



The University of Virginia

east asia center NEWSLETTER

September 2001

LIBRARY TO RECEIVE WEINSTEIN COLLECTION

Stanley and Lucie Weinstein of Hamden, Conn., have announced plans to bequeath to the University of Virginia Library a significant collection of scholarly books on Buddhism, focusing particularly on Buddhism in China and Japan. The collection also includes substantial holdings on Buddhist art. This bequest will make the University the holder of one of the major collections for the study of Buddhism in the United States, according to Religious Studies Professor Paul Groner.

The collection of 10,658 books is particularly strong in 19th and 20th century publications on Buddhism, and also includes many books on other East Asian religions, as well as history, literature, art, and related subjects. Many rare woodblock-printed books are also part of the collection.

“Stanley Weinstein’s library is without a doubt the best collection of



COURTESY ALDERMAN LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Alderman Library’s Barrett Room will house the Stanley and Lucie Weinstein Buddhist and Asian Studies Library.

East Asian Buddhist materials in private hands in the West,” Professor Groner said. “He has tracked down and acquired rare books, many of which were published privately and not

readily available in bookstores.”

When asked about his choice of Virginia as a permanent home for his library, Mr. Weinstein said, “The Uni-

See **WEINSTEIN**, Page 4

Inside

- TONDA PUPPET THEATER OF JAPAN
PAGE 3
- FACULTY ACTIVITIES
PAGE 4
- LECTURES & EVENTS
PAGE 5
- REPORT FROM TIBET
PAGE 6

THOMPSON DEAN PLEDGES \$5 MILLION FOR ASIAN STUDIES

University of Virginia alumnus Thompson Dean (BA, Foreign Affairs, '79) has committed \$5 million to the Asian Studies program.

Mr. Dean’s gift will fund the David Dean 21st-Century Chair in Asian Studies and the Thompson Dean Family Endowment for Faculty Excellence.

“This gift will help us go very far in our efforts to expand our faculty,” said East Asia Center Director Anne Kinney. “We are thankful for Mr. Dean’s generous support of our program as it grows.”

Mr. Dean is head of Leveraged Corporate Private Equity at Credit Suisse First Boston.

From the Director

Let me first extend a welcome to our newcomers this semester and welcome back old friends. This coming year will be an exciting one for the Center, with an unprecedented number of new projects to begin work on: the new Language House, which will provide Chinese and Japanese language environments for our students; our two new exchange programs in China and Japan; and the Center application to the Department of Education for a Title VI National Resource Center grant.

This program provides grants to institutions of higher education to establish, strengthen and operate comprehensive and undergraduate language and area/international studies centers that will be national resources for:

- Teaching of any modern foreign language
- Instruction in fields needed to provide full understanding of ar-

eas, regions or countries in which the language is commonly used

- Research and training in international studies
- Language aspects of professional and other fields of study
- Instruction and research on issues in world affairs

We have also been most fortunate to have received several generous gifts from donors that will not only strengthen U.Va.'s East Asia Center, but also our chances for receiving the Title VI grant.

We are most grateful to Tom Dean for the spectacular gift of five million dollars to increase our East Asia faculty; and to the Weinstains, for bequeathing to us their unique collection of East Asian books. As you will read more about in this issue, in response to the Weinstein's gift, Alderman Library has created a capital campaign to raise \$100,000 for Alderman Library's East Asian book collection.

Kind donors such as Dr. and Mrs. J.S. Lee and the McConnells have begun to help us reach our goal. We are also grateful to Dr. Li for his contribution to the Center's Lecture series and for increasing awareness in things Chinese in the greater Charlottesville area by forming the Piedmont Chinese Association.

We plan to have a lively lecture series this year, thanks in part to the Weedon Foundation. We will also be honored by visits from the Tonda Bunraku puppetry troupe and guests from Tokyo's Sophia University.

Let me close by thanking our two new Center Assistants, Bill Gorvine and Jett McAlister. Bill has worked hard all summer on putting together an exciting lecture series (among many other projects), and Jett is responsible for the new look of our newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you at our events, at the new time: Fridays at 1 p.m.!

— Anne Kinney

UPCOMING FELLOWSHIP DEADLINES OF INTEREST TO STUDENTS OF EAST ASIA

- Fulbright Student Grants — September 24 (University of Virginia deadline)
<http://www.iie.org/fulbright/>
- Academy for International and Area Studies Scholarships — October 15
<http://www.wcfia.harvard.edu/academy>
- Freeman Asia Grants for undergraduate study in spring 2002 — November 1
<http://www.wcfia.org/pgms/Freeman-ASIA>
- Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellowships — November 1
<http://www.jfnj.org/jfnj/fellow.htm>
- SSRC Dissertation/Field Research Fellowships — November 5
<http://www.ssrc.org>
- Charlotte W. Newcombe Dissertation Fellowships — December 3
<http://www.woodrow.org/newcombe/index.purpose.html>

Please check the East Asia Center website (*<http://www.virginia.edu/~eastasia>*) for updated information on available fellowships and grants.

After their highly successful United States tour in 1999, which included a performance at the University of Virginia, the Tonda Traditional Japanese Bunraku Puppet Theater group will grace the Charlottesville stage again in October.

The group will perform three pieces from the classical *bunraku* repertoire. One is a celebratory dance, the *sanbaso*, featuring a shinto priest puppet. The piece plays on the idea that the priest is an intermediary between man and the spirit realm by making the puppeteer and active intermediary between the audience and the world of the play.

The troupe will also perform an excerpt from one of the



TONDA BUNRAKU PUPPET THEATER



Tonda Puppet Theater of Japan

Sunday, October 7

7:00 p.m.

Charlottesville Performing Arts Center

Tickets: \$12 general admission, \$6 students

Tickets available at Mincer's, Plan 9 Records (Charlottesville & Richmond), and New Dominion Bookshop

Call (434) 924-7836 for more information



most beloved pieces of Japanese puppet theater, *Keisei Awa no Naruto*, a tragic story of a mother who cannot reveal her identity to her own daughter.

The third piece, *Hidakagawa Iriaizakura*, is a humorous but haunting play about a woman who, when abandoned by her lover, transforms herself into a serpent to win him back, only to be thwarted by the antics of a ferry boatman.

The troupe will also present a demonstration of *bunraku* technique. The demonstration will feature sword-fighting, one of the hallmarks of *bunraku* theater.

According to local history, the people of Tonda, in present-day Shiga Prefecture, learned the art of puppetry after an itinerant troupe left much of its equipment in Tonda before returning home. The Tonda Puppet Troupe is now designated as an Intangible Cultural Treasure by Shiga Prefecture.

The East Asia Center's presentation of Tonda Puppet Theater of Japan will be held at the Charlottesville Performing Arts Center on Sunday, October 7, at 7:00 p.m. The performance is generously underwritten by Jamie and Mary McConnell.

McCONNELL FAMILY CREATES ENDOWMENT TO SUPPLEMENT WEINSTEIN COLLECTION

WEINSTEIN, from Page 1
 versity of Virginia has shown a deep commitment to the study of Buddhism by establishing four full-time positions in Buddhist Studies. An especially strong constellation of scholars has made Virginia one of the major centers in this country for the serious study of Buddhism.

"The real strength of the Buddhist studies collection at Virginia, as it is presently constituted, lies in its Tibetan and Indian materials rather than its holdings on East Asian Buddhism," he said. "Thus, it seemed to me that my collection would be a perfect match for Virginia's Library with its current strengths in Tibetan and Indian Buddhist materials. With the addition of the materials from my library, the Buddhist collection at Virginia should rank as one of the top collections in the country."

"It's this kind of gift that allows the East Asia program at the University to attain national prominence," said East Asia Center Director and Associate Professor of Chinese Anne Kinney. "With the Weinstein Library as a base, we can begin to build a truly world-class holding in East Asia at our library."

The Library will house the books in what is now the Barrett Room in the

Special Collections Department on the second floor of Alderman Library. The room will be named "The Stanley and Lucie Weinstein Buddhist and Asian Studies Library."

Stanley Weinstein became associate professor of Buddhist studies at Yale University in 1968 and has been professor since 1974. He is the author

'With the addition of the materials from my library, the Buddhist collection at Virginia should rank as one of the top collections in the country.'

— Stanley Weinstein

of numerous books and articles, most recently the chapter "Aristocratic Buddhism" in *The Cambridge History of Japan, Vol. 2, Heian Japan*. Lucie Weinstein is professor emerita of art at Southern Connecticut State University, where she taught East Asian art.

Mr. Weinstein first began collecting Buddhist materials during his stay in Korea in 1953-54 when he was serving with military intelligence. He added extensively to the collection

during the following six years that he spent at Japanese universities, when scholarly Buddhist materials, including many Edo period woodblock editions of Buddhist texts, were still available. Between 1962 and 1968, he lectured in Far Eastern Buddhism at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, and was able to enhance his collection significantly through the acquisition of scholarly materials on Indian and Southeast Asian Buddhism published in Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries. Since his appointment to a professorship at Yale in 1968, he has visited Japan at least once a year and continues to build his collection.

The Library, with the initial support of James H. T. McConnell, Jr. (BA '75) and Mary McConnell, has established an endowment to purchase books and other library materials in support of East Asian Studies. The Library is seeking additional gifts to bring the endowment up to the \$100,000 level. Gifts at any level are welcome, and funds generated by from the endowment will support the work of scholars in perpetuity. For more information on the East Asian Studies Library Fund, please contact University Library Development Director Hoke Perkins at (434) 982-2865.

Faculty Activities

Associate Professor of Government and Foreign Affairs **Leonard Schoppa** has returned from Japan, where, with a Fulbright Research Grant, he conducted research on social and economic reform policies adopted by Japan in the wake of the longest and deepest recession the country has experienced in the post-

war period. In Tokyo, Professor Schoppa was affiliated with the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo and the Institute of Asian Cultural Studies at the International Christian University. In May, he gave a talk, "Japan's Response to Declining Fertility: The Role of Exit and Voice," at the Uni-

versity of Tokyo and the International Christian University. Professor Schoppa is currently at work on a new book examining Japan's reform policies. His article "Japan, The Reluctant Reformer" will appear in the September/October issue of *Foreign Affairs*.

See **FACULTY**, Page 7

Fall Lectures and Events

ABROAD IN EAST ASIA

U.VA. FACULTY AND STUDENTS

*on Research, Language Study
and Adventures*

in China, Japan and Tibet

Sept. 21, 1 p.m., Cabell Hall 345

HOSTAGE TO A SHAMEFUL PAST

*The Fixation on National Humiliation
in 20th-Century China*

PAUL COHEN

Fairbank Center for East Asian Research
Harvard University

Sept. 28, 4 p.m., Cabell Hall 345

co-sponsored by the Department of History

TEMPLES AND TALISMANS

*Inscription, Expression,
and Ritual Space in Southeast China*

KENNETH DEAN

Lee Professor of East Asian Studies
McGill University

Oct. 5, 1 p.m., Cabell Hall 345

*co-sponsored by the
Department of Anthropology*

TONDA PUPPET THEATER OF JAPAN

*Traditional Japanese
Bunraku Puppetry*

Oct. 7, 7:00 p.m.

Charlottesville Performing Arts Center

*underwritten by
Jamie and Mary McConnell*

IMAGES OF THE GODDESS CUNDĀ

Notes Toward a Buddhist Iconology

ROBERT GIMELLO

Visiting Professor of East Asian Studies
Harvard University

Oct. 19, 4 p.m., Cabell Hall 345

*co-sponsored by the
Department of Religious Studies*

JAPAN'S RESPONSE TO DECLINING FERTILITY

The Role of Exit and Voice

LEONARD SCHOPPA

Associate Professor of History
University of Virginia

Oct. 26, 1 p.m., Cabell Hall 345

ENLIVENING THE IMAGE

*Realism & the Sculpture
of the Kamakura Period*

SAMUEL MORSE

Professor of Fine Arts
Amherst College

Nov. 2, 4 p.m., Cabell Hall 345

*co-sponsored by the
McIntire Department of Art*

ON BIKES, BANGS, AND TIGERS

*Explaining Economic Reform
in Vietnam*

WILLIAM TURLEY

Professor of Political Science
Southern Illinois University

Nov. 30, 1 p.m., Cabell Hall 345

*co-sponsored by the Departments of History
and Government & Foreign Affairs*

*The East Asia Center lecture series is made possible through the generous support of
the Ellen Bayard Weedon Foundation and the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences.*

REPORT FROM TIBET

A Weedon Grant recipient recounts her travels to the 'Roof of the World'

By Suzanne Bessenger

What do stacks of English-Tibetan flashcards, packets of altitude-sickness medicine, and a gaggle of University of Virginia Buddhist Studies graduate students have in common? Thanks to Ellen Bayard Weedon Travel Grants provided by the University's East Asia Center, all three were to be found in abundance at Tibet University this summer, as Tibetan Studies students traveled from Charlottesville to Lhasa to participate in the summer term Tibetan language program.

The opportunity to continue my study of modern Tibetan language as a student at Tibet University proved ideal for several reasons. The majority of Tibetans in Lhasa (university instructors included), unlike most Tibetans in exile in Nepal and India, have no working knowledge of English. Classroom lectures were conducted entirely in Tibetan, and daily sessions with private tutors consisted of conversation and pronunciation practice in the same format.

The learning-lab atmosphere of the city's non-English marketplaces and tiny restaurants also provided endless opportunities to practice daily lessons. Most afternoons found me circumambulating the Jokhang — Tibet's most holy temple in the center of Lhasa — arm in arm with a wizened old Tibetan grandmother who would take me under her wing, encourage me to practice speaking, and introduce me excitedly to all of her equally wrinkled friends as "The Foreigner Girl Who Speaks Tibetan!"

Although the summer proved educationally beneficial in a traditional sense, my trip to the "Roof of the World" was not without its own equally informative misadventures. During my week-long layover in Nepal, I traveled to the Tibetan exile community of Pharping, just one hour



SUZANNE BESSENGER

outside of Kathmandu, in order to renew a research contact. One morning, I walked out of my guesthouse room only to be confronted with a visibly upset fellow traveler.

"What are you going to do?" she demanded of me anxiously.

"Walk down to the monastery," I responded nonchalantly. "Why do you ask?"

Her jaw dropped as she looked at me in surprise. "Haven't you heard?" she said. "The royal family of Nepal has been killed!"

We spent the next few days navigating a nation torn between mourning and rage at the loss of their popular king and royal family. Riding the local bus back into Kathmandu, I peered out of the window to see scores of men and boys lined up on the streets as impromptu barbers shaved heads in the traditional Hindu expression of family mourning. Further on, hundreds of Nepalese families streamed past the palace gates to leave bouquets of flowers and weep openly for the country's loss. That evening I climbed to the roof of my hotel to watch columns of black

smoke from burning tires encircle the city, as below the hotel owner's son washed tear gas — the military's response to the citizens' demonstrations — out of his eyes. Two days later, as my plane left for Lhasa, I looked down at the Kathmandu Valley and remembered the hotel owner's words: "These will be hard days for Nepal," he had said sadly, waving goodbye.

In the end, my summer experience gave me the opportunity to improve my language skills, but it also provided me with a clearer sense of the socio-political issues facing modern Tibet and its neighboring countries. I return to the University of Virginia with renewed enthusiasm for my language studies, a readiness to expand my areas of study to include Mandarin Chinese and Chinese Buddhism, and a contextualized understanding of the significance of both Tibetan and Chinese language in modern and historical Tibetan studies.

Suzanne Bessenger studies Tibetan Buddhism in the Department of Religious Studies.

New Faculty

In August, Professor Bruce Reynolds joined the University's general faculty, with a joint appointment to the McIntire School of Commerce and the new International Residential College.

He was formerly on the economics faculty of Union College in Schenectady, New York, where he also directed the East Asian Studies Program.

As a senior faculty fellow at the International Residential College, Professor Reynolds aims to promote international activities — particularly those linked to East Asia — within the undergraduate and greater University communities.

In his position at the McIntire School, Professor Reynolds will offer a range of courses dealing with international issues.

"I'm eager to link up with anyone and everyone who's interested in international issues," Reynolds said, "especially as regards East Asia, and then

'U.Va. is clearly making a quantum leap in the international area ...'

— **Bruce Reynolds**

to help stir the pot. U.Va. is clearly making a quantum leap in the international area, in terms both of resources and results."

Professor Reynolds's background in China is extensive: after majoring in Chinese Studies at Yale, he taught at Tunghai College in Taiwan for two years, earned a China-focused Ph.D.

in economics at the University of Michigan, began his frequent travels to China in 1973, and has since written extensively on the Chinese economy. Additionally, he has worked closely with the Chinese Economists Society, a professional organization created by U.S. economists who came here from the P.R.C.; for a decade he edited the group's scholarly journal, the *China Economic Review*.

Professor Reynolds is also experienced in working closely with students. At Union, he advised the Asian students organization and helped create an East Asia-focused residence hall.

Reynolds's wife, Yoke San, was recently named U.Va.'s vice president for finance. The Reynolds have two adult children, Katherine and Christopher.

Faculty Activities

FACULTY, from Page 4

Government and Foreign Affairs Professor **Brantly Womack's** article "Mao Before Maoism" appeared in the July issue of *China Journal* and in Chinese in the latest issue of *Shixue Jikan*.

Lecturer in Chinese **Helen Shen** presented a paper, "Character Teaching Strategies: A Cognitive Perspective," at the Second International Conference on Chinese Pedagogy in Yichang, China, in June. The conference's theme was research on Chinese character acquisition. In August, she participated in the Summer Conference on Research Perspectives in Adult Language Learning and Acquisition at Ohio State University. Participants in the conference deliberated on the design of instruction for distance education by applying modern technologies to the fields of foreign language instruction.

In June, Ms. Shen and East Asia Center Director and Associate Profes-

sor of Chinese **Anne Kinney** visited the East China Normal University (ECNU) in Shanghai. The purpose of their visit was to negotiate with ECNU personnel about establishing a UVa-ECNU Summer Intensive Chinese Language Program, to be launched in 2002. Such a program would allow UVa students to attend ECNU for two months of intensive language study including cultural field trips to Beijing and Xi'an.

In April, Professor of Japanese **Michiko Wilson** gave two talks, "Kenzaburo Oe's Idealism and Trauma" at the University of Pittsburgh, and "Kenzaburo Oe and Minako Oba: Where They See Eye to Eye" at Colby College. In June, she visited Kyoto University and Sophia University in Tokyo to explore possibilities for study abroad and exchange programs.

In August, Professor Wilson participated as a panelist at the conference "Across Time and Genre: Reading &

Writing Japanese Women's Texts" at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada.

Religious Studies Professor **David Germano** and a team of staff from the Tibetan and Himalayan Digital Library spent the summer in Lhasa using digital video and audio equipment to document Tibetan language, music, religious festivals, traditional medicine, and urban landscapes. They also worked extensively with faculty from the Tibet University, Traditional Tibetan Medicine Hospital, and the Tibetan Academy of Social Sciences.

Assistant Professor of Art **Dorothy Wong** published an article, "Maitreya Buddha Statues at the University of Pennsylvania Museum," in the March issue of *Orientalism*. In November, she will give a presentation on 5th and 6th-century Buddhist art in the Sichuan and Gansu regions at the "Nomads, Traders and Holy Men Along China's Silk Road" symposium at the Asia Society in New York.

EAST ASIA CENTER
224 Minor Hall
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

tel (434) 924-7836
fax (434) 924-3359
eastasia@virginia.edu
<http://www.virginia.edu/~eastasia>

Director

Anne Behnke Kinney

Assistants to the Director

Bill Gorvine
Jett McAlister

Newsletter

Brad Reed, Editor
Jett McAlister, Design & Production

*To stay informed of East Asia-related events at UVa, join the East Asia Center's electronic mailing list: send an e-mail to majordomo@virginia.edu. In the body of the message, type **subscribe easiauva**.*

Friends of the East Asia Center

RICHARD COUGHLIN

Through the generosity of Professor Emeritus Richard Coughlin, several University of Virginia students of Asian history have been able to further their academic engagement with Asia, through an award that carries a stipend and airfare to Asia.

In 1979, Professor Coughlin established the Margaret Morgan Coughlin Award in Asian History in memory of his wife. Fourth-year undergraduates are eligible for the award if they have completed twelve hours of coursework in Asian studies, with six of those hours in Asian history.

The Coughlin Award carries a sti-

pend of \$2,500 and up to \$1,500 for airfare to Asia. In the past, recipients have traveled to Japan, China and various nations in Southeast Asia.

The daughter of missionaries, Mrs. Coughlin spent her early youth in China. She then became the first female Ph.D. candidate in U.Va.'s History Department, with a dissertation on Baptists in China in the 19th century.

Professor Coughlin held a joint appointment in sociology and anthropology.

An expert on East and Southeast Asia, he has written on the social and cultural status of women in Vietnam and of the Chinese in modern Thailand.

The East Asia Center gratefully acknowledges the Ellen Bayard Weedon Foundation, whose support provides the Center's general operational funding and underwrites the Center's lecture series.



EAST ASIA CENTER
224 Minor Hall
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22903

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA
PERMIT 164