Membership News

College of William and Mary

Francis Tanglao-Aguas, Assistant Professor of Theatre at the College of William and Mary, directed the world premiere of Jeannie Barroga’s play BANYAN at the Asian American Theater Company in San Francisco to a sold-out run. The comedic play addresses the serious topic of the new world order brought on by terrorism by using “The Wizard of Oz” as a point of departure except that Dorothy is a Filipina American woman who happens to be the paper shredder at Enron. A playwright himself, Tanglao-Aguas’ drama WHEN THE PURPLE SETTLES, which won the Philipines National Prize in Playwriting, was recently published by Bathala Press, Manila. In February, 2006, Tanglao-Aguas performed his solo epic play THE SARIMANOK TRAVELS at Noh Space in San Francisco, produced by asianamericantheater.org.

Furman University

Savita Nair, Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Furman University, has received research grants for her study of the South Asian diaspora and Indian Ocean networks from the Mellon Foundation and from Furman University in 2005. In addition, Professor Nair delivered an invited lecture, “Rethinking Power and Privilege in British/Indian East Africa, at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs/Asia Center, at Harvard University in December, 2004.

John Carroll University


Student News: JCU 2005 graduate Timothy Grose has been awarded a Fulbright fellowship to study cultural change among the Uighar in Beijing and Xinjiang. He is concurrently working on a masters degree in East Asian Studies at the University of Virginia. Another recent graduate, Trisha Williams, is pursuing a doctorate at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. Trisha is studying changes in the Catholic church in China.

Grants and awards: Paul Nietupski has been awarded an ASIANetwork student-faculty research grant for study of the Chinese borderlands in summer, 2006. The East Asian Studies program has received a grant from the Mitsui USA Cleveland office and the Mitsui USA Foundation for the 14th annual Mitsui Distinguished Lecture. The lecture this year, “Tollywood: Japan’s Expanding Global Pop-Culture Entertainment Business,” will be presented by Dr. Ronald Morse on March 22. Our campus has also been the recipient of several donations to the East Asian Studies program by Mr. Susumu Hayashi, whose gifts include a cherry tree given in honor of the inauguration of John Carroll’s new president, Fr. Robert Niehoff.

Lafayette College

The Lafayette College’s Asian Studies program is hosting P.M. Laksono, a Fulbright Scholar from Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia. Laksono, an anthropologist, is teaching courses at Lafayette is and helping to expand the college’s curriculum on Southeast Asia.

Lehigh University

Lehigh in Shanghai Internship Program

Lehigh University is offering a two weeks’ language-culture immersion followed by a 1 month unpaid internship at a multinational or local business in Shanghai from May 22-July 1. Options to stay all summer can be separately negotiated and one will receive six Lehigh University credits upon completion of the program. Its approximate cost is $4000 which does not include transportation or meals. There is no language requirement as a prerequisite for participation in the program, and individuals are mentored by 3 Lehigh University faculty from the colleges of Arts & Sciences, Engineering, and Business. The program is in its third year and is very successful. For details, please see: http://www.lehigh.edu/~incis/program_shanghai.htm.

Vassar College

Bryan W. Van Norden, Associate Professor in the Philosophy Department and the Department of Chinese & Japanese at Vassar College, spent the first half of 2005 in Taiwan at the Academia Sinica, where he had a Fulbright Grant to work on a translation of Zhu Xi’s Collected Commentaries on the Mengzi. This translation is now forthcoming from Hackett Publishing. Professor Van Norden also has a book forthcoming from Cambridge University Press, titled Virtue Ethics & Consequentialism in Early China.

Westminster College

Dr. Seulky McInneshin joined the faculty at Westminster College (Missouri) in August 2005. Her teaching and research interests include U.S. nationalism and national and regional identity formation, African-American and women’s social and intellectual histories, and the histories of modern China and Japan. She will be offering thematic courses on modern East