

2007 ASIANetwork Freeman Student-Faculty Fellows

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For a ninth year, the Student-Faculty Fellows Program funded by the Freeman Foundation will support collaborative research in Asia. Fourteen research teams from ASIANetwork member colleges, totaling 73 students and faculty mentors, are being awarded a total of \$406,520, to conduct three or more weeks of research in the following countries: People's Republic of China (seven teams), Japan (two teams), Malaysia (one team), Philippines (one team), Malaysia & Philippines (one team), Thailand (one team), and Vietnam (one team).

ASIANetwork wishes to extend our sincere appreciation to the Freeman Foundation for their continued financial support of this program, and our congratulations to the grant recipients.

Below are the colleges, faculty mentors, and student researchers participating in the summer 2007 program. The titles and a brief description of their research projects are also given.

Bard College, Mercedes DuJunco, Ethnomusicology, Malaysia and Philippines

Kristia Castrillo, '07, *Constructing Southeast Asian Femininity for the Tourist Gaze*

Libby Dorot, '08, *"Truly Asia:" Advertising and the Asian Tourist Experience at Cultural Festivals*

Jean Lor, '07, *Performing National Identity: Cultural Politics, Nationalism and Festivals in Island Southeast Asia*

Andrea Sandor, '09, *Dancing the Sacred: Religion on Show in Malaysian and Philippine Cultural Festivals*

Nathan Smith, '09, *Sounds of Tourism: Animism, Conservatism and Acoustics in Island Southeast Asia*

Professor DuJunco and her students will examine the nature of cultural festivals in the states of Sarawak and Sabah in Malaysian Borneo followed by the study of local festivals in honor of Catholic patron saints and state-constructed festivals explicitly geared toward tourism development in the Central-Southern Philippines. The individual research projects focus on "the specific ways local cultures, particularly in the form of music and dance, are appropriated, transformed and objectified through the globalizing process of tourism." Of particular interest to the researchers is the assessment of the degree to which "tourism via the cultural festivals...pose(s) a threat to the continuity and sanctity of native traditions."

Colby College, Hong Zhang, East Asian Studies, China

Robert Ferriter, '08, *Re-Invention of History and Making Fantasy Reality: An Observation on Historical Sites and New Theme Parks*

Thomas Huff, '08, *"Out with the Old and Up with the New:" China's Construction Boom and Its Effect on Traditional Residential Sites*

Stella Kim, '08, *China in Transition: Powering from a Nation of Bikes to a Nation of Cars*

Keane Ng, '08, *Local Consumption and Global Taste: The Cultural Politics of Western Fast Food in Urban China*

Jessie Tang, '08, *Consumerism, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Luxury Goods in Urban China*

Professor Hong Zhang's research team's proposal is entitled "Tradition, Transition, and Modernity: Reconfiguration of Public Spaces in Globalizing China." The group will spend 30 days in the four cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, and Wuhan conducting research upon issues related to "how public spaces are reconfigured in urban China as China is emerging as a modern, cosmopolitan, and global power player in the world." Each student will undertake his or her own research agenda within this broad framework of exploration.

Colorado College, Joan Ericson, Japanese, Japan

Katlin Okamoto, '07, and Lucy Thompson, '07, Joint Project entitled *Regional Comparison: Knee Laxity and Leg Strength in Female Soccer Athletes in Japan and the United States*

Professor Ericson's research team will work with approximately one hundred female soccer athletes in both Japan and the United States in order to study regional differences in knee strength and laxity between female soccer athletes in these two countries. They will also analyze the life styles and training regimen of the athletes to account for differences if they appear. It is hoped that "Cross-cultural information concerning the data could lead to prosthetics that are more aptly designed for the necessary daily activities of the Japanese..."

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Eckerd College, Nancy Janus, Human Development, Malaysia

Jonathan Bonner, '09, Melissa Christie, '07, Courtney Graham, '08, Zoe Friedman, '07, Joint Project entitled *The Pull of Cultural and Religious Tradition Confronting Modernity on the Youth of Malaysia*

Professor Janus's research group will spend four weeks in Malaysia studying how Malay youth are confronting the challenges posed to their traditional values and culture by the modernization of their country and the growth of consumerism. Each student will focus on a different element of Malay culture impacted by modernization: Islam, art, literature, and family relationships. Where possible the response of Malay youth will be compared to that of Chinese and Indian youth living in the country.

Gettysburg College, Deborah Ann Sommer, Religion, China

Eric Canzano, '09, *Lay Buddhism in Southwest China*
Eric Klotz, '07, *Buddhist Methods of Healing and Medicine*
Kate Vredenburg, '07, *Buddhist Principles of Social Engagement*
Brian Wilson, '10, *Modern Secular Society's Views of Buddhism*
David Yager-Eloriagga, '10, *Daily Life of Buddhist Monastics*

Professor Sommer will lead five students for a month long period to Southwest China (Chongqing, Chengdu, and the mountains of Sichuan province) to enable them to conduct individual research projects (listed above) focused on the topic of "Buddhism in Contemporary Southwest China." The group will work closely with faculty and students interested in these same issues from Southwest China University of Political Science and Law in Chongqing.

Green Mountain College, Evangelina Blust, Sociology, Philippines

Matthew Bower, '08, Paula Maciel, '08, Svea Miller, '07, Ashley Potter, '08, Rafael Wainhaus, '07, Joint Project entitled *The Impact of Overseas Filipino Employment on Families Left Behind*

Professor Blust's research team will spend three-and-a-half weeks in a small town in Batangas Province in the Philippines studying "the social costs and benefits of overseas employment to each (of six families), especially (to) the children." Besides carefully interviewing members in each of these families, the research team will survey others in the community including local government officials, and representatives of NGO's and other social service groups. Students will spend part of their time in home stays to enable them to become more conversant with the issues being investigated.

Hiram College, Adam Cathcart, History, China

Daniel Falk, '07, *Reflections and Distortions of Japanese Asian Ideals in the Popular Chinese Press, 1931-1953*
Patricia Nash, '09, *The Influence of Japanese Biological Weapons Activity on Chinese Perceptions of Japan, 1931-1953*
John Somerville, '07, *Sino-Japanese Collaboration in Tianjin, 1931-1946*

Professor Adam Cathcart will spend a little over four weeks in Beijing, Tianjin, and Northeast China facilitating the research of three of his students on quite different research projects (listed above).

Illinois Wesleyan University, Thomas Lutze, History, China

Elizabeth Chandler, '07, Eric Fatla, '07, Christy Ivie, '09, Melisa Maisel, '09, Sneh Rajbhandari, '09, Joint Project entitled *Urban Planning in the People's Republic of China*

Professor Lutze's study group will conduct research on the response of three Chinese cities (Beijing, Shanghai, and Hangzhou) to five key arenas of urban planning and development: housing policy, the provision of health-care facilities, the provision of education facilities, efforts to address sanitation problems, and problems related to pollution abatement.

Naropa University, Nataraja Kallio, Traditional Eastern Arts, China

Kyra Coates, '09, Thiago Leao, '07, Tiffani Parrish, '10, Benjamin Pitcher, '08, Christopher Whitson, '08, Joint Project entitled *Three Paths, One Mountain: An Exploration of Pilgrimage to Mount Kailash within Three Distinct Religious Traditions*

The Naropa study group will "explore and document the praxis and meaning of pilgrimage to Mt. Kailash, one of the oldest known pilgrimage sites on the planet. Their research "will compare circumambulatory rituals within Tibetan Buddhist, Bonpo and Hindu religions. They "will examine this practice within the historical and cultural context of these diverse traditions, (and the project) will culminate in a multimedia presentation that includes documentary film, still photography, audio recordings, interviews, a separate web log and a collaborative research paper."

Purchase College, SUNY, Peter Bell, Economics, Thailand

Erika Brenner, '07, *The Challenge of Slums in Bangkok*
Rebecca Katzenberg, '08, *The Impact of the Media on Changing Images of Thai Women*
Michal Vaisben, '07, *The Costs and Benefits of the Tourist Industry in Thailand*
Elizabetha Vukelj, '07, *Child Labor in Thailand*

Professor Bell will act as mentor to the four students listed above, and facilitate their individual research projects, all of which deal with social conditions existing in contemporary Bangkok.

Swarthmore College, Xiaorong Li, Chinese Language and Literature, China

Elizabeth Bogal-Allbritten, '09, *Taking the Basi to the Kafei Ba: Usage and Perception Of English Loan Words in Chinese Youth Culture*
 Arthur Chyan, '10, *The Transforming View of Medicine in Beijing*
 Fletcher Coleman, '09, *Synthesis: Cultural Traditions and Globalization in Chinese Avant-Garde Art*
 Christopher Green, '09, *The Waitress and the World: The Meaning of Globalization to the Chinese Mingong*
 Karma Lama, '09, *The Changing Face of Homosexuality in Chinese Cinema*

Professor Li's students will conduct research in Beijing focused on the overarching theme of cross-cultural encounters between China and the West as stated above.

University of Puget Sound, Mikiko Ludden, Japanese, Japan

Daniel Bradley, '07, *The Origin of Omamori: Capturing an Elusive History*
 Alexander Larson, '07, *Traversing Traditions: The Recent History of Omamori*
 Andrew Dalton, '09, *Blessed Franchise: The Commercialization of Omamori*

Professor Ludden's team of researchers will travel to temples and shrines throughout Japan to explore contemporary Japanese beliefs and attitudes towards *omamori*, the small paper and cloth amulets found at Shinto shrines and Buddhist temples.



2006 Trinity University Student Fellows studying excavated Chinese texts

Valparaiso University, Jonathan Schoer, Chemistry, China

Jeffrey Field, '08, Shelly Schmeltz, '07, Sarah Mohlman, '07, Joint Project entitled *Contrasts and Similarities in Water Quality Issues Facing East Central China And Northwest Indiana: Issues, Perceptions, and Approaches for Resolutions*

Professor Schoer will lead three students majoring in the sciences to Hangzhou, China to undertake research that will enable them to compare "Chinese water quality problems, perceptions of these problems, and solutions to these problems with those in northwest Indiana." After three weeks of water analysis and focused interviewing in China, facilitated by Zhejiang University and funded by this grant, the group will return to Indiana to undertake a three week-long comparable study in Northwest Indiana.

Virginia Wesleyan College, Steven Emmanuel, Philosophy, Vietnam

Julie Maggioncalda, '09, Lauren Perry, '09, Matthew Ryan, '09, Lan My Tran, '10, Sarah Tytler, '09, Joint Project entitled *Humanitarianism and the Politics of Economic Development in Vietnam*

Professor Emmanuel will lead five students to Vietnam to investigate "how politics, economics, science, religion, and social attitudes intersect, and sometimes clash, in the attempt to improve the conditions of Vietnam's rural poor." Each student has an independent project. Their research will be facilitated by Dr. Ngyen Viet Nhan, Head of the Department of Medical Genetics at Hue Medical College, which will provide them with access to the resources needed to complete their research agendas.



Participant observation in Bali, Indonesia by 2006 Haverford College Student Fellows