

## The Freeman Foundation Funded Student-Faculty Fellows Program

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Once again, with generous funding from the Freeman Foundation, we will be able to run a third cycle of this program (summers 2005, 2006, and 2007) that has proven to be quite a rewarding experience for the more than 230 mentors and student researchers who traveled to Asia supported by the first two cycles of this grant. In this short piece, I review the program and the selection procedure to give our members a good sense of the program's operation.

Announcement for the following summer's competition is made at the annual April conference. Van J. Symons and I are available during the conference to answer any questions about the program. A flyer explaining details of the program is included in the conference packet; this information plus the entire application packet becomes available on the web ([www.ASIANetwork.org](http://www.ASIANetwork.org)) by the end of April. As stipulated by the Freeman Foundation, research should focus on East and Southeast Asia, those areas bordered by Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines in the south and west (which include Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia), and then north to include Taiwan, Hong Kong S.A.R., China, Japan, and Korea. Studies in Nepal are also welcome. Except for this geographic area specification, program details have not changed much over the last three years. The primary aim of this program is to support student research in Asia under the close supervision of a faculty mentor who can take a team of up to five students. The student-faculty team can work on a collaborative project where each student conducts his/her own research and makes relevant contributions to the group project. Alternatively, a faculty mentor may choose a site and have student researchers conduct individual unrelated research on various aspects of the given site. In essence, student researchers and the faculty mentor go to Asia to explore a common scholarly interest and share a cultural experience.

Five complete sets of application packets are sent to the program director's office by the end of November, where they are checked for completeness. The complete packets are then sent to the review committee consisting of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board, the Executive Director and the Program Director. Around the end of January or in early February, the committee meets at the Hickory Ridge Conference Center to select the grantees. Before coming to the meeting, each member gives a preliminary evaluation to each proposal, indicating "yes," "maybe," or "no." Scores are summarized and tallied and then discussions ensue.

During this round of competition, in which 17 strong proposals were submitted, it took the committee almost ten hours of discussion to pick the twelve teams. While two or three team proposals emerged as obvious finalists, the committee spent a considerable amount of time discussing, and sometimes rereading the other proposals to ensure that every one of them was given due and fair consideration. This was the most difficult part. At the end of the day the committee arrived at a consensus on the meritorious proposals, but at the same time the committee expressed regrets that others could not be supported.

The twelve teams that received funding for this summer are going to six countries, namely, China, Japan, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand. The disciplinary expertise of the faculty mentors includes anthropology, biology, economics, history, philosophy, physics, political science and religion. In the past, research topics were oriented to the social sciences and the humanities, and to a lesser extent to the performing arts (music, dance, theater). This year, in addition to the projects in the social sciences and the humanities, two funded projects draw on the natural sciences and another on archaeology. This is the first time that projects of this nature received funding and

thus excerpts from their proposals are highlighted below.

The Beloit College research team led by Paul Stanley will conduct interdisciplinary studies of physics concepts and education in China. Their project will analyze aspects of Chinese culture namely music, dance and sports, observe classroom and laboratory facilities at high school and colleges, and analyze the dynamics of physics instruction particularly focused on gender issues. Their observations of music, weapons and sports will allow them to understand the physics behind these cultural aspects, assessing concepts such as conservation principles for those involving motion or the importance of harmonies in music. Jodi Sedlock will lead a team of Lawrence University students to assess the value of protected uplands and degraded lowlands for bat conservation in the Philippines by conducting a systematic bat survey on a mountain in the southern part of Luzon Island. They will use a variety of capture methods and radio-tracking techniques to assess the roosting ecology and movement of a species of bat that is at risk of extinction. Students will produce an education pamphlet for distribution in local schools in the study area, write a popular article for a

Philippine environmental magazine and curate an exhibition of the artwork resulting from the research trip. Contrary to the assumption that only topics focused on contemporary issues and societies are appropriate for this program, the Northern Kentucky University research team led by Judy Voelker received funding to travel to Thailand to analyze ceramic materials from an archaeological site in northern Thailand. The team will examine the organization of ceramic production and identify the scale of ceramic draft activity during the Neolithic through the Early Historic Period at the prehistoric site of Ban Non Wat. Integral to this project is an ethnoarchaeological study examining modern day usage of clay pellets and tools in traditional ceramic manufacture in the project area.

A complete list of the grantees and their projects are listed below. We hope that the diversity of the projects that received funding will inspire faculty members at ASIANetwork institutions to find creative ways through which they can enrich their students' academic experiences by taking them on a research trip to Asia.



## 2005 ASIANetwork FREEMAN STUDENT-FACULTY FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

In summer 2005, the Student-Faculty Fellows Program will support collaborative research in Asia for at least three weeks by 66 students and faculty mentors comprising 12 research teams from ASIANetwork member colleges. Three of the teams are going to Southeast Asia (two to Thailand and one to the Philippines), four to China, three to Japan, one to South Korea and one to Taiwan. Congratulations to the following mentors and their student researchers!

**Austin College, Donald M. Rodgers**, Department of Political Science, Taiwan:

- **S.J. (Elle) Park**, '07, International Economics and Finance, *Women's Voices in Taiwan*
- **Karl Satterwhite**, '06, Business Administration/Asian Studies, *Youth Involvement in Political Change*
- **Katie Scofield**, '07, Political Science, *Taiwan's Minority Population*
- **Ross Worden**, '06, International Studies/Psychology, *Chinese Nationalism in Taiwan*

**Beloit College, Paul Stanley**, Department of Physics and Astronomy, China:

- **Elizabeth Boatman**, '07, Physics, *Study of Gender Dynamics within the Academia of China*
- **Elon Candea**, '07, Physics, *Chinese Music: The Physical Make-Up*
- **Ricky DeVoe**, '07, Physics, *The Physics of Wushu: Contrasting Eastern and Western Approaches*
- **Jason Marmon**, '06, Physics/Chemistry, *The Physics of Weapons and Shields in Ancient China*
- **Cionne Wolfe**, '06, Physics, *Kung Fu—Art or Science?*

**Dickinson College**, *Neil J. Diamant*, Departments of Asian Studies and Political Science, China:

- **King Chan**, '05, International Studies, *Variations in Attitudes towards Japan*
- **Amy Eardley**, '08, International Studies, *Economic Patriotism and Generational Differences*
- **Abishek Kedia**, '07, International Business & Management, *Patriotism and Consumerism*
- **Sarah Loudon**, '08, International Studies/East Asian Studies, *Patriotism and Art*
- **Caitlin Steirman**, '08, Undecided, *Patriotism in China: Education, Rituals, and Civil Religion*

**Fairfield University**, *Danke Li*, Department of History, **Lauren M. Howard**, '05, International Studies, **Sarah E. Howe**, '07, History, and **Mary Katherine Molteni**, '05, International Studies/East Asian Studies, China: *Women at War: Chongqing Women in the Resistance War against Japan*

**Lawrence University**, *Jodi L. Sedlock*, Department of Biology and Environmental Studies, **Laura Corcoran**, '05, Studio Art, **Marin Damerow**, '07, Biology/Studio Art, **Kelly Hwa**, '05, Biology, and **Benjamin Pauli**, '06, Biology, Philippines: *Reassessing the Value of Montane Forests and Degraded Lowlands for Bat Conservation*

**Northern Kentucky University**, *Judy C. Voelker*, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Philosophy, **Shawn Fehrenbach**, '06, Anthropology, **Jason Hutchinson**, '06, Anthropology, Rogelio Rivera, Jr., '06, Anthropology, **Mandy Turner**, '06, Anthropology, and **Baird R. Ullrey**, '06, Anthropology, Thailand: *Pottery Manufacture in Prehistory: An Examination of Ceramics from the Mun Valley from the Neolithic to the Origins of Angkor*

**Sewanee: The University of the South**, *Scott H. Wilson*, Department of Political Science, **Jean A. Babin**, '07, Political Science/Psychology, **Christina T. Kwauk**, '05, Psychology, **Adam D. Moran**, '05, Asian Studies, **Marcus T. Murphy**, '07, Environmental Studies/Asian Studies, and **Adriana Zimova**, '05, Philosophy, China: *The Sociology of Streets in Shanghai*

**Southwestern University**, *Alisa Gaunder*, Department of Political Science, **Christopher Bailey**, '07, Political Science, **Tyson Berger**, '06, Political Science, **Sarah Morris**, '07, History/Political Science, **Martha (Lissa) Terrel**, '06, Political Science/Spanish, and **Grace Webster**, '07, International Studies, Japan: *Political Leadership in Japan*

**St. Mary's College of Maryland**, *John Schroeder*, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Thailand:

- **Christopher Kalman**, '07, Philosophy/Math, *Engaged Buddhism in Alternative Living Communities*
- **Allison Mull**, '05, Religious Studies, *Thai Bhikkhunis and Engaged Buddhism*
- **Claudia Peknik**, '06, Sociology, *Development and*

*Progression of Agriculture and Sustainable Living in Thai Rural Communities*

- **Sarah Posey**, '06, Philosophy, *Engaged Buddhism in Alternative Education*
- **Erica Schuetz**, '07, English, *Gaining and Sharing an Engaged Buddhist Perspective on Environmental Sustainability*

**St. Olaf College**, *Robert E. Entenmann*, Department of History and Asian Studies, **Brendan R. Eagan**, '05, Asian Studies/Math, **Naoya Nishino**, '05, Asian Studies/Music, **Erin E. Plant**, '06, Asian Studies/Sociology-Anthropology, and **Kirk C. Sandvig**, '05, Asian Studies, Japan: *Kakure Kirishitan (Hidden Christians) in Japan—Past and Present*

**St. Olaf College**, *Xun Z. Pomponio*, Department of Economics, **Angela P. Lau**, '05, Social Work/Asian Studies, **Brendan D. Mrosak**, '06, Economics/Mathematics, **David L. Sluis**, '05, Political Science/Economics, and **Bin Xue**, '05, Asian Studies, China: *Sustainable Development in Western China—Water Study in Sichuan and Gansu*

**Trinity University**, *Donald N. Clark*, Department of History, South Korea:

- **Stephanie R. Hilz**, '07, Biochemistry/Chinese, *The Revival of Buddhism in Postwar Korea*
- **Sarah E. Hutt**, '06, Political Science/Chinese, *Understanding Korean Confucianism*
- **Jonathan Magee**, '06, Political Science/International Studies/Chinese, *Manifestations of Daoism—Syncretism in Korean Religion*
- **Christine M. Thiering**, '06, International Studies, *Religious Expressions of the Unification Ideal*, and
- **Jennifer Yu**, '06, Humanities/Communications, *The Meaning of Christianity in Korean National Life*