

ASIANetwork Initiatives

Freeman Grant Renewal Announcement

\$1,000,000 Freeman Grant Renewal Received

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ASIANetwork has received a renewal grant for more than one million dollars from The Freeman Foundation to support for three additional years two very successful programs that generated widespread interest from ASIANetwork members during the summers of 1998-2000. Grant monies will support continuation of the College in Asia Summer Institute Program and the Faculty-Student Fellows Program through the summer of 2003. Through these two programs, The Freeman Foundation seeks to build stronger ties between Asia and the United States by increasing opportunities for faculty and students from ASIANetwork colleges to travel and study in Asia. I am sure that I speak for the ASIANetwork board and for all ASIANetwork members in expressing gratitude to the Freemans for their continued support of these programs.

The first program, the College in Asia Summer Institute Program, seeks to help ASIANetwork members establish their own semester, quarter, January interim, or summer on-site study programs in Asia. As was the case with the first grant, the renewal grant provides funds over the three-year life of the program for teams of one faculty and one administrator from fifteen different schools to visit sites in Japan and China (including Taiwan and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region). In 2002 and 2003, the College in Asia Institutes will introduce participants to Asian sites and explore the educational potential of each, the resources available to program directors to utilize these sites, and the challenges confronting study abroad programs. These on-site programs are not only designed for students who are Asian studies majors or minors but also students who simply have a desire to learn more about Asia, a region that has a unique and lengthy history and that will become increasingly important as the new millennium develops.

The second program, The Faculty-Student Fellows Program, supports collaborative research projects in Asia for student-faculty teams from ASIANetwork institutions. The primary aim of this Program is to support faculty-mentored student research in Asia. During the summer of

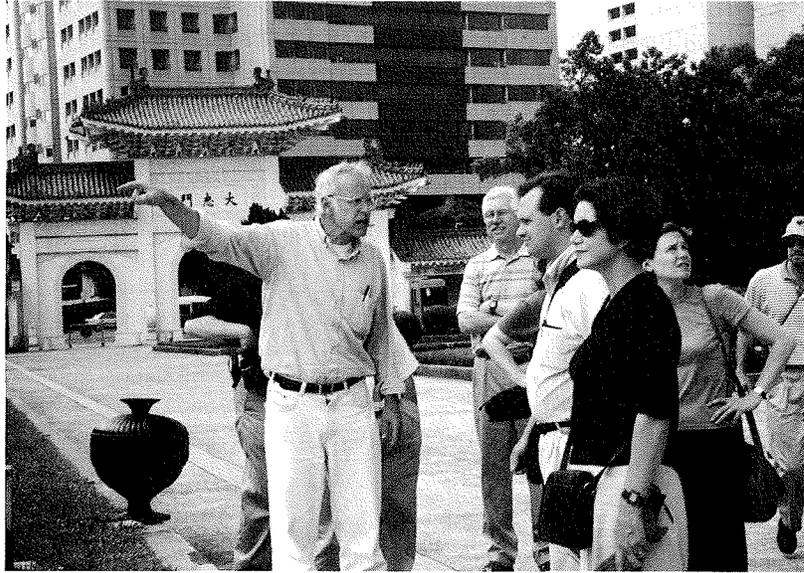
2001, funding to support research by forty students and faculty will be available. Roughly the same amount of funding will be available in 2002 and 2003. A new aspect of the renewed Fellows Program is that it will no longer be limited to teams of one student and one faculty. Under this new initiative, individual faculty mentors are encouraged to take from one to five students with them to Asia for three or more weeks of study.

Since 1998, thirty faculty and administrators, representing fifteen ASIANetwork colleges, have participated in the ASIANetwork Freeman Summer Institutes, and the first on-site Asian study abroad programs developed by these colleges are soon to be implemented. Sixty faculty and students have conducted research in Asia during the last three years. Returning home, they have shared their results with their campus communities and generated increased interest in Asia.

If you visit the ASIANetwork website at www.asianetwork.org, you can find a complete listing of the research conducted by student-faculty fellows for the past three summers. They provide ample evidence that Mr. Houghton Freeman's goal of increasing the number of Americans who have lived and studied in East, Southeast, and South Asia is being realized. Now that the Freeman Foundation has provided another \$1,000,000 to further these objectives, we hope that faculty at consortium colleges will take full advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

If you are interested in participating in these grants, please contact Professor Madeline Chu, ASIANetwork Freeman Programs Director, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49006 (616-337-7325 or chu@kzoo.edu); Professor Teodora Amoloza, ASIANetwork Freeman Fellows Program Director, International Studies, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL 61702 (309-556-3375 or tamoloza@titan.iwu.edu); or Professor Norm Moline, ASIANetwork Freeman College-in-Asia Institute Director, Augustana College, Rock Island, IL 61201 (309-794-7303 or ggmoline@augustana.edu).

Information can also be obtained from Dr. Van Symons, Executive Director of ASIANetwork, Augustana College, 639 38th Street, Rock Island Illinois 61201-2296 (309-794-7413 or asianetwork@augustana.edu), or by visiting our website at www.asianetwork.org.



Norm Moline and several of the 2000 Freeman Foundation College in Asia Summer Institute participants at the Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Park, Taipei



2000 Freeman Foundation College in Asia Summer Institute participants at Kinkakuji (Golden Pavilion) in Kyoto