Best wishes from CEAPS for a happy and prosperous year of the goat! January and February have found us very busy with activities celebrating the New Year holiday and the kick off to several new projects for the Spring 2015 semester. “Translating East Asia” brings three professional translators (Red Pine, Jenny Wang Medina, and Royall Tyler) to campus. Our brown bag series features UIUC advanced graduate students and faculty sharing their recent work. Our “IL/IN Corridor Speaker Series” hosts scholars from institutions in Illinois and Indiana. These new programs join the existing CEAPS Speaker Series, VASP Speaker Series, AsiaLENS Film Series, and our Osaka City University Joint Symposium to make for a very full semester; we hope to see you at many of our events! For your reference, our calendar and descriptions of some of these events are included in this newsletter.

We are also very lucky this semester to welcome a new staff member: Duane Johansen will join us as Outreach Coordinator in March. Duane brings extensive experience as an educator and counselor in schools and communities in Illinois and Indiana. He has also been an active participant in National Consortium for Teaching about Asia programming, and he is looking forward to the opportunity to help CEAPS build stronger bridges with schools, non-profit organizations, and other constituencies in our region. This position is part of our Title VI grant activities, and we are grateful for the support of both the Title VI National Resource Center grant and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for this new position.

Our other important new initiative this semester is the David and Barbara Thomas scholarships and prizes for study abroad. This will be our first year to grant two scholarships of $2000 each for study abroad in Asia, as well as $500 prizes for best study abroad essay and for best documentary. We are grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas for the support that makes this award possible, and we encourage students at both undergraduate and graduate levels to join the competition for these awards.

We look forward to bringing you another semester of exciting programs. Please join us for as many as you can. If you make it to the Annual Association for Asian Studies Meeting – or if you happen to be in Chicago during Spring Break – please drop by the Asian Educational Media Service’s AAS Film Expo, curated by UIUC Director of Global Arts Initiates Jason Finkelman. For more information on the film expo, please see our website: www.aems.illinois.edu. For information on CEAPS programming, see our announcements and calendar at www.ceaps.illinois.edu.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Oyler
CEAPS Speaker Series

The CEAPS Speaker Series is CEAPS signature event. Every semester, we invite renowned Asian Studies scholars to the U of I campus to give talks on their most recent research and projects. This semester, we feature Dr. Theodore Hughes (Columbia University), Dr. Susan Burns (University of Chicago), and Dr. Matthew Königsberg (Free University of Berlin). Please see the attached calendar for the schedule and topics of their talks.

The CEAPS Speaker Series not only highlights cutting-edge research and perspectives on campus, but also creates opportunities for speakers to meet with faculty and students with mutual intellectual interests. A highlight of one of our past events was Professor Chan Park (Ohio State University) who offered a performance of the Korean art, pansori, accompanying herself on the puk, a double-headed barrel drum. In addition to the performance, Professor Park lectured on “Singing Pansori, Korean Theatre of Storytelling, in Search of Narrative Interiority.” A large audience of students and faculty engaged her in lively discussion following the lecture/performance.

CEAPS Brown Bag Series

The CEAPS brown bag series is designed to give U of I graduate students and faculty a chance to share their work with colleagues on campus. This semester’s speakers include Wenrui Chen (Ph.D. Candidate, College of Communication), Robert Tierney (Associate Professor, EALC and Comparative Literature), and Sangsook Lee-Chung (Visiting Assistant Professor, EALC). Wenrui Chen’s talk, “Investigative Journalism in China: A Historical Perspective,” took place on February 6th.

Wenrui’s talk brought together the faculty and doctoral students in different fields. As we look forward to the next two talks this semester, we are in the process of planning the Brown Bag talks in the upcoming semesters. If you are interested to use this platform to share your research, please contact Yimin Wang (yimwang@illinois.edu).

Event Highlights

CEAPS Student Staff

We are grateful for the brilliant work of our dedicated graduate assistants and the undergraduate intern that make our various events and programs possible.

Tabassum Amina, CEAPS Graduate Assistant
I am a doctoral student in Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership with a focus on Human Resource Development. I hold an M.A. in Educational Technology from Seoul National University in S. Korea. Since the Fall 2014, I have worked as a CEAPS graduate assistant in charge of developing and maintaining the center’s website. I am excited about the new website coming this spring and working as a good communication channel for Asian scholars and students on campus and all over the world.

Da Ye Lee, CEAPS Graduate Assistant
I am a fourth year doctoral student in the Department of Education Policy, Organization, & Leadership with a focus on Human Resource Development. I hold an M.A. in Educational Technology from Seoul National University in S. Korea. Since the Fall 2014, I have worked as a CEAPS graduate assistant in charge of developing and maintaining the center’s website. I am excited about the new website coming this spring and working as a good communication channel for Asian scholars and students on campus and all over the world.

Wenrui Chen, CEAPS Undergraduate Intern
I am currently a CEAPS undergraduate intern, and I primarily help with the graphic design work at CEAPS for publications. This includes designing the post card and flyers for the Asialens film event. At CEAPS, I have other great opportunities, such as participating in the panel discussion on mentoring Chinese students on China Day. I believe experiences like these will prepare me for a future job in the areas of academic affairs, international studies, or study abroad offices.

Kristin Petersheim, AEMS Graduate Assistant
As a second-year student at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, my primary involvement with CEAPS is maintaining the AEMS Film Library. At AEMS, I facilitate the design and distribution of News and Reviews, the AEMS quarterly newsletter, and also answer and redirect questions regarding Asian film to experts or film distributors. I currently assist in programming events including the Asialens film series and the Association for Asian Studies Annual Film Expo. I am also working closely with CEAPS web designer Shuyue to transfer content to the newly revamped and upcoming AEMS website.

Shuyue Wang, CEAPS Graduate Assistant
I am a first-year graduate student at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science on campus. As a graduate assistant in CEAPS, my primary job is to develop and maintain the upcoming AEMS website. We are in the process of designing a brand-new website for AEMS, which will be launched very soon! I hope to use my experience at CEAPS to prepare me for a career with web and information services.
Message from Incoming Outreach Coordinator

Hi, everyone. I’m Duane Johansen, and I’m thrilled to be coming in as the Outreach Coordinator for CEAPS. I’ve been a teacher on and off since graduating from Valparaiso University in 1988 and have worked in inner-city, suburban, and small town schools. My passion for learning and teaching about East Asia was stoked by an outreach coordinator, who several years ago, invited me to take a class in South Bend. For the past six years, most of my professional development has been focused on advancing my knowledge of East Asian culture and history. I’ve been across the country to do so, including stops in Northampton, Massachusetts; Los Angeles, California; Chicago, Illinois; and Bloomington, Indiana. I hope to bring that same passion to getting people involved in East Asian studies and having Urbana/Champaign be a destination stop (physically or digitally) for those who want to learn more about China, Korea, and Japan. I’ve been married for 15 years and have three wonderful sons, including one about to graduate from high school, but, having grown up in Iowa, I may find it a bit tough to switch my allegiance from the Hawkeyes to the Illini.

Current Outreach Activities

As we await Duane’s arrival, we are organizing outreach activities in local schools and communities. For example, we hosted cultural booths and crafts at Urbana School District on November 15th, 2014. Additionally, CEAPS recently co-hosted the event titled “Love in the Chinese New Year” in Spurlock Museum on February 14th which celebrated the Chinese New Year and Valentine’s Day with K-12 students and the community. We are very fortunate to have visiting scholar Professor Su volunteering with us for various outreach activities. Professor Su is a renowned Chinese calligraphy and ink painting artist from China. Being the second generation student of Xu Beihong, Professor Su specializes in drawing grapes and flowers with Chinese poems. His painting demonstrations in schools and at other cultural events attract students and parents alike, and provide valuable opportunities for our community to appreciate the process of creating a Chinese ink painting. Professor Su said his happiest moments happen when he holds kids’ hands to draw Chinese ink painting, and sees how amazed they are by their art work! Below are some of the photos of his painting and outreach work.

Outreach Activities

Translating East Asia Series

With great support from the Center for Translation Studies, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Program in Medieval Studies, we are hosting a series on “Translating East Asia,” featuring public lectures by Bill Porter (aka Red Pine), Jenny Wang Medina, and Royall Tyler. Bill Porter arrived on campus on January 28th and gave two lectures, one focused on translation, entitled “Chinese Poetry and the Art of Translation” and one on “Hermits and Zen: Solitary and Communal Practice in China.” Audience discussion was stimulated by Porter’s deep understanding of Zen culture in China, and how his cultural understanding inspired his creative translation of Chinese poems. Mr. Porter used the metaphor of “a blind person dancing with a beautiful dancer” to describe his process to a standing-room only crowd. Porter’s lectures not only benefitted students of translation, but also scholars who share the interest of Chinese culture, religious studies and cultural studies. We look forward to the lectures by Jenny Wang Medina and Royall Tyler on April 1st and April 17th.

Visit and Talks by Shanghai Jiaotong University President

In collaboration with International Programs and Studies (IPS), CEAPS welcomed President Zhang, Jie of Shanghai Jiaotong University (China) on October 29th and 30th. Shanghai Jiaotong University is a top-tier university in China, and is called “China’s MIT” because of its excellence in STEM fields. President Zhang gave a campus-wide talk on “The Path Towards Excellence – Shanghai Jiao Tong University’s Journey to Becoming a World-Class University” which illustrated the challenges and opportunities of a Chinese university opening up to the world and becoming a world-class university. On October 29th, President Zhang met with Chinese students and lectured on career opportunities in China. As a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering (FEng), the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, and the Third World Academy of Sciences, as well as a foreign associate of U.S. National Academy of Sciences, President Zhang shared his experiences of how to prepare oneself as a global scholar. Both domestic and international students found his talk beneficial for thinking about their own study and career trajectory from a global perspective.

Developing institutional faculty and student collaborators between U of I and universities in East Asian countries is a mission of CEAPS, so we are happy to provide any support that you or your unit may need in this regard.
Event Highlights (Con’t)

China Day

On February 16th, 2015, we hosted China Day events running all day in Knight Auditorium at Spurlock Museum. Timed to coincide with the Chinese New Year, China Day also celebrated the Spurlock’s current exhibit “East Meets Midwest: The Dawn of the China-Illinois Educational Exchange.”

The morning sessions featured lectures on China’s position within various world regions, beginning with a lecture on “China and the United States in Africa: Cooperation or Competition?” given by David H. Shimm, former U.S. Ambassador to Burkina Faso and Ethiopia. This talk was followed by Professor Chris Atwood (Indiana University), lecturing on “China and Central Eurasia: From ‘Integral Part of China’ to Silk Roads.” The morning session concluded with a talk situating China within greater China titled “Harmony vs. Security: The Role of China in Greater China” given by UIUC Assistant Professor Jeffrey Martin.

The afternoon workshop on “Engaging Chinese and International Students” gathered a panel of faculty, staff, and Chinese students. The workshop started with a documentary on Chinese students’ experiences at the University of Illinois, presented by Tim Spurlock’s current exhibit “East Meets Midwest: The Dawn of the China-Illinois Educational Exchange.”

The morning session featured a panel of faculty, staff, and Chinese students. The workshop then turned to a dialogue between faculty, staff, student panels and the audience, and was centered on the challenges and opportunities that Chinese students face on campus. CEAPS and the participants hope to continue the conversation and coordinate follow-up panels and the audience, and was centered on the challenges and opportunities that Chinese students faced on campus. CEAPS and the participants hope to continue the conversation and coordinate follow-up panels and the audience, and was centered on the challenges and opportunities that Chinese students face on campus. CEAPS and the participants hope to continue the conversation and coordinate follow-up panels and the audience, and was centered on the challenges and opportunities that Chinese students face on campus. CEAPS and the participants hope to continue the conversation and coordinate follow-up panels and the audience, and was centered on the challenges and opportunities that Chinese students face on campus.

Documentary Project

Using documentaries to communicate ideas is a strategy we use for many of our projects. CEAPS holds documentary workshops to train study-abroad students to document their “journeys abroad.” We also collaborate with the Chinese Independent Film Society to produce documentaries about Chinese students’ experiences and perspectives. Here are a few accomplished works.

1. Experiences of Chinese Students on UIUC campus: http://www.eaps.illinois.edu/resources/documentary1.html
   (This documentary illuminated some of the challenges and opportunities that Chinese students encounter at UIUC, especially in academic areas.)

2. Introducing Chinese Universities: http://www.eaps.illinois.edu/resources/documentary2.html
   (This is a documentary we made for UIUC students who are considering to study abroad in China.)

   (This documentary documented some Chinese students’ reflections on Chinese society after a period of time of studying in the U.S.)

4. International Asian Students at UIUC: http://www.eaps.illinois.edu/resources/documentary4.html
   (This is a video that introduces UIUC to prospective students from Asian countries.)

Funding Opportunities

CEAPS invites applications from UIUC faculty partnered with faculty from other institutions in Illinois and Indiana to develop East Asia-focused curriculum for undergraduate classes. Two awards of $1500 each will be awarded annually, to be shared between contributing faculty partners. The goals of this program are to develop robust curricula in East Asian Studies at post-secondary institutions across the Illinois/Indiana Corridor and to strengthen the network of faculty working on East Asia in the region. This program supports both revision of current courses to better address East Asian issues, or the development of new courses with a strong East Asian component. We welcome applications for both courses on East Asia and those on broader topics. We strongly encourage applications from faculty in professional schools interested in providing cultural context to their curriculum. The proposed course development should take place during the 12 months following the award and should be implemented at both institutions within 18 months of the award.

CEAPS Faculty Travel Grants

We offer travel grants for faculty at Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) and Community Colleges in Illinois and Indiana to visit the UIUC campus, use the university Library and meet with faculty. This is a great opportunity to collaborate with faculty members across these institutions. We welcome applications from faculty performing research in East Asian Studies or developing curriculum about East Asia for courses at their home institutions. Travel dates and length of stay are unrestricted. CEAPS will offer grants of up to $1000 to offset travel, accommodation, and meal expenses for visits. We will assist successful applicants in arranging library access privileges and provide short-term work space for meeting with UIUC faculty.

The Dave and Barbara Thomas Awards for Study Abroad

Thanks to a generous contribution by University of Illinois alumnus Dave Thomas and his wife Barbara, CEAPS is pleased to announce the establishment of two scholarships and two prizes for students participating in study abroad programs to Asian countries.

Scholarships: Two scholarships, each in the amount of $2000, will be awarded to two students accepted into University of Illinois-endorsed summer, semester, or year-long study abroad programs in Asian countries. Students in semester or year-long study abroad programs are required to enroll in classes in both language and culture. For summer programs, language-only programs also will be eligible. Priority will be given to students with excellent academic performance records and proven financial need.

Prizes: The Thomas Essay Prize ($500) will be awarded for an outstanding student essay written as fulfillment of a course requirement during a study abroad program. The Thomas Documentary Prize ($500) will be awarded for one student video documentary of a study abroad experience.

For more information about these three awards, please contact Yimin Wang at yimwang@illinois.edu.

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