

## A Note from the Editors

We are very pleased to unveil this inaugural issue of *ASIANetwork Exchange* in its new journal format. The official title of the publication now reads, *ASIANetwork Exchange — A Journal for Asian Studies in the Liberal Arts*. This change comes about as the result of a decision made by the Board of Directors at its spring meeting in San Antonio this year to build upon the growth of ASIANetwork and the advances made by the *Exchange* as the consortium's newsletter since its inception in 1992.

Under the leadership of a series of excellent editors preceding us, the *ASIANetwork Exchange* evolved from an informational newsletter at the outset to an increasingly content-oriented “news journal” that included not only current updates of information related to the organization but also occasional articles, reviews, and reproductions of syllabi to aid reader-members in their efforts to teach about Asia in the liberal arts setting. When we assumed the responsibilities as editors three years ago, we systematized these elements of the newsletter by creating regular sections: Network News, Research of Note, Teaching about Asia, Media Resources, For Our Students, New and Noteworthy, and, most recently, Books that Beckon.

The new journal, now to be published twice annually as fall and spring issues, will maintain all these sections except those relating directly to the organizational news of ASIANetwork. Communications from the officers of the consortium, information about initiatives and annual conferences, and announcements of accomplishments and transitions of member institutions and faculty will now be published separately in a new winter publication, the *ASIANetwork Bulletin*.

As a journal, the *ASIANetwork Exchange* will fill a unique niche among Asian Studies periodicals. It will publish not only fresh research and media evaluations, it will do so with continued emphasis on the sharing of information that is particularly useful

to educators in the liberal arts setting. It will continue to address classroom issues and provide materials to encourage and assist our students in maturing as young Asian scholars themselves. We are hoping that as a journal, the *Exchange* will attract even more submissions of high quality from teacher-scholars at our member colleges and universities.

In this latter regard, we are especially eager to help bring to fruition the new plan to engage a guest editor for a special section of each spring issue of the *Exchange*. We hope that a number of our creative readers will submit proposals to gather a collection of thematically unified articles to serve as the centerpiece of the spring issue. A copy of the call for proposals can be found in the Announcements on the ASIANetwork homepage at [www.asianetwork.org](http://www.asianetwork.org).

In this issue, we are happy to highlight the second keynote address from last spring's annual conference, this one by Henry Rosemont, Jr.; to include a timely piece on the recent Tibet protests by A. Tom Grunfeld and several panel papers presented at the spring conference; and to provide a sweeping overview of the exciting work completed by the student-faculty research teams from 2007.

Tom Lutze and Irv Epstein