

# *ASIANetwork Announcements*

Summer 2004 Announcement  
12th Annual ASIANetwork Conference Invitation

## **Announcement Regarding Freeman Foundation-Funded Programs**

Due to the SARS outbreak last spring, the Board of Directors of ASIANetwork, with the approval of the Freeman Foundation, decided to delay all Student-Faculty Fellows and College-in-Asia Programs scheduled for the summer of 2003. It was determined that if travel advisories in Asia were lifted, some programs scheduled for the summer of 2003 could be run during the 2003-04 January Interim, with the remaining ones conducted during the summer of 2004. As a consequence, no new Freeman programs will be funded this year.

## **The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual ASIANetwork Conference April 2-4, 2004 The Hickory Ridge Conference Center Lisle, Illinois**

The spring 2004 ASIANetwork conference will be held at the Hickory Ridge Conference Center located just outside of Chicago in Lisle, Illinois. The conference will run from Friday, April 2 through lunch on Sunday, April 4. Please set aside these dates on your calendar. Registration information will be sent out later in the academic year. In addition to the full range of panels by ASIANetwork colleagues and friends, there will be several events and sessions worthy of special note.

On Friday, the day will begin with a pre-conference tour of Asia-related sites in the Chicago area led by Norm Moline, Professor of Geography at Augustana College. With the exception of a visit to the Art Institute of Chicago, the tour will include all new sites and will run from approximately 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The conference itself begins with **dinner on Friday evening and the keynote address** by Laurel Kendall, Curator, Division of Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, on Asian art and artifacts as a window on Asian cultures. Laurel served as curator of the Museum's recent exhibit on Vietnam and is co-editor of the exhibit catalog (*Vietnam: Journeys of Body, Mind, and Spirit*, 2003). Vietnam will be the focus of her presentation. Laurel is also well known for her studies of Korean society.

A theme related to Laurel's presentation will be ex-

plored in a **Saturday morning plenary session** led by Roberta Martin, Director of the Asia for Educators Program at Columbia University. The topic of the session will be "Museum Resources for Teaching about Asia." Roberta hosted an outstanding workshop on this topic at Columbia University in the spring of 2003 that brought together educators from major museums, faculty at several colleges and universities, and foundation representatives.

On **Saturday evening**, we are pleased to welcome Vasudha Narayanan, Professor of Religion at the University of Florida and past president of the American Academy of Religion. Vasudha will give the second keynote address of the conference on the subject of the Hindu diaspora in the U. S. Vasudha has published studies of the *Vedas* as well as treatments of Hindu devotionalism and Hindu perspectives on ecological problems. Her book, *The Hindu Traditions in the United States: Temple Space, Domestic Space and Cyberspace*, will be published by Columbia University Press this year.

Finally, the **Sunday morning plenary session** will take up the topic of the crisis on the Korean peninsula as well as its impact on the region and on U.S. policy. We are delighted that Bruce Cumings, Professor of Korean History at the University of Chicago, will join us for this session. Bruce's many publications on Korea includes *Korea's Place in the Sun: A Modern History* (1997). We are grateful for the generous support that the Korea Society has provided for this session.

Please plan on joining us for these sessions and the numerous opportunities the conference provides to gain new insights into developments in the Asian Studies field, to renew friendships, and to meet new colleagues. Complete information about the conference as well as registration materials will be mailed to all ASIANetwork members and also posted on our website at [www.asianetwork.org](http://www.asianetwork.org) by mid-January.