Board Nominees

The following people have been nominated by the Board of Directors to fill positions on the Board of Directors for the term 2004-2007. Board elections will be held at the ASIANetwork business meeting Saturday evening, April 23.

Donald N. Clark

Donald M. Clark is the East Asian historian at Trinity University, in San Antonio, TX. He also serves as the Director of International Programs, which includes the interdisciplinary International Studies major, a study abroad program, and an international student exchange and advising operation. Trinity is engaged in a long-range effort to build East Asian studies as a program to match our already-strong Latin American studies program. The ASIANetwork, its programs, and ideas and encouragement from fellow members are an important influence on its efforts to build E.A.S.T. (East Asian Studies at Trinity). The Network speaks directly to Trinity’s daily concerns about undergraduate instruction and the need to increase awareness of the ties between the United States and East Asia.

Though Clark was born in South America, he spent his formative years in Korea with his Presbyterian missionary parents, graduating from high school in Seoul in 1961 and returning to develop an academic interest in Korea and East Asia in college and graduate school. He was part of the Peace Corps wave in Korean Studies, having served in a Korean village health project in the late 1960s. He earned his graduate degrees in History and East Asian Languages at Harvard, and since 1978 has been employed at Trinity University, a private liberal arts university that is related “by covenant” to the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.

Koreanists spend much of their time, especially at the undergraduate level, “introducing” Korea to general audiences and “representing” Korea in the broader context of East Asian Studies. His scholarly interests have evolved over time, from Ming-Korean tributary relations to modern social movements, including the history of Christianity in Korea, the democracy movement under the military dictatorships of the 1960s through the 1980s, the North Korean nuclear crisis, and the history of Western contact with Korea. In the course of his academic career he has lived in and visited Korea many times, as an SSRC dissertation fellow, Fulbright scholar, exchange professor, and participant in many conferences. He has held most of the Korea-related positions in the Association for Asian Studies, including a term on NEAC and several terms as chair of the AAS/NEAC Committee on Korean Studies.

His publications include Christianity in Modern Korea (1986), The Kwangju Uprising: Shadows Over the Regime in South Korea (1988), and Culture and Customs of Korea (2000). For three years he edited The Asia Society’s Korea Briefing annual on Korean affairs (1991-93). His interest in the history of the city of Seoul is reflected in two co-authored works, Seoul Past and Present (1969) and Discovering Seoul (1986), both published in Korea. His latest books are entitled Living Dangerously in Korea: The Western Experience, 1900-1950 (East Bridge, 2003) and Modern East Asia, a college text co-authored with Conrad Schirokauer.
T. James Kodera

T. James Kodera is Professor of Religion and Co-Director of East Asian Studies at Wellesley College. The first time he attended an ASIANetwork conference was three years ago. As he writes: “To my great surprise, and amazement, I found ASIANetwork to be a breath of fresh air. I was particularly impressed with the shared commitment to undergraduate education in the multidisciplinary and multi-cultural field of Asian Studies. The nature of participants’ contributions during the conference, whether they gave papers or not, showed this in no uncertain terms.”

Kodera brings 31 years of undergraduate teaching at two liberal arts colleges: 28 years at Wellesley and 3 years of virtual apprenticeship at Oberlin. His teaching field is the comparative and historical study of religion with a focus on Asian religions, especially Buddhism. He is particularly interested in cross cultural issues (e.g. how Buddhism changed in the process of transmission from India, China, Korea, Japan and now the West), as well as peace and justice issues (e.g. how religion serves as an instrument of legitimation of injustice and war, and yet how it could also inspire people to reconciliation and coexistence on this fragile earth). One of the new courses he has added to his teaching repertoire at Wellesley is “Contemplation and Action,” which explores how a contemplative life, often in a cloistered context, can foster a sense of responsibility for others. He helped develop Japanese Studies at Wellesley to parallel the older program in Chinese Studies. In the last ten years, he has helped Wellesley College develop Asian American Studies as part of the American Studies Program. Last year, he offered a seminar on “Interning the ‘Enemy Race’: Japanese Americans in World War II.”

Kodera was born in Japan and continued to live there through high school, having family ties to many parts of the country, including Nagasaki, as well as to China during Japan’s colonial occupation of Manchuria. Currently he serves a small Episcopal church in Hudson, MA, as Rector. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Associated Kyoto Program, a junior year in Japan, for students from the 15 consortium schools, of which Wellesley is one. He is the Clerk of its Executive Committee.

Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker

Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker, an art historian specializing in South and Southeast Asian Art, is the Carver Professor of Asian Studies at Mills College, where she is also the Provost and Dean of the Faculty. She teaches courses in Indian, Chinese and Japanese art history and is the director of the Asian Studies minor. Her research began in Gupta period Indian architecture and sculpture. Her focus now is on contemporary movements in Asian Art, and she is currently working with Indian women artists who are part of the global international art world today.

Milford-Lutzker has regularly chaired panels and presented her research at CAA (College Art Association) and ACSAA (The American Council on Southern Asian Art) where she has been a director. She is also an active curator who has organized exhibitions that include: *The Image of Women in Indian Art*, in 1985; *The Painting and Prints of Mayumi Oda*, 1986; *Wang Chang-ch’ieh paintings*, 1990; *Celebration of Independence: Contemporary Women Artists of India*, 1997; *Zarina Hashmi: Mapping a Life*, 2004. She is currently working on a catalogue of contemporary Sikh art.

At ASIANetwork’s 2001 annual meeting Mary-Ann presented a paper entitled “The Place of Asian Art in the Liberal Arts Classroom,” in which she discussed her commitment both to the importance of the Liberal Arts in higher education and the need for inclusion of Asian perspectives within the curriculum. As an art historian she is very aware that the digital age presents both challenges and advantages, and as a Board member she looks forward to working on the ASIANetwork’s Luce Foundation Grant to document Asian collections in small liberal arts colleges.

She writes: “I am very happy to accept this nomination and look forward to working with the ASIANetwork Board in their work to promote and sustain Asian Studies in Liberal Arts colleges and universities across the nation. I am very excited about the Luce Foundation grant that ASIANetwork has recently received to survey works of Asian art and material culture in collections of undergraduate liberal arts institutions, because in my position at Mills, I am aware of the relatively unknown riches that reside in small institutions. The work I do with ASIANetwork will dovetail well with projects I am currently involved in.”