

SETON HALL'S ASIAN VOICE

SPRING 2013

Dr. Anne Mullen-Hohl, *Chair, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures*
 Dr. Dongdong Chen, *Director, Graduate Program in Asian Studies*
 Dr. Shigeru Osuka, *Director, Asian Studies*

Paul Capobianco, M.A. '13 *Co-Editor*
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Congratulations to the Class of 2013!



We would like to cordially congratulate our graduate class of 2013! This year 12 students have been diligently working hard in our program and are now moving on to their future projects. The commencement ceremony was held on May 18th and was attended by our faculty, parents, relatives, friends, and graduating students. Best of luck to our Asian Studies Master Graduate Class of 2013! The ceremony was

Graduate Program in Asian Studies Class of 2013

Paul Capobianco *
 Xinran Dong *
 Veronica Hernandez
 Yanzheng Liang
 Jheel Mehta
 Jinyang Qin
 Stephen Torowicz *

Yang Wu
 Xin Xu *
 Yuan Yuan *
 Xiaoqin Yin
 Ting Zhang

** Indicates candidates graduating with Distinction*

Welcome from the Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures



Congratulations to the Asian Studies on an amazing semester! China Night, February 20, in Jubilee Auditorium, was a tremendous success, with extraordinary performances. Japan Week, April 4 - 11 was also outstanding, demonstrating the way to "Build a Strong Global Community" thus giving us the "Opportunity to Unite" of whose impor-

tance we are so keenly aware. The Chinese Speech Contest, April 25, was superlative in every sense. It gives us great pleasure to welcome the numerous students from Minzu, who we now know will be joining us in the Fall at Seton Hall.

—Dr. Anne Mullen-Hohl

A Message from the Director of Graduate Program in Asian Studies



Spring 2013 was an exciting semester for the Asian Studies Program. We hosted quite a number of significant events: China Night on February 20, Japan Week on April 4-10, The 7th NJCCSF Cultural Project Contest on April 20, and The 2013 Annual CLTA-GNY Conference/The 11th New York International Conference on Teaching Chinese Language and Culture on May 4-5. Four decades ago, the Institute of Far Eastern Studies, the predecessor of Asian Studies, started to offer Chinese language courses and conducted public lectures on Chinese culture regularly throughout the semester. Soon

after, Seton Hall became a major center for preparing Chinese language teachers in the nation. As one of the pioneers in the field of teaching Chinese in the US, Seton Hall hosted the conference on teaching Chinese language and culture this year, continuing to play a leading role in today's Chinese-language teacher preparation. Dr. Charles Carter, Associate Dean of College of Arts and Sciences, Professor of Religion, while delivering his welcome remarks, conducted a signing of credit transfer agreement between Minzu University of China and Seton Hall University.

—Dr. Dongdong Chen

Remarks from the Director of the Asian Studies Program



Welcome to our Spring 2013 issue of the Asian Voice, the bi-annual newsletter for the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and the Asian Studies Program. This year, the Asian Studies program presented its new assessment plan which is composed of three parts: the creation of the e-Portfolio, launching online language assessment examinations, and the continuation of the Digital Storytelling Project started in 2009. We also had the opportunity to enjoy many modern language events which challenged Seton Hall's

students, such as the annual Chinese Speech Contest. Furthermore, I would like to sincerely thank Dr. Anne Mullen-Hohl, whose term as department chair is ending this year, for her exemplary leadership of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. I would also like to welcome our newly elected department chair, Dr. Frederick Booth (2013-2016). Enjoy your summer, and we will see you all in the fall.

—Dr. Shigeru Osuka

The Challenges and Opportunities of Doing Business in Japan

By Anna Ono

The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) was kind enough to provide Seton Hall with a representative on April 11th. Mr. Daiki Nakajima works for JETRO's Information Communicative Technology and Environment, Business Development Team.

He stressed the importance of marketing skills and provided us with the example of a company named UNIQLO. UNIQLO is a well-known Japanese clothing brand that opened stores in the U.S. a few years ago. The business felt no need for advertising, and resulted in its initial failure. Then, after a re-evaluation of their strategy, UNIQLO has opened three successful

stores in Manhattan since 2006 and recently opened new stores in locations including Paramus, NJ and San Francisco.

Mr. Nakajima steered the topic to Japan's current economic stagnation and informed us of an economy that has entered into its third recession in five years. The Japanese economy has witnessed a weakening yen, and decreased export, industrial productions, employment and income. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe instituted a new concept known as "Abenomics" which aims to promote private investment. This stimulus package, worth 20.2 trillion yen, was released earlier this year on January 11th. It is predicted to create 600,000 jobs and focuses on reviving the economy, post-earthquake rebuild, and crisis management.

As someone without business background, the Doing Business in Japan presentation clearly explained Japan's past and current economic state in an easily understood fashion. Knowledge of the Japanese culture and finances are also needed for strong and long-term business endeavors.



(Photo: Dr. Osuka, Mr. Nakajima, Dr. Suzuki)

An Experience with Japanese B-Kyu Cuisine

By Jills Johny and Joel Johny

Although the name "B-kyu" will make readers associate the name with B-quality food, think again! In fact, the B is supposed to represent the price and is translated to "reasonably priced, quality foods." B-kyu foods are an everyday food, but the simplicity will definitely make you want more. On April 8th, Professor Fumiko Bacon and Dr. Shigeru Osuka hosted B-Kyu Cuisine

in the Beck Room. Professor Bacon began the event by showing a movie followed by her lecture. She spoke intricately about the different types of Japanese cuisines, including the harvest of rice, a very integral part of the Japanese diet. A basic overview of the types of meats, and fish and vegetables were also discussed. She explained how the different prices in meat causes Japanese people to eat more pork and chicken rather than beef, and how only beef was only eaten during special

occasions. Next, the participants had the opportunity to try udon. Udon is a thick wheat-flour noodle that sits in a hot broth. The udon noodles can be topped with chopped scallions, flavored tempura batter pieces, and fried tofu. It was a wonder experience for many students, and this active passage into the daily Japanese cuisine taught students many cultural differences and similarities.

Igo at SHU



By Abigail Nanquil

Japan Week 2013 was lucky to have special guest Master Narumi Osawa, 4th Rank Igo professional, dispatched by the Agency for Cultural Affairs (Bunka-chō) of the Japanese government. Miss Osawa gave a brief lecture on the history and evolution of igo (Japanese chess), a very popular pastime of Japan. Igo originated in China more than 2,000 years ago and since then

has spread to many other parts of the world. According to the International Go Federation, there are well over 40 million igo players worldwide from 74 different countries. Participants in the lecture were given an opportunity to learn the basic rules of the game by pairing up using games provided by Miss Osawa. Different situations and strate-

gies encountered by the participants allowed for a fun interaction between the guest speaker and her audience. Those who attended the event took home a personal igo board complete with a rule set to play with on their own time.

The 16th Annual Graduate Student/School Teacher Symposium on Japanese Studies

By Samantha Graham

This year I attended my sixth Graduate Japanese Symposium since I began attending Seton Hall. Over the years the crowd has grown smaller, the faces more familiar, and the topics more diverse and interesting. But one thing has remained consistent- the dedication, commitment, and courage of the faculty and students who put together this amazing event.

The topics included art, comparative religion, social policy and linguistics. In the past we have had sex trafficking and even robots. This diverse spread of topics shows the strength and diversity of the graduate students at Seton Hall, and the amount of creativity, hard work and dedication that is in the program. Many of the students who present their papers at the Symposium do not stop at just presenting at Seton Hall. Instead they go on to present at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and many other places.

Graduate students are not the only students who benefit from this conference, however. For many undergraduates, it is their first experience at an academic conference, their first taste of academia, and the spark that pushes them to pursue graduate school.

In a time of cut backs, tight budgets, and even tighter schedules, Dr. Shigeru Osuka has remained dedicated to putting on this free conference for the graduate students of the Asian Studies MA program at Seton Hall. As a result, students, many who are speaking in public for the first time, are able to gain the confidence, practice and experience necessary for a future in both academia and the private sector.



Chinese Language Speech Contest

By Kathryn R Teran

On Thursday, April 25th, the Chinese Program hosted their annual speech contest. Here is an account from one of the participants!

The Chinese speech contest was probably one of the most nerve-racking things I have done all semester. I absolutely detest public speaking and when I heard that participation in this contest would be a large percentage of my grade I was terrified. I have only been taking Chinese for two semesters and while Chinese is my fourth language and languages come easily to me, I was still nervous. I now realize how grateful I am to be a part of Seton Hall's Chinese Program. Chen Laoshi has taught me the

skills needed to feel confident speaking in front of a large group of people in a different language, however basic.

A good teacher is imperative to learning a new language and Chen Laoshi has gone above and beyond my expectations. My two minute speech on my daily routine made me proud of my learning abilities. To go from knowing nothing about a language to being able to speak in front of a crowd in said language over the course of eight short months is an incredible accomplishment. The Chinese Program at Seton Hall is a wonderful group of people and I am excited to spend the next 4 years being a part of this community.



China Night 2013

By Jeremy Grasselino

I am glad to say that I attended and took part in performing at the 2013 China Night of Seton Hall University. At first, I was a bit nervous to sing the popular Chinese song "Dui Bu Qi" with my fellow classmates. However, after I entered the Jubilee Hall auditorium full of smiling welcoming faces, I slowly but surely started to feel more and more comfortable as the event went on. Almost every performance, if not all of them, struck me by surprise. From the Interpretive Chinese Ribbon Dancing to, my personal favorite, Face Changing and to top it all off, an overwhelming but delightful buffet of traditional Chinese food, I always found myself absorbed and anticipated for what was to come next.

I highly recommend any student, non-student, faculty or friend to attend next year's China Night. Whether you are performing or not, it is truly a memorable experience. Anybody and everybody can go and enjoy the attention grabbing arts and traditions of the Chinese culture. Even if you are simply part of the audience, they do a great job making you feel part of the fun through sing-a-longs, trivia game segments of the show, and simple friendliness. Unfortunately, the event only takes place once a year so make sure you find out when the next one is, book it into your calendar and experience the same excitement and joy I did at Seton Hall University's China Night of 2013.

Learning to Speak Chinese and Write Chinese with Mobile Technology

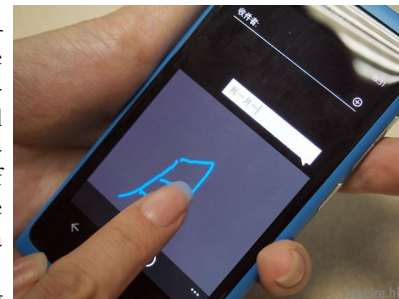
It is the first year students in the introductory Chinese class using a smart phone to learn to speak and write Chinese. Dr. Dongdong Chen initiated this project to integrate mobile technology into the teaching and learning Chinese languages for students at the introductory level.

Seton Hall University is one of the top universities provide the most convenient access to technology in the higher education. It has made the use of these applications in learning Chinese possible.

“Thank goodness for the accessible dictionary. Yet another instance where the smart phone is a useful supportive learning tool in my education. *Tip Tap Tones* is a timed game that challenges you to memorize pronunciation tone graphs and

Learn Chinese has great vocabulary practice. *Kuai-shou* has translation between English, Chinese characters, and pinyin makes it an invaluable dictionary app. The variety of applications offered by the Windows smartphone made it really helpful for me as a student studying my first year of Chinese. Having the smart phone helped me practice my pronunciation and vocabulary in a fun format.” —Allyson R Rudd

“This technology incorporated learning method allowed everyone to practice writing and speaking Chinese when Dr. Chen was not available. There have been many times that I have been confused with the Chinese language and had my questions answered within minutes. The apps available for us to download helped us ex-



pand our horizon on the Chinese language. Looking back now, I realized that I learned words in Chinese that would be helpful in the work field.”

—Andy Jose Aguilar

Two students receive New Jersey Certificate of Eligibility



I am proud to receive my Certificate of Eligibility (Teacher of Chinese) this past March. I had been preparing for the CE application since September, 2012. After I submitted all of the documents to the New Jersey Department of Education, my certificate was issued within two weeks. I am now qualified to apply for teaching jobs at public schools in New Jersey. It is very important to start preparing early in order to satisfy the requirements of the application so that you can get the certificate issued earlier. —Yanzheng Liang

Yanzheng Liang, M.A. '13

I obtained my Certificate of Eligibility in teaching Chinese in April. Compared to applying for a teaching certificate in China, the application process in the United States is more complicated. Thus, I suggest to students from China spend some time to carefully read the requirements of the New Jersey Department of Education. Otherwise, you will end up spending more time than you expected. —Ting Zhang



Ting Zhang, M.A. '13

Japanese National Honor Society

Congratulations to this year's inductees into the Japanese National Honor Society!

Katia Diaz

6 Semesters of Japanese at SHU (4.0 GPA)
Journalism & Public Relations, Asian Studies Minor
Overall GPA: 3.96

Franzie Edquilag

6 Semesters of Japanese at SHU (4.0 GPA)
Biology Major, Psychology and Asian Studies Minor
Overall GPA: 3.77

Danielle Maglente

6 Semesters of Japanese at SHU (3.8 GPA)
Philosophy Major, Asian Studies Minor
Overall GPA: 3.68

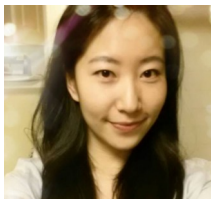


Photo (Left to Right) Dr. Osuka, Katia, Danielle, Franzie, Prof. Kazin-Penchina.

Join the Asian Studies Association

If you wish to join the Asian Studies Association, please contact Myra Reyes at myra.reyes@student.shu.edu or Dr. Dongdong Chen, advisor for the Asian Studies Association, at dongdong.chen@shu.edu

Recent Graduate Employments



Yang Wu, M.A. 2013, received an appointment as Chinese Teaching Fellow at the Hamilton College in Clinton, NY. She will be teaching the first-year students Chinese. Ms. Wu had the following suggestions to perspective students seeking Chinese-teaching positions. First, do research on the interested program and gather an understanding of the school before applying for it, particularly its teaching methods. Second, accumulate relevant experience of Chinese teaching while studying in the Asian Studies Program (Teaching Track). Third, strengthen English skills since they are highly valuable in many teaching environments.

Yang Wu, M.A. '13

Xinran Dong, M.A. '13 obtained a lecture position teaching Chinese in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at the Fordham University at Rose Hill Campus Bronx, NY.

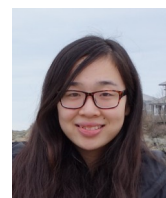


Recently, I received the email that every JET hopeful waits for. In other words I get to work in Japan as a CIR. I want those of you looking to do the same to know that you shouldn't give up if you don't make it the first time you apply. If you aren't graduating this year, learn more about Japanese language and culture as much as you can. Keep your goals in mind while you make yourself a more appealing hire by volunteering, doing related work and/or further education you can make yourself a more appealing candidate in the future. Make sure you can speak on why you applied, what you would bring to the program if selected and remember to smile! — Trevor Swan

Trevor Swan M.A. '12

Summer Internship

I will intern in the Chinese program of Princeton in Beijing (PIB) this summer. PIB is an intensive Chinese program started by Princeton University. It is one of the most well-known summer Chinese programs in the states. This will be a great opportunity for me to further strengthen my teaching skills and gain more teaching experience through working with the excellent students and teachers. — Si Chen



Si Chen, M.A. '14

This summer I will be teaching at the DSIC (Duke Study in Summer) Program, the intensive Chinese language program in Beijing. Each year, students from Duke University, University of Notre Dame and Yale University are selected to study in this program. My study experience in Teaching Chinese in the Chinese Program prepared me to teach in the excellent program. I hope more peer students who are in the teaching track will apply for teaching in such program in the future. — Wenwen Gou



Wenwen Gou M.A. '14

The program that I applied is an eight-week Duke in China summer language program and it is based at University of International Business and Economics in Beijing. In general, my job responsibility is to teach Duke undergraduate students Chinese language and traditional culture. By participating in this program, I am able to earn a lot of experience about teaching students whose native language are not Chinese, I also can build up my resume and giving me more advantages than others in terms of seeking jobs. — Xu Xu



Xu Xu, M.A. '14

Multicultural Festival

By Yaoyi Lv

On May 1st, the multicultural celebration was held on the University Green. The theme of this year is "Cultural Shock I". Four graduate students from the Chinese Program set up a table during this event to display Chinese culture to the Seton Hall community. They displayed Chinese gowns, paper-cuttings, flyers of Chinese courses available at Seton Hall. They enjoyed sharing Chinese culture with the community. They also taught students to write calligraphy, play badminton, table tennis, kick shuttlecock, and military chess. In addition, many students who came to the festival were interested in learning their Chinese name. Students from the Asian Studies Program taught them how to read and write their Chinese names based on their English names pronunciation, and explained the meanings of Chinese counterparts to them as well. All the students had lots of fun in this fantastic event!



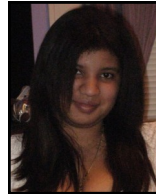
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES

Recent Achievements



Paul Capobianco,
M.A. '13

This fall I will be starting a Ph.D. program in Anthropology at the University of Iowa. Building on my Master's research at Seton Hall, I will be continuing my work on the lives of foreigners in contemporary Japan by pursuing an ethnographic study into the lives of diaspora communities in Japan. I am particularly interested in the migrant networks foreigners establish and transnational identities of such migrants.



Katia Diaz,
B.A. '13

Thanks to Dr. Osuka and Seton Hall alumni Kristin Wingate I will be able to study Japanese once more with the Katherine Davis Fellowship For Peace Scholarship at the Middlebury Language School in Oakland, CA. I hope to use the language skills I learn in the workforce as a Public Affairs Specialist for the U.N. or an international government organization. I cannot wait to get started on this new path in my career.



Yaoyi Lu,
M.A. '14

In order to gain further experience of teaching Chinese, I have applied several STARTALK programs this summer. Currently, I have been admitted to two programs. One is at the University of South Florida, and the other is at the Bangor School in Maine. I highly recommend the STARTALK program to students who intend to be a Chinese teacher, because which we can get teaching experience and have the opportunity to communicate with potential colleagues.



Franzие Edquilag,
B.S. '13

I am received a scholarship to participate in a Volunteers for Peace program in Japan. I will volunteer at Kembuchi Nishihara Gakuen, a school founded in 1980 in Kembuchi, Hokkaido for the mentally challenged. The school holds workshops for productive and creative activities so that the mentally challenged have better links with the local community in Japan.

Seton Hall Hosts NJATJ Awards

By Paul Capobianco

On Friday, March 15, Seton Hall hosted the NJATJ 2013 Japanese Language and Culture Study Award Ceremony at Jubilee Hall. This event brought Japanese language teachers from all over the state to Seton Hall University for the award ceremony where high school, college, and graduate students from across New Jersey

were recognized for their excellent work, dedication, and progress in their Japanese language study. Along with the award ceremony there was also a traditional Japanese drum demonstration (an art known as *taiko*) by a local percussion group and an enthralling presentation by Dr. David Leheny of Princeton University on politics in East Asia.

The CLTA-GNY 2013 Annual Conference & The 11th New York International Conference on Teaching Chinese

By Xu Xu

The CLTA-GNY 2013 Annual Conference & 11th New York International Conference on Teaching Chinese was held this year at Seton Hall University on May 6. There were over two hundred teachers, presenters and students together in this big event to share their Chinese teaching experience and academic achievements. In addition, it was my honor to participate in this conference as a volunteer and taking responsibility of registration. I thought this was a unforgettable and advantaged experience, since the conference also offered me the chance to meet and communicate with those experienced teachers and leaders in the field of teaching Chinese. More importantly, it brought to me an internship opportunity in a public school during the conference. As a result, I am so glad to have been a part of this big event. I hope that my amazing experience can also encourage more and more students and volunteers to participate in next year's Chinese conference.

