have been added to the collection.

The Libraries have been building up basic collections in Arabic, Farsi, Hindi, Indonesian, and Korean. Through contact with and visits to librarians of prominent South and Southeast Asian collections, as well as by consulting with CU area studies faculty, we have established relationships with reliable vendors for these materials and added 228 new titles to the collections.

In addition to acquiring print materials, the Libraries have gradually been adding important Chinese, Japanese and Asian studies digital resources to the collection to improve access to research materials. In recent months, we set up trials and evaluated many database products, and have successfully acquired the following full-text databases:

- Chinese Ancient Text (CHANT) database
- China: Trade, Politics, and Culture, 1793-1980
- Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center Core Text Collection I-II
- JapanKnowledge
- Jitsu
- Nihon Kokugo Daijiten Online
- Nihon Rekishi Timei Taikei

Free online resources were also selected and presented to our users in the Subject Guides on the East Asian Library’s web page (http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/eastasian/).

Together with the databases available previously, such as the Chinese Academic Journals, Digital South Asian Library and Asia Studies, these e-resources provide easy and rapid access to an enormous number of articles, dissertations, theses, and newspapers.

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**CAS External Advisory Council**

CAS was delighted to be able to host a full day meeting of the Center for Asian Studies Advisory Council on October 10, 2008. In addition to a business meeting, the program included informal presentations of their research by two CAS faculty members, Najeeb Jan of Geography and Tim Weston of History.

The members of the Advisory Council include CU alumni and other members of the community who are willing to devote their time and energy to consult with the Director and faculty of CAS in the areas of their expertise and interest and to promote the objectives of the Center through financial support and fund-raising.

We are very pleased that the Council is growing rapidly in numbers and strength. Our deepest thanks go to this invaluable group of supporters!

CAS invites others who may be interested in joining the Advisory Council to contact us.

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**CAS Executive Board**

The CAS Executive Board makes programmatic and funding decisions related to the Center’s activities and is comprised of CU faculty engaged in research or teaching related to Asia.

For the 2008-09 academic year, the Board is comprised of Director Laurel Rodd, Asian Languages and Civilizations (ALC); Abderrahman Aissa, Arabic Instructor; Hun Shik Kim, School of Journalism and Mass Communication; Faye Kleeman, ALC; Carole McGranahan, Anthropology; Carol Shiue, Economics; and Marcia Yonemoto, History. Non-voting members representing Asia-related units on campus include Janice Brown, ALC Chair; Angela Farone, CU Foundation; Yem Fong, East Asian Library; Terry Kleeman, ALC/Chair of CAS Student Affairs Committee; Kim Kreutzer, Office of International Education; Xiang Li, East Asian Library; Dennis McGilvray, Anthropology/CAS grant co-PI; and Lynn Parisi, Program for Teaching East Asia.

Thank you to all current and past board members for your dedication and service to CAS and Asian studies at CU.

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Xiang Li
Bibliographer for East Asian Languages and Studies
Student News

FLAS Fellowship Recipients

The Center for Asian Studies is happy to be able to support graduate students with an interest in Asia through the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. The awards support the study of Asian languages and area studies over the academic year or intensive language study over the summer. We are pleased to introduce FLAS fellows from summer 2008 and academic year 2008-09:

Daniel Burton-Rose (summer/AY) is an M.A. student in ALC focusing on Japanese and late imperial Chinese Daoism. He spent the summer at the University of California, Berkeley, studying Japanese.

Graham Chamness (summer/AY) is a second-year M.A. in ALC specializing in Chinese language, literature and civilization. During the summer he studied Japanese at the Hokkaido International Foundation.

Robert Eschbach (summer) is an M.A. student in Religious Studies studying Japanese and Zen Buddhism. This summer he remained on the Boulder campus and studied 3rd-year Japanese.

Christian Heimburger (AY) is a Ph.D. candidate in modern U.S. history with a special focus on the history of the U.S. West, Japanese Americans and Japan.

Kassie Klinefelter (summer) studied Chinese at the National Taiwan University over the summer. She is a Ph.D. candidate in History studying American history 1865 to the present, U.S. diplomatic history and modern Chinese history.

Afton Sather-Knutsen (AY) is a Ph.D. candidate in Geography. He plans an academic career researching and teaching about the geographic dimensions of Chinese national identity.

Matthew Levitas (summer/AY) is an M.A. student in Asian Languages and Civilizations (ALC) studying Chinese and Japanese.

Margaret Shugart (AY) is a second-year M.A. student in Anthropology. Her M.A. thesis will focus on rice farming in Bali.

Susanne Stadlbauer (AY) is a fifth-year Ph.D. student in Linguistics studying Arabic. See page 5 for an interview with Susanne.

Bozena Welborne (summer) is a Ph.D. student in Political Science. She spent the summer in Morocco studying 2nd-year Arabic.

Brandon Williams (summer) is a Ph.D. candidate in History. He attended the University of Chicago’s summer program in Arabic.

Amy Zader (summer) is a Ph.D. student in Geography, where her dissertation investigates how the Chinese state is balancing modern, scientific rice grown for mass quantities with high quality rice that consumers demand. During the summer she studied Chinese at the CET Harbin Summer Language program.

Undergraduate Awards

CAS provides partial tuition scholarships to undergraduate students whose studies are focused on Asia, thanks to a generous grant from the Freeman Foundation. This year’s recipients are Emily Bloedel, a senior majoring in Japanese and Asian Studies; Joan Park, a junior in Psychology and Japanese; Joseph Parker, a junior in Asian Studies; Ayumi Tatsumoto, a junior in Japanese; Susan Sheng Wang, a sophomore in Linguistics and Chinese; and Nick Zendejas, a senior in Chinese. We wish all of the students success in their future studies. The next competition for Freeman undergraduate scholarships will be held in April, 2009. Visit our website at www.colorado.edu/cas/studentsupport.html for applications and additional information.

The Center for Asian Studies also sponsors an internship program, in which students are placed in organizations with connections with Asian studies to learn more about career possibilities after graduation. This year, we have placed students at the Program for Teaching East Asia and Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Lydia Halvorson, Alison Clowes, and Mark Weibers are Secondary Outreach Interns at TEA and Mary Robinson and Megan Todd are Editorial Acquisitions Interns at Rowman & Littlefield.

We hope to extend the internship program to new organizations over the next academic year, so please contact us if you know of an Asia-related organization that might be interested.
Interview with Susanne Stadlbauer, FLAS Fellow for Academic Year 2008-09

What is your area of study? I am a 5th year Ph.D. student in the department of linguistics and my focus is linguistic anthropology, which is an interdisciplinary field using linguistic methods to interpret sociocultural processes. My upcoming dissertation analyzes the construction of gender identity and piety in the discourse of Muslim women at CU Boulder. I specifically look at how both immigrant students and American converts to Islam use Arabic and religious ritual language in discourse to mark their affiliation to Islam, to other Muslims, and to the Arabic-speaking Middle East in general. The goal of my dissertation is to unravel the discursive negotiation and possible tensions between the ideologies of Islamic practice, of the secular university environment, and of negative stereotypes on Muslims in the US mainstream media.

Briefly describe your CU experience. I relish my academic experience at CU because my research by nature is interdisciplinary and the breadth of graduate courses offered here allowed me to take courses on Islamic and Modern Middle Eastern history in the history department, on Islam in the Modern World in the religious studies department, and classes on feminism and modernity in the department of anthropology. CU provides me with a well-rounded education.

What has the FLAS fellowship meant to your graduate study? Receiving the FLAS scholarship for the academic years of 2006-07 and 2008-09 has helped me to bring my Arabic skills to the advanced level. I am taking Advanced Arabic at this point, which enhances my writing, speaking, reading, and comprehension. It further enables me to acquire a broader understanding of Arabic culture and texts drawn from various genres of Arabic. After all, proficiency in Arabic is essential in understanding the social and religious ideologies that I will address in my dissertation. A career in linguistic anthropology and Islamic identities demands a detailed analysis of both language and culture.

What are your future plans after CU? My future goals are to finish my dissertation by Spring 2010. After that, I intend to conduct sociolinguistic field research on Muslim women in Middle Eastern refugee communities within the US and to investigate their integration into US society. This work is important in face of the heightened hostility towards Islam in the wake of 9/11 and the negative stereotyping of Muslims in the US media. I hope that my present and future work sheds light on common stereotypes of Muslim women being associated with religious fanaticism or with being silenced behind their veil.

Thank you, Susanne.

Center for Asian Studies Staff

Director – Laurel Rasplica Rodd
Assistant Director of CAS – Danielle Rocheleau Salaz
Director of Outreach/TEA Director – Lynn Parisi
South, Southeast, and West Asia Outreach Coordinator and PR Coordinator – Kunga Lama
TEA Japan/Korea Project Coordinator – Catherine Ishida
TEA Outreach Coordinator – Jessica Oppenheim
TEA Senior Staff Associate – Karla Loveall
TEA-NCTA Staff Associate – Lauren Collins
NCTA Coordinator – Chris McMorran
Assistant to the Directors – Ann Toll
Assistant to the Directors for Grant Administration – Joanne Sakaguchi

Save the Date!

This year’s Asia Day will be held on Saturday, March 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. We will have activities and demonstrations appropriate for children and adults introducing the people, cultures, flavors, and arts of Asia. Visit our website at www.colorado.edu/cas/asiaday.html for a detailed schedule and more information.

New CAS Video Library

In an effort to reach out beyond our immediate CU community, CAS has initiated a project to create an archive of video materials of CAS-sponsored events, including lectures, presentations, and conferences. Some of these materials are available for online viewing and others on portable media such as DVDs.

We officially began videotaping this September and since then we have captured some interesting presentations and lectures by our own CU faculty members and other visiting scholars with expertise in Asian Studies. Some of the videos available online address themes such as popular Sufism in contemporary Sri Lanka, Malaysian shadow puppet theatre, and Korean Buddhism. Other videos include a roundtable discussion on post-Olympics China and a presentation on transnational discourses of Islamic community.

These videos can be found on our homepage (www.colorado.edu/cas) under “Video Library.” Those that will not be put online will be made available on DVD through the CAS resource center at the TEA office on East Campus. Currently, these videos can be requested from the Center by contacting Kunga Lama at Kunga.Lama@colorado.edu.
Spring 2009 Speakers and Events

CAS has a number of engaging and informative events planned for spring. Watch our website (www.colorado.edu/cas/calendar.htm) for updates and further information on our luncheon series (LS) and speaker series (SS) events, along with Asia Day and a symposium to be held in April.

Monday, January 12, 4:00 p.m. “A Japanese Double-Header: Lectures by David Hughes on Japanese Folk Song and Gina Barnes on State Formation in Early Japan,” Dr. David Hughes, Emeritus Professor of Asian Studies and Musicology; and Dr. Gina Barnes, Professor of Japanese Art and Archaeology, both at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London. Humanities 135 and 250. (SS)

Thursday, January 15, 4:00 p.m. “Women Against the Raj,” Dr. Joyce Lebra, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Colorado at Boulder. UMC 382-386. (SS)

Wednesday, January 28, 12:00 p.m. “Energy Issues in China and India,” Dr. Jerry Peterson, Professor of Physics and International Affairs, University of Colorado at Boulder. Hale 450. (LS)

Also Wednesday, January 28, 4:00 p.m. “The Last Samurai that Transcended Martial Arts: Ueshiba Morihei, the Founder of Aikido (1883-1969),” Mr. Kei Izawa, CAS Advisory Board member and Councilor of the Aikikai Foundation. Ramaley N1B23. (SS)

Friday, January 30, 3:00 p.m. “The India-U.S. Civil Nuclear Deal and Its Global Implications,” Frank G. Wisner, former United States Ambassador to India. Peterson Auditorium, Leeds School of Business. (SS)

Monday, February 9, 4:00 p.m. “Supply Chains and the Human Condition,” Dr. Anna Tsing, Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar and Professor of Anthropology, University of California Santa Cruz. Norlin Library, 5th Floor. (LS)

Wednesday, February 18, 12:00 p.m. “Making Yemen Indian: Rewriting the Boundaries of Imperial Arabia,” Dr. John Willis, Assistant Professor of History, University of Colorado at Boulder. Macky 230. (LS)

Friday, February 20, 2:00 p.m. “Pedagogy Workshop: Teacher Beliefs and Student Outcomes: What is the Connection?,” Dr. Madeline Spring, Professor of East & Southeast Asian Letters & Cultures, Arizona State University. Ekeley M203. (SS)

Thursday, February 26, 6:00 p.m. “Wings of Defeat,” a film screening and discussion with Director Risa Morimoto and Writer/Producer Linda Hoaglund. Humanities 150. (SS)

Saturday, March 7, 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Center for Asian Studies' eighth annual “Asia Day,” a cultural festival with demonstrations, talks, performances, and activities for children and adults. Humanities building. (See page 5.)

Wednesday, March 11, 4:30 p.m. “Healing Zen: Japanese Buddhist Women's Rituals of Transformation,” Dr. Paula Arai, Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Louisiana State University. Hellems 141. (SS)


Thursday, March 19, 12:00 p.m. “Making the Medicine Mountains: The Politics of Tibetan Medicinal Plant Management in Northwest Yunnan, China,” Jen Dinaburg, Doctoral Candidate in History, University of Colorado at Boulder. Macky 230. (LS)

Saturday, March 28, time TBA. "Introduction to Tsukuba University Internet-Based Japanese Tests," Professors Noriko Kobayashi and Chieko Kano, and Associate Professor Takako Sakai, Tsukuba University, Japan. Hellems 152. (SS)

Wednesday, April 1, 12:00 p.m. A CAS Luncheon with CU-Boulder Professors Robert McNown and William Wei about the Tiananmen Square incident and the years since. Hale 450. (LS)

Friday, April 13, 3:00 p.m. "Migrants and Mendicants: Traveling Religions of South Asia," Dr. Sondra Hausner, Professor of Theology, Oxford University. Hale 230. (SS)

Wednesday, April 15, 12:00 p.m. A CAS Luncheon with Raza Ali Hasan, Instructor in the Department of English and author of 67 Mogul Miniatures. Hale 450. (LS)

Friday, April 17, time pending. “Symposium on Gender in South Asia: Literary, Historical, and Activist Perspectives.” (SS)
Past Speaker Series Events

In 2008, CAS hosted or co-hosted a range of events drawing a combined audience of over 1200 people. Some highlights include:

Racism Under Fire: Japanese as Americans, Koreans as Japanese in WWII, March 7
Takashi Fujitani, Associate Professor of History at University of California, San Diego, offered a perspective on the US and Japan that challenges common understandings of these two nation-state based empires during the Second World War.

Faces in the Trees, April 22
In this special Earth Day lecture, Dr. David Haberman, Department of Religious Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington, discussed the worship of neem trees, regarded as the embodied forms of a goddess.

Western Conference for the Association of Asian Studies 2008, September 12-14
This year the University of Colorado at Boulder hosted this large regional Asian Studies conference. Scholars from all over the U.S. and Asia representing a variety of disciplines presented papers and panels addressing topics and issues regarding Asia.

A Knowledge Oriented Paradigm for Social and Economic Development: The Indian Experience, September 19
Dr. Sam Pitroda, the Chairman and CEO of World-Tel Ltd., presented this talk in which he described his experiences in his current assignment as Chairman of India’s National Knowledge Commission.

Buddhism and Science: A Guide for the Perplexed, September 25
In this standing-room-only lecture, Donald Lopez, the Arthur E. Link Distinguished University Professor of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies at the University of Michigan, offered a preview of his new book *Buddhism and Science: A Guide for the Perplexed*, a genealogy of the discourse on Buddhism and science as it has emerged over the past century and a half—from colonial encounters in Sri Lanka to present-day laboratory research on meditation.

Hidden Warriors: Women on the Ho Chi Minh Trail, September 29
Karen Turner, Professor of History at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts, showed her 45-minute documentary film, *Hidden Warriors: Women on the Ho Chi Minh Trail* and led a discussion on this film and her 2006 return to Vietnam.

Bawa Muhaiyaddeen: A Global Sri Lankan Sufi Saint, October 3
Professor Frank Korom, Department of Religion, Boston University, presented on the development of a transnational Sufi community that formed around Bawa Muhaiyaddeen, a Tamil Sri Lankan.

Transnational Discourses of Islamic Community Conference, October 24
This conference, featuring faculty from multiple disciplines on the University of Colorado campus and a selection of esteemed outside scholars, critically analyzed the content and appeal of the notion of a global Islamic community of faith through an explicitly comparative and interdisciplinary approach.

Do Buddhist Practices Offer a Science of Healing?: Thoughts on Contemporary Representations of Buddhist Philosophy and Meditation, October 30
Dr. David Gardiner, Professor of Japanese Religion at Colorado College, discussed issues of healing in Buddhist practice with special attention to its contemporary representation.

Spiritual Refreshment, Medicine for the Heart: Preaching on Record and on the Air in Indonesia, November 7
In this lecture, Bernard Arps, Professor of Indonesian and Javanese Language and Culture at Leiden University, examined the relatively new media genre, Islamic audio preaching, focusing on the ways the preachers represent people.

The Music of the Japanese Biwa: Stories from the Tale of Heike Performed and Sung by Yoko Hiraoka, December 4
This special cultural event featured the talents of master performer Yoko Hiraoka as she performed on the biwa and sang stories from the “Tale of Heike.” Co-hosted by the Consulate-General of Japan at Denver.
Outreach Activities

Summer Study Tour to Japan

During summer 2008, 14 elementary teachers from ten Colorado school districts spent four weeks in Japan on the Program for Teaching East Asia’s 2008 Texts and Contexts: Japan through Children’s Literature study tour. Led by Catherine Ishida, TEA’s Japan Project Coordinator; Professor David Henry, University of Alaska; and Jessica Rodd, TEA’s Japan Project Associate, the group visited Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Okayama, Yamagata, and Yokohama. In each city, the group developed their understandings of a featured children’s book about Japan through hands-on activities, visits to the book’s setting, and meetings with speakers. In collaborative groups, teachers began drafting lesson plans to teach aspects of Japanese history and culture through the selected stories. Many other activities, visits, and meetings provided participants with information to deepen their knowledge of and connections to Japanese history, religions, education, architecture, and geography.

Highlights from this year’s Texts and Contexts study tour include the following:

• On July 5th, we spent a day with author, Holly Thompson, in Koshigoe-town, the setting of her latest book, The Wakame Gatherers. With Holly Thompson as our guide, we walked by shops, houses, and beach scenes that are illustrated in the book. At lunchtime, town volunteers taught the teachers how to cook a variety of wakame seaweed cuisine and then we shared a delicious lunch together. Following lunch, three speakers presented on the harvesting of wakame; an elementary school project for Koshigoe students to learn about their local produce; and life before, during, and after World War II in Koshigoe.

• Participants learned how architecture reflects culture and history. The group toured the Imperial Palace in Kyoto and the Heian Shrine; the oldest and largest wooden structures in the world, Hōryuji and Tōdaiji; famous temples in Nara; Himeji Castle; and the International Library of Children’s Literature, an original Meiji structure renovated by contemporary architect, Tadao Ando.

• Over the four weeks, we visited four elementary schools in the cities of Otsu, Yamagata, Kawasaki, and Tokyo. Teachers spent a full day in one classroom observing teaching and learning practices. They learned about pre-service and in-service professional development for teachers in Japan. They developed an understanding of the diversity within elementary education in Japan, with special foci on multicultural and international education. In addition, Dr. David Satterwhite of The Japan-United States Educational Commission met with participants to provide them with an overview of the Japanese education system.

Japan Curriculum Available Online!

TEA is in the final phase of a two-year project to develop online curriculum on Japanese history for high schools. The project is entitled Imaging Japanese History and is funded by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. The project worked with leading scholars in early modern and modern Japanese history and master curriculum developers to develop five modules. Each module is designed as a case study for exploring a period in Japanese history through the visual historical record.

The modules are:
Heian Japan through Art: Japan’s Four Great Emaki
Medieval Japan through Art: Samurai Life in Medieval Japan
Tokugawa Japan through Art: Views of a Society in Transformation
The Path to Modernization in Popular Art: From Yokohama Prints to Taisho Chic
From Postwar to the Present through Art: Tezuka Osamu and Astro Boy

The teaching modules are online at www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/imagingjapan.
New Directions East: Secondary Outreach Programs at the Center for Asian Studies

With funding from a variety of grants, the Center for Asian Studies’ outreach to school classrooms has expanded this year. The secondary classroom outreach program—coordinated by CAS—and the elementary service learning project—administered by TEA—are now able to reach more schools and students and offer presentations on South as well as East Asia.

Since 2001, the secondary outreach program has been coordinated by a graduate assistant and undergraduate intern whose academic studies focus on China and Japan. This year, we have included a student specializing in China and two specializing in India. These undergraduates, Alison Clowes, Lydia Halvorson, and Mark Wiebers, work with our graduate student coordinator, Ben Grafström, whose presentations are on Japan. The program is able to offer a menu of nine topics on Asia for classroom presentations to middle and high schools. Topics range from Japanese anime and manga to Chinese papercutting to Hindi dance.

School visits are available through mid-April for this year. For further information, please contact secondary outreach coordinator Ben Grafström at ben.grafstrom@colorado.edu.

It’s Elementary!

Each spring for the past eleven years, enthusiastic CU undergraduate students have been working to provide hands-on and engaging experiences with Japanese and Chinese culture and language to Boulder Valley School District’s youngest elementary students. These CU students are enrolled in the “It’s Elementary” Service-Learning course through the CAS Program for Teaching East Asia. Happily, this year, the project has received additional funding from the CU Center for Service Learning to also recruit undergraduates studying Hindi and India as well as international students from China, Taiwan and Japan who are enrolled in the University’s International English Center. This funding allows undergraduates enrolled in Japanese and Chinese to partner with native speakers, and gives elementary teachers a new resource for their units on India. The service project has focused on 1st-grade and kindergarten classrooms in the past. This year, however, with the addition of lessons on India and larger numbers of undergraduate recruits, elementary students through the fifth-grade have the opportunity to learn about Asian elementary school and family life, foods, songs, children’s literature, traditional games, arts and crafts, and other fun.

While this is commonly the undergraduates’ first experience with teaching, district teachers comment that their well-prepared, hands-on lessons that are geared to meet district curriculum standards are an excellent opportunity to engage young students in the study of Asia. Elementary students look up to these young men and women and look forward to each new visit, while the undergraduates learn from real-world experiences and have an opportunity to apply the knowledge they are gaining at the University in a meaningful way.

This year, TEA had a record number of classroom requests, beginning in January 2009, and interns have been busy visiting classrooms. Student interns work with this year’s project coordinator, History M.A. Candidate Risako Doi, and TEA staff to learn the ropes of preparing lessons for presentation using the many books and artifacts available in the Teaching East Asia resource center.

CAS Program for Teaching East Asia Receives NEH Grant

TEA has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to offer a five-day summer workshop for 30 secondary teachers in summer 2009. This workshop, funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Workshop Initiative, will introduce history, literature and art teachers to new scholarship and resources on the development of the modern Japanese nation from the late Tokugawa period through the Meiji period (1853-1911).

Entitled Visualizing Japan in Modern World History, the workshop will be based on a cutting-edge digital resource, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Visualizing Cultures (VC) project. The VC website contains multiple modules and databases that enable scholars, teachers, and students to engage with newly accessible visual source material to examine key episodes in Japan’s path to modern nation state and empire in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The workshop will focus on the five VC modules of highest relevance to the secondary curriculum: Black Ships and Samurai; Yokohama Boomtown; Throwing Off Asia; Asia Rising; and Yellow Promise/Yellow Peril.

This digital humanities workshop will be offered as a residential program on the University of Colorado campus, featuring as faculty the scholars and curriculum developers who were instrumental in developing the Visualizing Cultures modules. Workshop participants will be recruited from a pool of approximately 2000 history and humanities teachers who are alumni of 30-hour seminars on East Asia conducted by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) over the past ten years. During the residential workshop and in four months of follow-up, the 30 teachers will work in three-person teams, mentored by workshop faculty. Each team will create two lessons for teaching with the Visualizing Cultures digital project primary sources. The 20 lessons developed will be disseminated nationally through a variety of mechanisms, including the TEA website, teacher presentations to current NCTA seminars, and workshops at professional conferences.
Asian Art Collections at the CU Art Museum


The CU Art Museum’s permanent collection of over 6,000 works of art includes works from various Asian cultures such as fine examples of 18th Century Japanese Ukiyo-e woodblock prints by masters of the tradition including Hiroshige and Kuniyoshi, as well as a beautiful collection of Southeast Asian pottery ranging from Ancient Thai pottery from the Ban Chiang culture to 9th through 13th Century Khmer pottery and 15th – 18th Century Thai pottery. A collection of ancient Iranian pottery is also included in the museum’s wide-ranging collection of artworks from Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. The Collection also includes works of contemporary art produced by artists of numerous cultures and traditions, such as contemporary Chinese and Tibetan art, for example.

The museum’s collection, started in 1939 as a teaching tool for students, has grown into a world-class comprehensive collection, which enriches the educational experience of students, faculty, and visitors to the campus. The collection has been entirely built through the generosity and passion of donors, who have gifted significant works of art to the collection or donated funds to support the purchase of artworks for acquisition to the collection. It is the museum’s hope to continue to build the breadth and strength of its Asian art holdings in support of the study of Asian culture on the CU-Boulder campus.

It is a very exciting period of growth and expansion for the CU Art Museum, with construction of a new state-of-the-art museum facility underway. The new CU Art Museum will feature four galleries, including two permanent collection galleries, allowing art selected from the museum’s permanent collection to be viewed in a dynamic museum and learning environment. The new CU Art Museum will also feature two changing exhibition galleries, where major museum exhibitions developed in-house or brought in on loan from peer institutions can be placed on view for the campus and broader community. Additionally, the museum will feature a Collections Study Center, where by appointment, students, faculty, and individual researchers can request works from the collection to be pulled from storage for individual viewing and study.

For more information about the construction of the CU Art Museum and about supporting the CU Art Museum Permanent Collection, please contact Lisa Tamiris Becker at 303-492-8003 or lisa.becker@colorado.edu.

Lisa Tamiris Becker
Director, CU Art Museum
Center for Asian Studies Reader Response Form

We want to hear from you! Please return this form by mail or fax or visit our website (www.colorado.edu/cas) for an online version. Enter as much information as you like.

Name: ____________________________________________
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Current Status:
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☐ Employed Full-Time
☐ Employed Part-Time
☐ Other: ____________________________

Current Industry:
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☐ Higher Education
☐ Government
☐ Non-Profit
☐ Private Sector
☐ Military
☐ Other: ____________________________

Please check/complete all that apply:
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☐ Please notify me of upcoming CAS events by adding me to your e-mail list.
☐ Please include me in the next CAS newsletter. See my update below.
☐ I am an alumnus/alumna of the University of Colorado.

Major/Minor/Area of Emphasis: ______________________________
Degree (circle): BA / MA / PhD Year(s) of Graduation: ________________________

We welcome your feedback! What would you like to see in the next CAS Newsletter? What types of events would you like to see CAS sponsor? What have you been doing with your Asian Studies education? Are you able to help? See reverse for information about donating to the Center.
Yes, I want to support the Center for Asian Studies:

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Thank you for your commitment to the Center for Asian Studies

Questions for the CU Foundation: Contact Angela Farone, 303-541-1455 or angela.farone@cufund.org.

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