



Asian Studies Notes

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

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Website: wings.buffalo.edu/asian/asn

亞細亞學研究

Law and Buddhism

Rebecca Redwood French, Professor of Law

On Friday, June 4th and Saturday, June 5th, the first conference on Buddhism and Law will be hosted by the Baldy Center of the Law School on the fifth floor of O'Brian Hall at UB. Sponsored by Professors Rebecca French and David Engel, the conference is entitled, "Locating Law in Buddhist Cultures." Ten topnotch scholars in the field have agreed to gather for two days of panels and sessions with informal dinners and gatherings on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. The initial discussions on Friday and some of the panels on Saturday will be open to the public and the entire UB community is invited to attend. Please contact Ellen Kausner of the Baldy Center or e-mail to ekausner@buffalo.edu.



and Law have differed from the study of law in relation to other world religions. In the case of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Judaism, a strong tie has been presumed in most countries and contexts between the underlying religious cultural base and the formation of secular legal rules and practices. But this has not been the case with Buddhism and Buddhist societies; no foundation, no nexus, no profound influence on the legal system has been presumed by scholars. Indeed, the discipline of Buddhist Legal Studies hardly exists and it is the purpose of this and future conferences to begin a serious discussion on this topic.

This conference is the first of its kind. The central purpose of this and future meetings is to begin a long-term investigation into the relationship between Buddhism - its foundational ideas, cosmology, texts, practices, institutions - and the secular legal systems with which it has interacted throughout history. The sponsors find it intriguing that studies of Buddhism

We are very excited about the participating scholars. Professor French is well-known for her work in Tibetan law and Professor Engel, the Director of International Programs, has written extensively about the legal system in Changmai, Thailand which he has visited repeatedly over the past 25 years. Joining them will be Jose Cabezon, (Professor, Department of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara), Frank See **LAW and BUDDHISM** p.2

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Dr. David Ho to Speak at Rochester



Dr. David Ho is Director of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center (ADARC), a prominent Chinese-American, and *Time* Magazine's "Man of the Year" for 1996. He will lecture on Thursday evening, March 11, at the University of Rochester Medical Research Building, Roches-

ter NY. The topic is "China Challenged by AIDS and SARS." Tickets to the evening's event are \$25/adult, with \$15 tickets available to students up to 18 years old accompanied by a parent. Tickets to the lecture and reception will also include a contribution to the China AIDS Initiative, administered by ADARC. For further details, please contact Tom Pian at [<pian@frontiernet.net>](mailto:pian@frontiernet.net)



Asia at Noon in March

Asia at Noon is UB's premier interdisciplinary forum on topics related to Asia. Faculty and students gather for this brown-bag event on selected Fridays from 12:00-1:00 in Park 280.

On March 5, our speaker will be **Liang Zhanjun**, Professor of History at Capital Normal University. Professor Liang is visiting at UB for the academic year as an exchange research professor. His research addresses China's dealing with physical crisis during its long history. His topic on March 5 is "Crisis Management in the PRC: The Case of SARS." The convener for the session is Professor Roger DesForges, China specialist from the History Department.

On March 26, **Lee Kuo-jung** will reflect on the presidential election taking place in Taiwan on March 20. Lee is Deputy Director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York.

Taiwan's 2004 presidential election has elicited worldwide attention, especially since current President Chen Shui-bian has announced his decision to proceed with a national referendum to gauge the public's attitude on Taiwan's posture of self-defense and negotiations with China. Is this a proxy step toward a declaration of independence? President Chen stands by the right of any state to hold such a referendum. Two leading election opponents, Lien Chan and James Soong, take a more conciliatory approach to policy toward the mainland.

In his discussion, Lee will address the results of the election and its present and future ramifications for the cross-strait relationship.

New Southeast Asian Studies Book Series

The University of Wisconsin Press and the UW Center for Southeast Asian Studies are pleased to announce a new book series on Southeast Asian Studies.

This series will publish books on historical and contemporary development issues in Southeast Asian nations, ASEAN and other regional groupings, and on the region's relations with the rest of the world in a globalizing context. The series editors seek books focusing on cultural, economic, environmental, political, and social issues from a range of theoretical and methodological perspectives as well as innovative topics and approaches.

In addition to focused research books on Southeast Asia or Southeast Asia's relations with the rest of the world, the series also invites the submission of book proposals and manuscripts for popular and course texts, translations of seminal works, thematic anthologies of both original and classic essays, important biographies and autobiographies, and classic reprints of key fiction and non-fiction books in the field.

Details on the series, its backlist titles, or how to submit a manuscript or book proposal can be found at both the UW Press web site: <http://www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress/> or at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies web site: <http://www.wisc.edu/ctrseasia/>.

LAW and BUDDHISM (Cont. from p. 1)

Reynolds (Professor of History of Religions and Buddhist Studies at the Divinity School and Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago), Andrew Huxley (Department of Law and School of Oriental and Asian Studies, University of London), Robert Buswell (Professor and Director of the Center for Buddhist Studies, UCLA), Brian McKnight (Professor of East Asian Studies, University of Arizona), Leslie Gunawardena (Professor, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka) and Junzo Iida (Professor, Soka

University Law School, Japan). Also invited are Charles Hallisey (Associate Professor, Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison), Janet Gyatso, (Professor of Buddhist Studies, Harvard Divinity School), Frank Upham (Professor, New York University Law School) and Robert Kidder (Professor of Sociology, Temple University.)



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OPPORTUNITIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Bridging Scholarships, Fall 2004

The US-Japan Bridging Foundation was formed in 1998 to provide scholarships through the Association of Teachers of Japanese to assist students to study in Japan. Funding from private foundations and major U.S. corporations has made it possible for the Foundation to award 50 scholarships and assist American students with the travel and living expenses they will incur while studying abroad in Japan. Japanese language study is not a prerequisite. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents and be enrolled as undergraduates in a college or university in the U.S. The deadline for applications is **April 5, 2004**. Information: www.colorado.edu/ealld/atj/Bridging/scholarships.html

Year Program in China

There is currently a huge demand for English teachers in China. In many parts of China, only students from the most elite schools have the opportunity to learn English from a native speaker. The WorldTeach-Hunan Program was established to bring volunteer English teachers to a broader range of secondary students through the Province's public schools. WorldTeach established this exciting new program in 2003 through a partnership with the Hunan Provincial Education Department. The Education Department will

identify middle schools in Hunan that both need a volunteer English teacher and can contribute to the costs of supporting a volunteer teacher for a year. In addition to teaching English classes, volunteers are encouraged to contribute to their school community in other ways. You may want to set up an English club, help in the school library or computer room, participate in sports, or help students prepare for cultural performances. For more information see the WorldTeach website at www.worldteach.org, or call 1-800-483-2240 or 1-617-495-5527.

Study in Sri Lanka

New UB Summer Study Abroad Program

Students who are interested in Buddhist art now have the chance to study in Sri Lanka during the summer. Buddhism in Sri Lanka has produced some of the world's largest masonry shrines and many of the most visually rich temples. Students will participate in a series of seminars and on-site visits to several of Sri Lanka's famous Buddhist temple sites led by leading authorities on Sri Lankan art and culture. They will also have the chance to interact with some of the authorities who wrote or contributed to texts they have studied in the U.S. Information:

inted.oie.buffalo.edu/studyabroad/program.asp?prog=srilanka&file=pro&img=pro_srilanka.jpg

2004 Mitchell Lecture

The University at Buffalo Law School's 2004 Mitchell Lecture presents a panel discussion on "The Quest for Diversity after Grutter," in which the issue of racial diversity and law school admissions will be described and debated. One of the panelists will be Frank H. Wu, who is Professor of Law at Howard University and adjunct professor at Columbia University. He has written and lectured extensively on issues of race, justice, and law. In 2001-2002, he served as chair of the District of Columbia Human Rights Commission. He is a member of the Committee of 100, a civic group that promotes Asian-American political participation, and a trustee of Gallaudet University, the only university primarily for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The panel discussion will be held on Monday, March 8, 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at John Lord O'Brian Hall, Room 106, North Campus. It is free and open to the public.

NYCAS 2004 Call for Papers

The New York Conference on Asian Studies 2004 Annual Meeting. Friday, October 29 and Saturday, October 30, 2004, Bard College, Annandale, New York. Conference theme: "**Asian Border Crossings**." Panels and papers focusing on this theme and on any aspect of Asian Studies are welcome.

- the flow of peoples, cultures, and ideas
- borders - physical, political, or metaphorical -- vague and porous
- cross-border interaction
- multi-national regional economies
- transnationalism in politics, religion, art, and culture
- border controls
- epidemics and terrorism
- historical as well as contemporary dynamics of borders and border crossings
- disciplinary border crossings

Submission **Deadline** April 1, 2004. For more information and submission form: <http://inside.bard.edu/nycas/>

Asian Studies Calendar

March

- Mar. 4-7, Thu-Sun. Annual Meeting of the Association of Asian Studies, San Diego CA.
- Mar. 5, Fri. 12:00 pm. *Asia at Noon*. **Liang Zhanjun**, Professor of History, Capital Normal University, Beijing. "Crisis Management in the PRC: The Case of SARS (tentative)." Park 280.
- Mar. 8, Mon. 3:00–5:30 pm. **Panel Discussion: "The Quest for Diversity after Grutter."** UB Law School. John Lord O'Brian Hall, Room 106. Reception to follow 5:30-- 6:30 pm.
- Mar. 11, Thu. 7:00 pm. **Dr. David Ho**, Director, Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center. "China Challenged by AIDS and SARS." University of Rochester Medical Center, Arthur Kornberg Medical Research Building.
- Mar. 26, Fri. 12:00 pm. *Asia at Noon*. **Lee Luo-jung**, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York. "On the March 20 Presidential Election in Taiwan." Park 280.

April

- Apr. 9, Fri. 12:00 pm. *Asia at Noon*. **Khenpo Sherab Ozer**, Tibetan Buddhist teacher. "Shantideva's Guide to the Bodhisattva's Way of Life." Park 280.
- Apr. 23, Fri. 12:00 pm. *Asia at Noon*. **Jeongsub Nam**, Ph.D. candidate in English at UB. "Moving beyond Hollywood: American Popular Images of Korea." Park 280.

June

- Jun. 4-5, Fri.- Sat. **Locating Law in Buddhist Societies**. A workshop organized by David Engel, UB Law, and Rebecca French, UB Law.
[Http://www.law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter](http://www.law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter)



Asian Studies Notes

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CAMPUS

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Zhen Li, *Editor*

New York Conference on Asian Studies

(NYCAS)

announces

The Marleigh Grayer Ryan Student Prize 2004 Competition

The **New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS)** encourages the development of the skills of scholarly writing by awarding annual prizes for excellent student papers dealing with Asia. Two such prizes are awarded each year, one to an undergraduate student and one to a graduate student. Runners-up are named in each category.

The prizes honor the outstanding service of **Dr. Marleigh Grayer Ryan**, former Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Professor of Japanese Literature, and Coordinator of Asian Studies at SUNY New Paltz; and longtime Executive Secretary of NYCAS.

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate students at a college or university in New York State

Field: East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Asia in diaspora, and Asian American studies

Awards: Each winner will receive a \$100 prize, up to \$100 reimbursement for travel and expenses to attend the NYCAS 04 Annual Meeting at the Bard College, October 29-30, 2004; waiver of registration fee and cost of conference meals at the NYCAS meeting.

The prizes will be presented at the Annual Meeting banquet. The winning papers will be published on the NYCAS website and considered for presentation in a panel at the NYCAS meeting.

Format of papers: Papers should include a cover page giving the title of the paper, the student's name, category, institution, and summer contact information (mailing address and e-mail).

Submission of papers: *A student may submit only one entry.* Papers may be submitted by the student author or by a faculty member acting on behalf of a student. A faculty member may not provide any evaluative comments at the time of nomination.

- *Papers should be submitted by e: attachment only*
- Undergraduate papers are limited to 40 pages
- Graduate papers are limited to 60 pages
- A submitted papers should stand alone and not be a segment of a larger work, such as a Senior Thesis, Masters' Thesis, or Doctoral Dissertation

Entries are due no later than June 1, 2004 *Winners will be announced by August 1.*

Submit papers to:

Ryan Prize Committee
The Asian Studies Program, SUNY at Buffalo
E-mail: asian-studies@buffalo.edu

University at Buffalo
Japanese *noh* residency
January 26—February 2, 2004



Master Class students with *noh* actors Hatta and Fukano and interpreter Dr. Takako Michii



Student Stephen Stocking in *koken* [actors' assistant] role in *Aoi no Ue*



Actor Hatta; Asian Studies Director Thomas Burkman; Saul Elkin (Chair), Gary Casarella, and Molly Casarella from Theatre and Dance



Student Alecia Light dons *noh* robe with actors Hatta Tatsuya and Fukano Shinjiro



Actor Hatta hams it up with Theatre and Dance students