Awards and Grants (2004-2005)

2004-2005 Faculty Development Grants

Faculty at CSUN with an interest in China have an opportunity to obtain initial seed money from the China Institute to start a project or study in their discipline that advances the field of China Studies. Since the funds are limited and the purpose is to stimulate larger and longer range projects, how this might be accomplished is important. In this vein incremental support of existing projects will not be supported. There will be up to two grants of $1000 each.

Applicants should submit a written proposal of no more than three double-spaced pages. It should cover the nature and purpose of their project, how they intend to carry it out, how it may help CSUN students or our collaborative relationship with Chinese institutions, and how the funds will be spent. Additionally, a one page resume highlighting relevant experiences must be included. A word file containing the proposal and resume must be submitted to the China Institute Director, Dr. Justine Su, via e-mail: zsu@csun.edu by February 14, 2004. A four person review committee will make recommendations to the China Institute Director. Decisions on awards will be announced March 14, 2004. Grant recipients are expected to provide written reports on their grant activities to the China Institute by June 30, 2005. Faculty interested in further information regarding these grants may contact the China Institute at 677-2138 or e-mail Dr. Justine Su at zsu@csun.edu.

China Institute Outstanding Contribution Award

- 1997 – Dr. Liangkang Lu
- 1998 – Dr. I-Shou Wang
- 1999 – Dr. Paul Chow and Dr. Tung-Po Lin
- 2000 – Dr. Mack Johnson
- 2001 – E Xuewen, Dr. Harold Giedt, and Dr. Elliot Mininberg
- 2002 – Angela Lew, and Dr. Yvonne Chan
- 2003 – Dr. Ellen McFadden, Dr. Lou Rubino
- 2004 – Dr. Kwang-nan Chow

China Scholarship Council Award Recipients

- 1999 – Angus McNelis (in film studies), has been studying at Beijing Film Academy
- 2000 - Bernard Forster (in education), studied at Shanghai Normal University
- 2001 - James Lo (in film studies), studied at Beijing Film Academy
- 2001 - Oliver May (in music), studied at Nanjing Normal University
- 2002 – Jennifer May (in music), studied at Nanjing Normal University
- 2002 – John Greer (in English), studied at Sichuan University
- 2003 - Songkrant Sanlimsuwan (in film studies), has been studying at Peking University

Undergraduate and graduate students in all fields of study are invited to apply for up to two awards from the China Scholarship Council to support a full year of study in any selected subject matter in a selected institution of higher learning in China. One competition will be held for the entire academic year. This competition will support applications for study for the 2004-2005 academic year. The scholarship will cover all tuition and living expenses for the awardees and supplemental grants from the Mininberg Memorial Award will assist in travel expenses.

Seven CSUN students have used these awards to travel to and study in institutions in China in order to further their understanding of the Chinese culture, language and traditions as well as their knowledge in a specialized area. This is the fifth year that students from CSUN have received such grants and past students have studied at the Beijing Film Academy, Shanghai Teachers University, Nanjing Normal University, Beijing Central Academy of Fine Arts, Sichuan University, and Peking University.

Applicants should submit a written proposal of no more than three double-spaced pages, outlining the following: purposes and rationale for the proposed study, intended outcomes or achievements and their significance to CSUN’s China exchange programs, and description of previous knowledge in Chinese language and culture. A single page resume of education and relevant experience should also be included. After a preliminary review, selected candidates will also need to complete special application forms from the China Scholarship Council. A word file containing the application proposal and resume must be submitted to the China Institute Director, Dr. Justine Su via e-mail: zsu@csun.edu no later than February 14, 2004. A four person review committee will review all applications and make recommendations to the China Institute Director and Executive Committee. Selected applicants will then be forwarded to the China Scholarship Council for further review. Final decisions on awards will be announced by May 16, 2004.

Upon their return from China, awardees will be expected to make a formal presentation to the campus on their experiences in China as part of the China Institute Lecture Series. Awardees will also provide written reports on their activities in China to the China Institute by November, 2005. Applicants are encouraged to seek general information and guidelines related to this competition from the China Institute (ext. 2138 or e-mail: zsu@csun.edu).

China Institute Website: Peter Liu has continued to maintain and update the website for the China Institute, which has over 200 mb., capable of containing a lot of information. It is linked to CSUN website, and to a database so that in the future, new members can sign up on line. The purpose is to create a dynamic site so that it’s accessible to everyone and provides information about China Institute’s past and current activities. A new information database/handbook for visiting scholars will be added to our website in the coming year. Our website address is www.csunchinaoinstitute.org and our E-mail address is contact@csunchinaoinstitute.org.
2003 Activities of the Center for China Finance and Business Research

By Dr. Chao Chen, CCFBR

• Dr. Chao Chen and Dr. Zhong-guo Zhou presented their co-authored paper “The Rise and Fall of Chinese Government Bond Futures Market” at Financial Management Association Annual Conference in Denver in October 2003 and Australian Finance Association Annual Conference in Sydney in December 2003.

• Dr. Chao Chen and Wenbin Chen presented their paper, The Fundamentals and Dynamics Chinese IPOs, at the second International Conference in Empirical Accounting in Chongqing in December 2003.

• CCFBR hosted a seminar at CCFBR seminar series in October 2003. The invited speakers are: Dr. George Lihui Tian of Peking University presented “Chinese Stock Markets and Newly Emerged Billionaires” and Dr. Fuguang Huang of Nankai University presented “A New Approach to Investing in China: Acquisition of Publicly Listed Companies”.

• Mr. Gavin Ni, Founder and CEO of zero2ipo.com Ltd. In Beijing presented “The Opportunities & Challenges for China Venture Capital Firms and Start-up Companies” at CCFBR seminar series in September 2003.

• CCFBR and China Institute hosted a China Business Workshop at CSUN on MAY 10, 2003. The speakers including: Dr. Michael Fronmueller, former Dean of College of Business and Economics, CSUN, Dr. Alex Pan, International Tax Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, Mr. Andrew Pan, Chinese Government Trade Representative, Dr. Cedric Chou, Principal, Corporate Strategists, Ms. Debbie Chan, International Tax Manager, PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP.

• Dr. Minfang Li presented, Diversification Benefits of Chinese Listed Firms, at CCFBR seminar series in April 2003.


1. David Ackerman, Business and Economics
2. Jack Alanen, Computer Science
3. Peter Bellin, Health Sciences
4. Ali Behnezhad, Business and Economics
5. Spero Bowman, Associate Vice President, Academic Resources
6. Bonita Campbell, Chair, Manufacturing Systems Engineering & Management
7. Warren Campbell, Co-Director, MPA Program, College of Extended Learning
8. Larry Caretto, Computer Science and Engineering
10. Chao Chen, Business and Economics
11. Xueming Chen, Urban Planning
12. Miriam Cotler, Health Sciences
13. Paul Chow, Physics
14. Rafi Efrat, Business and Economics
15. Bonnie Faherty, Health Sciences
16. Phil Gorman, Business and Economics
17. Robert Gustafson, Director of Institute of Entertainment Industry
18. Owen Seiver, Health Sciences
19. Nick Kioussis, Physics
21. Sharon Klein, English as a Second Language
22. Paul Krivonos, Communication Studies
23. Christopher Leu, Co-Director, MPA Program, College of Extended Learning
24. Angela Lew, Oviatt Library
25. Mingfang Li, Business and Economics
26. Ellen McFadden, Health Sciences
27. Elliot Mininberg, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
28. Christa Metzger, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
29. Steve Montgomery, Director of Human Resources
30. Louis Rubino, Health Sciences
31. Martin Saiz, Business and Economics
32. Kurt Sanders, Business Law
33. Stephanie Satie, ESL, College of Extended Learning
34. Justine Su, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
35. Jim Sullivan, Special Education
36. Yifei Sun, Geography
37. Ana Tripp, ESL, College of Extended Learning
38. Jeff Y. Zhang, Business and Economics

Chinese Education Delegations to CSUN

CSUN Scholars and Students’ Visits to China

1 Mang Daqing, Chinese National Ministry of Internal Trade
2 Yan Xiaoming, Beijing University of Language and Cultural Studies
3 Liu Wentao, Engineer and computer scientist
4 David Geng Zhang, Shenzhen YiLai Corporation
5 Lan Bing, Shenzhen YuXing Industrial Co., Ltd., Shen Zhen
6 Zhang Hua, Guangxi Chemical Import and Export Company
7 Michelle Lanlan Jia, Foreign Affairs Office, Guangzhou Municipal Government
8 Luo Jie, Guangdong Provincial TV Station
9 Sun Yuhong, Guangzhou Yangcheng Evening News
10 Li Chong, Dean, School of Economics, Beijing Normal University
11 Xu Haodong, International Exchange Division, East China Univ. of S & T
12 Jiang Wei-hao, International Exchange Division, East China Univ. of S & T
13 Chen Guanzhan, Vice Division Director, General Office of Guangzhou Gov.
14 Chen Guoying, General Secretary, Youth League Committee of Guangzhou Bonded Zone
15 Chen Yunze, Vice Division Director, Guangzhou Economic Commission
16 Huang Qian, Vice Division Director, Guangzhou Judicial Bureau
4 Dr. Chao Chen (in finance) visited China and lectured at Qinghua University in Beijing, summer, 2003.
5 Dr. Louis Rubino (in health sciences) visited Guangzhou and lectured on health administration. He also received honorary professorship at Zhongshan University, and explored student visit programs with Guangzhou Medical College, fall, 2003.
6 Dr. Chao Chen (in finance) visited China to attend the International Conference in Empirical Accounting in Chongqing, winter, 2003.
7 Professor Mingfang Li (in management) traveled to China in December 2003 with the funding support of the National Science Foundation, to work on several research projects with scholars in Beijing and Zhejiang.
8 Dr. Rie Mitchell (in educational psychology and counseling) and Dr. Rex Mitchell (in management) visited Guangzhou and Shanghai, lectured at our sister universities South China Normal University and Shanghai Normal University.

Chinese Visiting Scholars/Students to CSUN (2003)

17 Li Dejun, Manager, Guangzhou Foreign Economic Development Co., Ltd
18 Liao Jiayang, Director, Construction Projects, Baiyun District
19 Lin Ling, Director, Tianhe District Health Bureau
20 Liu Fanyi, Vice President, Guangzhou College Of Villages and Towns Public Administrators
21 Liu Feng, Vice Office Head, General Office of Haizhu District Government
22 Liu Honghui, Librarian Director, Guangzhou Children’s Library
23 Shi Li, Division Director, Economic Development Bureau of Guangzhou Bonded Zone
24 Pan Jianguo, General Manager, Baoshenyuan Company
25 Peng Beiping, Vice Division Director, Guangzhou Intermediate People’s Court
26 Peng Gaofeng, Division Director, Guangzhou Urban Planning Bureau
27 Peng Peng, Division Director, Guangzhou Social Sciences Institute
28 Wu Qize, Division Director, Guangzhou Information Center
29 Xian Qiaoling, Division Director, Guangzhou University
30 Zeng Xiaoyuan, Guangzhou Radio Station
31 Zhang, Hu, Vice Director, Guangzhou Water Conservancy Bureau
32 Zhang Shi, Division Director, Guangzhou Science and Technology Bureau
33 Zhou Xian, Guangzhou Daily
34 Sun, Xingwen, Yuannan Normal University
35 Yan Luo, Chinese Academy of Sciences
36 Lucy Xi Liao, Xiamen Productivity Promotion Center
37 He Yanming, Xi’an Jiaotong University
38 He Guoshen, Dean, Liaoning University
39 Ye Dongqing, Jiangsu Provincial Government
40 Yu Xiaoxia, Bank of China, Shengzhen Branch
41 Wen Yangqin, China International Corporation Cooperation Inc.
42 Li Haiyang, Shenzhen Jifutai Industrial Co. Ltd.
43 Maggie Weng, Guangzhou Medical College
44 Huang Fuguang, Nankai University
45 Shuming Zhao, Dean, School of Management, Nanjing University
46 Chong Li, Dean, School of Economics, Beijing Normal University
47 Qingrui XU, Chair, Zhejiang University
48 Chen Wenbin, Qinghua University
49 Li Shipei, Shanghai Normal University
50 Chen Jianhua, Shanghai Normal University
51 Yuan Jun, Shanghai Normal University
52 Susan Shi, South China Normal University
“True American Spirit” Will not Be Forgotten
BY LI SHIPING, YUAN JUN AND CHEN JIAN HUA, VISITING SCHOLARS FROM SHANGHAI NORMAL UNIVERSITY (2003-2004)

The China institute has done tremendous jobs in promoting bilateral academic exchanges between US and China, and also has made it possible for senior administrators and faculty in Shanghai Normal University (SNU) to come to CSUN for professional development. As the first three visiting scholar from SNU, we have got a lot of help from people at CSUN and in the local community, we really have experienced “True American Spirit” during our half year stay here.

Among all of the kind and thoughtful American people, Professor Elliot Minniberg and Prof. Justine Su played very important and active roles, as they served as our major faculty mentors and organized many interesting and meaningful activities for us. We also greatly appreciate the guidance from Mr. Stephen H. Montgomery, director of Human resources in CSUN. He generously shared his broad knowledge and rich experiences in the field of personnel management with us, and his thoughts will significantly influence the reform of personnel management in our university.

We also received much help from Dr. Christa Metzger, Dr. Robert Kladifko, and Dr. Rick Castallo from the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Christa introduced us to a typical American church, helped us experience the Christian culture, and took us to several beautiful scenery spots so that we could enjoy the beauty of American nature. Dr. Kladifko arranged for us to visit different American schools, where we made observations and explored comparative studies. Dr. Castallo took us to the Warner Brothers Studio, where we saw the making of "I'm with you," a fascinating TV program.

In addition, we made many friends with the kind people in the community. Shari and Jay Rameson, and Jan and David Kolstad conducted conversation classes for us in their homes, which helped us practice and improve our oral English. They also hosted many parties and gatherings for us and other Chinese students and scholars. All of these wonderful experiences have given us a different perspective on America, on China, and on people in different parts of the world.

We will never forget this special experience.

A Dream Realized
BY KATHY MINTZ., MICHAEL D. EISNER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

It started out as a discussion of what we would do during my winter vacation from teaching. It included an e-mail message to Dr. Justine Su from whom I had taken a research course at California State University at Northridge (CSUN). It continued with meetings and discussions with professors from Shanghai Normal University whom she was hosting at CSUN, which developed into a six week tour of China’s schools including a two week stay at Shanghai Normal University. I could not have dreamed that our trip to China would include visiting thirteen Primary, Secondary, and High Schools in Beijing, Chengdu, and Shanghai...meeting students at the famous “English Corner” at Shanghai Normal...attending welcoming activities for incoming students...visiting other university campuses in Shanghai and Feng Xian...lecturing to undergraduate and graduate students about education in California and about our understandings of early childhood brain development... going about Shanghai with graduate students...learning about them, their studies, and their city.

It was a rich and rewarding experience! We discovered China in ways that would never have been possible if we had been traveling on our own! Thanks to Dr. Su and the generosity of those at Shanghai Normal University, particularly Ms. Hua Hua, Director of the International Exchange Division, my husband and I were given some valuable insights into China’s educational system.

Staying at the University Guest House afforded an opportunity to see students bustling in the cold morning air to get to class, backpacks and cell phones in tow. Also, it gave us an opportunity to see where they lived and what they do in their free time. I was reminded of my own undergraduate years at Michigan State University—minus the cell phones, of course.

As an educator, I was fascinated to learn more about the educational system in this vast country. Our observations of classrooms in Chengdu, Shanghai, and Beijing, resulted in some changes to my own way of working in my classroom. I have since turned down the heat in my own classroom back in California because I observed in China that students appeared more alert in a cooler classroom. Also, I have begun sharing my experiences with the students I teach and their constant flow of questions encourages me to inform their minds and peak their interest in learning about the world around them by sharing what I learned in China.

This is not something in which I, alone, have gained new knowledge. Every person with whom I have shared this trip is enriched as well. I want to thank all the people whose generosity made our six weeks in China turn a dream into a reality. This trip has begun a continuing dialogue, informing and broadening understandings for those who have the opportunity to hear about all we learned in this rapidly changing country.
From an Old Friend in Beijing

By Zong Gang, China Education Association for International Exchange

I worked at the Foreign Investment and Loan Office, State Education Commission, from 1989 to 1997. During that time I was in charge of the Technical Assistance Program of the Chinese World Bank Education Projects, including the Teachers Training Project, which the China Institute, gave us great support, by providing consultant services (arrange for American scholars to give lectures in China) and special training programs for Chinese teachers. With TA contract approved by the World Bank, many Chinese teachers received training at CSUN from half a year to one year. I also visited CSUN and worked very closely with the China Institute professors on these training projects.

In August, 1997, with the support of the World Bank Scholarship, I went to Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies for the Master Degree Program. In May, 1999, I received my MES from Yale (Master of Environment Studies) then working as an intern at the Yale University for one environmental project. At the end of 2000, I came back to Beijing. In Feb of 2001, I assisted the China’s Publishing House of Electronic Industry to import two series of textbooks from overseas, one was “the Overseas Computer Science Textbook Series,” and the other was “the Overseas Communication and Electronics Textbooks Series” with IDG, Prentice Hall, McGraw-Hill, etc. After that, I was appointed as the Vice President of Higher Education Electronics and Media Press, and the Vice General Manager of United Learning Software Technology Company, Ltd. In 2000, I was appointed as the deputy director of the Academic & Information Exchange Dept of China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE), which signed an MOU with CSUN in Oct. 2002. More details about the CEAIE can be found at www.ceaie.org or www.ceaie.edu.cn. I look forward to working closely with my friends at CSUN to develop more and better academic exchange programs between China and the U.S.

Greetings from Nanjing

By Dongqing Ye, Former Visiting Scholar at CSUN from Nanjing

I was very happy to be a visiting scholar at CSUN in the 2002-03 academic year. After finishing my studies there in August 2003, I came back to my home city in China—Nanjing. It was once the Capital of China in history, and now it is a beautiful city along the Yangzhi River, about 300 miles west of Shanghai.

My learning experiences at CSUN, especially the improvement of my English, have been very helpful to my job now. I am working in the Consultative Center of Urban Planning, which is a technical unit of Jiangsu Provincial Construction Department. We have many opportunities here to exchange ideas and plans with the experts and associations in urban planning from all over the world, such as APA in the USA. English proficiency and knowledge of urban planning in western countries is very important for my job. I greatly benefited from my one-year study at CSUN, especially from the various visitation activities and tours organized by the China Institute in the L.A. metropolitan area. I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all of my friends and professors at CSUN and in Northridge.

Missing CSUN from Guangzhou Museum

By Cheng Chunjie, Former Visiting Scholar at CSUN from Guangzhou

I am Charles Chunjie Cheng, a former visiting scholar at CSUN from Feb. of 1999 to Feb. 2000. Since I came back to China, I have been promoted to the position of Director of Guangzhou Museum. Last year, I was also promoted to the rank of professor in Chinese history and art. I enjoy doing research on hard subjects and I write many scholarly papers and books. One of my books, “On the Cities of Tang Dynasty,” was published by Zhong Hua Press, Beijing, China in 2003. Another book, “Views From the West—Collection of Nineteenth Century Pith Paper Watercolours Donated By Mr Ifan Williams to the City Of Guangzhou,” was edited by me and also published by Zhong Hua Press, Beijing, China in 2003. The third book, “Protecting the Cultural Relics of Guangzhou during the Five Years,” was published by the Guangzhou Press, China in 2003. In addition to doing research and writing in China, I visited UK in 2000 and Europe in 2001 as a museum researcher. I am still missing CUSN and would like to visit CSUN again in the near future because it is a wonderful university with many friends.
Good News from Guangzhou

BY DR. DONGHAI WEI, FORMER VISITING SCHOLAR FROM GUANGZHOU

In 2001, I was a visiting scholar from Guangzhou studying at CSUN through the leadership training program offered by the China Institute. Today I am a Professor, Director of the President’s Office of Guangzhou Medical College, Vice Director of the College’s Research Institute as well as Director of the College’s Computer Center. These responsibilities have not stopped me from participating in activities sponsored by the China Institute even though I am half a world away. I have continued to collaborate with my former CSUN mentor, Dr. Louis Rubino, Assistant Professor in the Health Sciences Department. Together we have published over ten articles in China, coordinated training programs for proprietary hospital administrators in China, and established a sister university relationship between my college and CSUN. All of these activities were partially supported by a grant awarded by the China Institute. This summer, Dr. Rubino will coordinate a visit of CSUN students to China for studying our health care facilities.

Dr. Rubino and I have been invited to speak many times in China to groups of hospital administrators and health system executives. Some of the cities where they have made presentations are Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Harbin, Wuxi, Dalian, and Shanghai. We also have a monthly column in the brand new journal, China Healthcare Industry. Last year, we were both appointed as visiting professors at Zhongshan University and we will conduct a course in their Executive MBA program this Spring. In addition, I have also been invited to the United States, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong for lecturing and touring hospitals.

Independently, I have published another ten articles and five books since I returned home from the United States. The books are entitled “Performance and Policy: The Relationship among the Operation Model, Government Policy and the Performance of Chinese Public Hospitals during the Economic Transition” (published in 2001); “Credibility: Hospital Ethics” (published in 2004), “The Brave Warrior: The Biography of Dr. Zhong Nanshan” (published in 2003 and is a popular book in mainland China having been serialized in 30 provincial newspapers and in People’s Daily abroad edition); and “Dr. Zhong Nanshan: Youth Forever” (published in 2003 and profiles this leading scientist in the treatment for SARS in China, who is also considered an international hero).
My Adventures in China

BY JENNIFER LEW, WINNER OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP (2002-2003)

Well, I’m back…and I can’t say I’m not glad to be back in the good old U.S.A. But I do miss China and maybe in a few years I’ll be ready for some more. It’s never dull there. Things that are mundane here, like crossing the street and ordering at restaurants, was always an adventure there. And as much as I enjoy the comforts and stability of home, there’s something to be said of never quite knowing what you’re going to get. Variety is the spice of life, they say…and there’s plenty of it in China. Sometimes I miss the anticipation/apprehension that comes with having no idea of what you ordered or what the waitress said when you asked her whether it was good or not.

A Visit to Shao-lin Temple

BY “MICKEY” SONGKRANT SANUMSUWAN FROM PEKING UNIVERSITY, WINNER OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP (2003-2004)

My second year in China is certainly more interesting than my first year. My proficiency in Chinese has reached a level where I can engage in more student activities. The more time I spend in China, the more I come to realize how vastly different present-day China is from people’s expectations. A good example of this is my trip to the fable Shao-lin Temple.

Shao-lin Temple is located in the province of Luoyang, a good 10 hour train ride. I have ridden on a Chinese train before and so my experience on a Chinese train was not so surprising. What was surprising was Shao-lin Temple itself. The road and traffic to get there was horrendous. But, I figured that it was a test to see who truly aspired to see the legendary Shao-lin Temple. The van that I took, citing road conditions, dropped us one mile away from the temple. Again, I figured it was a test. We finally arrived at Shao-lin Temple in the late morning and…all was quiet. There were no hordes of monks displaying strikingly impressive kung fu. The ambience was filled, not with perspiration of monks devoted to physical perfection, but from the perspiration of the caravan of tourists. I was stupefied. My vision of Shao-lin slowly disintegrated and all that remains was a tranquil temple teeming with wide-eyed tourists. I looked at them and saw a change in their expression that was not quite so different from mine. A bit of disappointment and a bit of sadness. Shao-lin Temple illustrated the many facets of changing China, which is progressing far beyond people’s expectations. With China, you truly can’t expect anything.
“Thank You, Shanghai”

BY BERNARD FORSTER, WINNER OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP (2000-2001)

My scholarship to China continues to pay dividends as we enter 2004. I’ll be returning for my 4th trip in April for a 2-3 month stay. I’ll hope to be traveling most of that time by flying on a one-way ticket into Hong Kong and staying in different key cities for a week at a time. This year, I hope to fulfill my original plan to travel on the Trans-Siberian Railroad from Beijing to Moscow to Berlin retracing the route taken by Jews escaping the Holocaust in the late 1930s, which was the subject of my research project in Shanghai on the Chinese government scholarship.

In 2003, I presented a “Thank You Shanghai” plaque to the Ohel Moishe Synagogue/Museum in Hongkou, Shanghai, thanking the people and the city for being a refuge for those escaping the Holocaust so many years ago and now for being the host city for CSUN students such as myself. The following is an excerpt of my speech at the ceremony:

“Thank you, Shanghai Jewish Refugees Memorial, for hosting today’s presentation. Thank you to the Consulate General of Canada in Shanghai for being here and to Shanghai Teachers University for joining us. Today’s presentation is all about Thank- yous. It is about heart-felt appreciation to the City of Shanghai and the people of Shanghai past and present. A lesser-known chapter of history is the flight of up to 30,000 Jews to Shanghai trying to escape the European Holocaust. Years ago, during otherwise ordinary dinnertime conversation, I learned that my parents-in-law, Ernest & Hilda Kanturek, and their daughter Eva had escaped to Shanghai from Czechoslovakia. And so began my own personal educational odyssey about “Jews in Shanghai”. More than 60 years after they arrived here in Hongkou, I had the opportunity to re-trace their steps and learn more about the difficult, yet fascinating life they shared here in Shanghai thanks to a scholarship from the China Institute; California State University, Northridge; the China Scholarship Council; the Mildred Z. Minniberg Foundation and the University that gave me a home, as well as academic and moral support – Shanghai Teachers University. I got to spend an academic year researching and learning about “Jews in Shanghai” from world-renown experts such as Pan Guang, who spent their lives documenting this story and creating the database for scholars to learn from.

The plaque being presented today is a token of appreciation to Shanghai – the city that basically saved the Kantureks’ life. This is a city that opened its doors while most of the rest of the world closed theirs. In the year I spent in Shanghai, I would often walk around the area around this building and it wasn’t long before my interpreter or Mr. Wang and I would be surrounded by dozens of curious people from the neighborhood – many of who had first-hand accounts of life with “laowai” like the Kantureks. This plaque says “thank you” to the Hongkounese for opening their homes, for sharing their lives, their know-how, and their hospitality. Above all, thank you for offering friendship in a war-torn world where prejudice and exclusionary policies reigned.

Shanghai was liberated in 1945 and within a few years, just about all the Jews, including the Kantureks, left China to find new homes yet again. The Kantureks eventually found their way to Canada. Thank you Canada for giving the Kantureks a home to start their lives all over again. Their family soon included three daughters. Ernest and Hilda worked hard and lived long and prosperous lives in Montreal – one of the cities that eventually became Shanghai’s sister city.

So here we are today in what was the spiritual center of the Jewish Ghetto. Today’s presentation includes two framed Judaic scripture verses that came from the Kanturek estate. Permanently exhibited here along with the plaque, the verses can now inspire visitors to this Memorial. Thanks to the efforts of the Hongkew district, the City of Shanghai and the Chinese government; history is being preserved by adapting this beautiful former synagogue to become the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Memorial. Just outside this building, history is on display all over the neighborhood for people from all over the world to learn about this important chapter of human experience.

This plaque says “Thank you”. For so many reasons. On behalf of so many people. For so many acts of compassion. For so many acts of consideration. For “doing the right thing” so many years ago, for “doing the right thing” now with this Memorial, and for helping future generations understand the importance of always “doing the right thing”… — “Thank you Shanghai!”
Looking Back: 2003 in Beijing

BY ANGUS E. MCBELIS, WINNER OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP (1999-2000)

When you try to describe the things that have taken place over a year's time, do you begin with the minutiae or attempt to take in the meaning of events on a much larger scale? Do you start with the good news, or face reality first? SARS was undeniably a cataclysm for China and the world in 2003. And Beijing was struck particularly hard by it. Seeing life through the frame of a white medical mask and glasses fogged by the heavy breathing caused by wearing one in summer-like heat is an uncommon experience all-too-common in Beijing this past spring. So for me, my life there (and probably my whole life) is demarcated by this, as with 9.11, into pre- and post-. But you move on... The fascinating revelations that come with getting to know a (difficult) language (Mandarin, of course! How'd you guess?!) in greater and greater depth. Dialogs overheard: a young man on a bus who forgets to carry enough with him to cover the fare is rescued by a stranger, a young woman of unusual kindness who just hands it to him unasked. Conversations I've had in cafés and bars with budding Chinese filmmakers, artists, and entrepreneurs - a young woman apprenticing under the internationally acclaimed Chinese director Zhang Yimou: “I want to create entertaining new films that have their roots in Chinese history and culture and not get swept up in the craze to copy everything Hollywood!”

In the post-SARS summer-fall period, there was a sense in Beijing of going for it - more people signing up for English classes, a lot of new cars on the street with the Chinese characters “new hand” handwritten sign taped on the rear window which means “inexperienced driver at the wheel”. And people working, doing business, going to restaurants, getting out, at all hours... Making up for lost time? Perhaps. With the clock running out on 2003, I found myself pushing hard on a new project, an American film festival in China next year that further strives to take Chinese films on the road to the U.S. A bit of cultural exchange mixed with commercial promotion. Hey, any sponsors out there listening? Call me - we need to talk!

So 2004 should be another wild, interesting ride for me in Beijing. The new faces and voices emerging from the amorphous unknown of a strange big city become my town. (Angus E. McNelis was the China Institute/CSUN Visiting Scholar in the Directing Department of the Beijing Film Academy, 1999-2000, under the tutelage of renowned Chinese Fourth Generation director Xie Fei. In 2001 McNelis directed and produced a documentary on emerging Chinese filmmakers titled “Shades of Gray” and in 2002 organized the ground-breaking U.S.-China event Slamdance Film Festival on the Road in China at the Central Academy of Drama in Beijing, with the joint sponsorship of the academy and the U.S. Embassy.)

Living in China as a “Perfectly Normal Experience”

BY OLIVER MAY, WINNER OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP (2001-2002)

Living in China has become more and more ‘normal’ since I started living here in 2001, especially since last year. I took a trip back to L.A. in September and October last year to see my family and friends (and to finally graduate). Whenever the subject of me living in China came up, the response was always, “Wow, that must be so exciting!” Actually, it was exciting for about the first year or so, but now it feels just as normal as any other part of my life. I still work, pay the rent and the bills, and sit in traffic on the way to work, only it’s all happening in China. Perhaps having the feeling that living in China is a perfectly normal experience is a sign that I’ve become adjusted to the culture here, to some extent or another.

After having many part-time or temporary jobs in Nanjing, I finally found one worth holding on to. I now work full-time for English First, an international franchise school that teaches English as a foreign language. EF accepts students of all ages, of any level of English. Before I started working at EF, I considered myself to be an experienced EFL teacher. After being humbled by so many really gifted and talented teachers who are now my colleagues, I once again realized that I have nothing to flaunt. Modesty is always best. Even though China continues to be in serious need of good teachers, it’s comforting to know that at least a good hand-full of them are here already, enjoying their work and realizing the importance of their contribution to China’s education.

Although I plan to permanently return to the US with my fiancée next summer, I hope that I will never take for granted the time that I’ve spent here, and that I will always value the experiences of living abroad in such a different culture.
Lecture Series

• “Introduction to Chinese Calendar,” by Prof. Paul Lee, Department of Astronomy and Physics, spring, 2003.
• “Guangzhou Leadership Training Program Comparative Studies Forum,” all scholars from the Guangzhou Leadership Training Program, spring, 2003.
• “Educational Reform and Development in Shanghai, China,” by Professors Shiping Li, Jianhua Chen and Jun Yuan, visiting scholars at CSUN from Shanghai Normal University, fall 2003.

Summer Student Movie Preview

By Kwang-nan Chow, The China Institute

“Sweet and Sour” was filmed mainly in the San Fernando Valley with an all Asian cast in English language. This movie depicts the lives of three girls. Being best friends of one another and graduating from high school, they each led to a very different destiny. As young women from immigrant families, they all learn to face generation gap and societal racism, in addition to the traditional family expectations, in order to triumph.

Ms. Huy Chheng, a talented CSUN student pursuing a double major in Asian American Studies and Sociology, is both the producer and the director, who also handles the screenplay. Being interested in filming early on, Chheng has accumulated quite some experience in movie making. Because Asians have had very limited roles in Hollywood, Chheng was determined to write this movie script for an entire Asian cast. She plans to submit this film to various Independent Film Festivals.

For its campus movie preview in the evening of June 21, 2003, China Institute was a co-sponsor to this standing-room only gala event. Audience’s approval of the tremendously refreshing movie was obvious. Ms. Chheng hosted an enthusiastic question-answer session afterwards. China Institute encouraged her, and promised help, to seek an internship in the booming Chinese movie industry.


1. Clayton Koening
2. Connie Cafiero
3. Simin Bahmanyar
4. Adler Chan
5. Carina Yuen
6. Brett Williams
7. Erin Downs
8. Lindsay Simpson

Art, Music, and Entertainment

• Chinese New Year Celebration Party for Scholars and Faculty Mentors, Jan., 2003.
• China Tea Hour, co-sponsored with the International Students Office, March, 2003.
• Asia Pacific Heritage Night, May, 2003.
• China Tea Hour, co-sponsored with the International Students Office, November, 2003.
China Institute Faculty Development Grant Awards

Three CSUN faculty members have received the Faculty Development Grants from the China Institute to conduct research studies related to China in the 2002-2003 Academic Year, which has been extended to 2003-04 Academic Year because of SARS concerns during the last academic year. Each has developed a unique plan for his/her study:

Dr. Richard Horowitz,
Department of History:

I’m planning on using the faculty development grant to make a trip to Nanjing, where I will be engaged in research at the Second National historical archives, and consulting with archives staff engaged in cataloging and preserving materials. Along with a group of scholars based in Great Britain, I am part of a larger project which involves the cataloging of a large body of materials in English and Chinese related to the Chinese Maritime Customs service from the 1850s to 1949, and making these materials available to scholars in China and the world, through a computerized catalogue, and publishing several volumes of documents. My own role is focused on assembling, editing and writing a documentary history in collaboration with Dr. Hans van de Ven of Cambridge University, and Dr. Robert Bickers of the University of Bristol.

This provides an important historical context for China’s economic development and growing integration into the international economy and global society. "This provides an important historical context for China’s economic development and growing integration into the international economy and global society." -- Dr. Richard Horowitz

Dr. Christa Metzger, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies:

I am honored to receive the China Institute Faculty Develop Award. I plan to use the grant for a comparative research study on a topic of great interest to me. I have just completed a national study of large urban school district superintendents and deans of colleges of education here, which has been published in the education research journal. I would like to replicate this study in China, in the city of Guangzhou, with the collaboration of the Chinese scholars that I have mentored here in the past few years. The study will explore how Chinese administrators and educational leaders cope with stress and other emotional issues in their lives. I shall compare my findings to those found in the U.S. and make recommendations for improving the conditions of work for educational administrators both in the U.S. and China. I believe the results will benefit educational leaders and educational change in both countries.

Dr. Xueming (Jimmy) Chen,
Department of Urban Studies and Planning:

My research Plan is entitled “Urban Planning Management System Under A Market Economy: A Comparative Study of the U.S. and China.” I intend to use Los Angeles and Guangzhou as empirical cases to explore key issues related to the establishment of urban planning management system under a market economy. The results of this study would shed light on the similarities and differences between the U.S. and the Chinese urban planning practices and management systems, thus benefiting the CSUN China studies in this important area.

This research project includes the following steps: 1) literature review; 2) data collection; 3) report preparation; and 4) final presentation and potential publication. While most of the research work will be conducted in Los Angeles, an international travel to Guangzhou will be made to collect more recent planning data and the first-hand planning literatures. The entire research project will be completed prior to June 30, 2004, probably lasting for 6 months after being kicked off. With this seed grant provided by the CSUN China Institute, upon the successful completion of this research project, a larger and long-term extramural research grant may be secured from the City of Guangzhou to further strengthen the CSUN-Guangzhou ties in urban studies and planning researches.

"The results of this study would shed light on the similarities and differences between the U.S. and the Chinese urban planning practices and management systems..." -- Dr. Xueming Chen
**Chinese Book Donation**

**By Angela Lew and Justine Su, The China Institute**

In the spring of 2003, at a meeting on educational exchange programs between CSUN and China, Dean Philip Rusche of the Michael D. Eisner College of Education asked Mr. Li Yaozheng, Education Consul from the Chinese Consulate General in L.A., to help CSUN gather information and materials on Chinese language and culture, in order to add to CSUN’s vast collection of authentic resources on different cultures. Mr. Li pursued this goal actively with the Chinese National Commission on the Teaching of Chinese in Beijing, which agreed to donate some reference books and instructional materials on Chinese language and culture to CSUN. During the summer of 2003, the China Institute, together with representatives from the local Chinese language schools, selected the books from the Chinese National Commission’s website.

All 882 donated books have arrived at CSUN by the end of 2003. The gift books include reference tools on Chinese language and culture, textbooks and teaching guides on teaching Chinese as a foreign language, classic and contemporary Chinese literature, China history and geography, Chinese art and music, etc. About 75% of the books are in Chinese, 20% in English and the rest bilingual. These books will find their new home in the Oviatt Library, for use by CSUN faculty, students, as well as teachers and students from our local schools.

**Special Projects**

- International Professional Development Academy for educational administrators, in collaboration with educational institutions in Guangzhou, Nanjing, Shanghai and Beijing, from 1997 - 2004.
- Special Training Programs for Health Professionals from Guangzhou and other parts of China, 2000 -2004.

**A Memorable Trip to China**

**By Dr. Louis Rubino, Health Sciences**

Louis Rubino, Ph.D., FACHE, Assistant Professor in the Health Sciences Department, visited southern China in November. This was Dr. Rubino’s third trip to China. During this trip he made a presentation to 325 physicians and public health leaders titled, “Health Systems in the United States,” in Guangzhou at their Center for Disease Control. Two other presentations were delivered to approximately 60 Chinese hospital leaders at the 19th Executive Director Forum about Hospital Business Management in Shenzhen. The titles were, “The Role of the Hospital Management Company in the Development and Business Operation of For Profit Hospitals in the United States,” and “The Evolution of the For Profit Hospitals in the United States.” Locally, Dr. Rubino gave a presentation at California State University, San Bernardino in April 2003 titled, “Tour of China’s Health Care System” based on his trips to China.

While in China, Dr. Rubino also received a two-year appointment as Visiting Professor of Sun Yat-sen School of Business, at Zhongshan University, one of the top-rated universities in China. He plans to go back in April to teach a class in their new Executive MBA program for Healthcare Professionals, the first program of its kind in China. Dr. Rubino was honored by being featured as the cover story in the November 2003 issue of China Health Industry. In the issue was an article about Dr. Rubino, his background and his research on comparative hospital studies. Also included was an article Dr. Rubino co-authored with Dr. Donghai Wei, a former scholar at CSUN, titled “The Evolution of For Profit Hospital Systems in the United States.” Their other articles published in 2003 include, “The Changing Role of Governance for United States Hospitals,” which appeared in the June issue of Chinese Hospitals, and “The Current U.S. Health Industry,” which appeared in the October premiere issue of China Health Industry Press. They also write a monthly column for China Health Industry on current world-wide events of particular interest to health administrators.
Training Guangzhou Medical Professionals

By Drs. Lou Rubino and Ellen McFadden, Health Sciences

The Guangzhou Medical Professional Training program had two of its scheduled visits cancelled in 2003 due to SARS. Fortunately, a group of 16 health care administrators and public health officials were able to come to the CSUN campus in October/November. Faculty from the Health Sciences Department and community health care leaders conducted the training classes. Some of the delegation members were from Guangzhou Maternal and Child Health Hospital so a special site visit to Los Angeles Children's Hospital was arranged. Other site visits included Los Angeles County General Hospital, the HMO HealthNet, the adult day health center ONEgeneration, and Alta Hollywood Community Hospital.

The exchange program is coordinated by Dr. Ellen McFadden, Professor and Director of the RN to BS Nursing program and Dr. Louis Rubino, Assistant Professor in the Health Administration program. They were the co-recipients of the China Institute Outstanding Achievement Award in 2003. This year, Dr. McFadden and Dr. Rubino want to include their students in this well established training program. They are planning to take several of their students on a tour of China’s health care system in June in cooperation with Guangzhou Medical College and Guangzhou Municipal Health Bureau. This is being arranged as a Special Spring Session credit course through the CSUN College of Extended Learning.

New Exchange Programs with Shanghai Theatre Academy

By Heinrich Falk and Bill Taylor, Theatre

On 15 October 2003, a Memorandum of Agreement was signed by President Jolene Koester (CSUN) and President Rong Guangrun (Shanghai Theatre Academy). Featured in the Agreement are faculty and student exchanges, exchanges of theatre productions, and the creation of short-term theatre institutes by each institution for students from the other institution. Following the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement a wide-ranging discussion was held between President Rong, Dean William Toutant (College of Arts, Media, and Communication), and several faculty members from the Department of Theatre. An invitation was extended to the Department of Theatre to participate in the November 2004 Shanghai Experimental Theatre Festival. Another potential opportunity for our two institutions to cooperate is in the preparation of a theatrical project jointly created by the CSUN Department of Theatre and the Shanghai Theatre Academy, to be presented at the 2008 Olympic Arts Festival in Beijing. President Rong agreed to explore this possibility with the Director of the Olympic Arts Festival.

Most recently, Chair James DePaul and members of Northridge’s Theatre Department made a goodwill visit to its sister school, the Shanghai Theatre Academy, following the Asian performance tour of CSUN’s SHIM CH’ONG: a Korean Folk Tale. The picture shows CSUN theatre students Colin Willkie, Bill Honigstein, and Jinsoo Choi atop one of the bridges in Zhouzhuang, a “water town” between Suzhou and Shanghai.

New Exchange Agreements/Memoranda

- Dalian University of Foreign Languages, October, 2003
- Shanghai Theatre Academy, October, 2003
In order to have more time for endeavors other than my work at CSUN, I decided to take an early retirement and went on FERP in September. Thanks to the good contract won through the collective bargaining done by CFA, I really appreciate this great benefit in that I get to enjoy the best of the active employment and the freedom afforded by the retirement.

Accompanied by a good friend fellow volunteer, Sophia Huang, I took an extensive trip to China in July. As much as I love traveling this was not a trip just for pleasure, rather it was a trip with a mission. Fortunately, it was not a mission impossible yet it is one in which the more we accomplish the greater it gets. Representing the funding organization, we went to the southwestern corner of Yunnan, province, mainly to attend the opening ceremonies of two rural public libraries near the border of China and Myanmar.

To give you a bit of the background, in late 1989 three of the founding members of the China Institute, T.P. Lin, Kwang-nan Chow and I formed the Cultural Exchange Committee under the auspices of a not-for-profit community organization, San Fernando Valley Chinese Cultural Association (SFVCCA/CEC). The goal of the Committee was to fortify public libraries in rural china and provide free access to information and cultural enrichment to rural populations which had been and still are underserved. We launched the program ‘Adopting Public Libraries in Rural China’ and established the first free public library at Qiantan, Zhejiang in 1990. Since then SFVCCA/CEC has established/ sponsored 44 small public libraries throughout rural China. (For further information click on the Cultural Exchange Committee link on the home page of http://www.sfvcca.org)

2003 Was a Good Year

BY ANGELA LEW, OVIATT LIBRARY

Research on Innovation and Technology

BY DR. MINGFANG LI, MANAGEMENT

Professor Mingfang Li (Management) traveled to China in December 2003 with the funding support of the National Science Foundation. The primary purpose of the trip was to work on several research papers slated for publication as a special issue in an international journal outlet. Mingfang Li worked with colleagues in Beijing (Tsinghua University) and Zhejiang (Zhejiang University) during this trip. The research papers explored the innovation and technology management issues in Chinese firms and their implications for an integrated global economy.

Seminars on Sandplay Therapy in Guangzhou and Shanghai

BY DR. RIE MITCHELL, MICHAEL D. EISNER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

It was a privilege to be invited by Dr. Goa Lan and Dr. Heyong Shen from South China Normal University to give a three day seminar on Sandplay Therapy in Guangzhou this past December with my colleague Harriet S. Friedman. From China and Taiwan, about 70 enthusiastic students and mental health professionals learned about Sandplay Therapy and experienced making their own Sandplay pictures. The seminar was enhanced by the use of Chinese language overheads thanks to one of our Shanghai Normal University scholars, Army Yuan, who expertly translated my overheads before I left for China.

In helping me prepare for the trip to China, Dr. Justine Su found that our university had signed an agreement with South China Normal University in 1984. She asked me to inquire if South China Normal University would be interested in renewing our relationship. Dr. Shen contacted the University President, Dr. Yan Zexian, who invited us to lunch with him, his wife, and a small group of dignitaries. It was a memorable occasion with an inestimable number of delicious courses; all displayed in an elegant manner. President Yan indicated that he would be very interested in exploring a renewed relationship between our two institutions.

Dr. Justine Su and the Shanghai University scholars arranged for my husband, Professor Rex Mitchell from the Management Department, and I to speak at Shanghai Normal University. With a group of students from the public health administration program, Rex discussed management trends in the U.S. and learned about similar trends in China. I gave a short talk on Sandplay Therapy to students and faculty, and then was taken on a tour of their beautiful campus and facilities, including an impressive clinic. Rex and I greatly appreciated the warm hospitality they extended to us.
understanding between the Chinese and American people.

Angus McNelis, our first recipient of the Chinese Government Scholarship in 1999, is still working in Beijing, preparing for an American film festival in China this year, which will further strive to take Chinese films on the road to the U.S. Back in the U.S., Bernard Forster, our second winner of the Chinese Government Scholarship Award in 2000, is preparing for his fourth return trip to China this year. Last summer, he presented a “Thank You Shanghai” plaque to the Ohel Moishe Synagogue/Museum in Hongkou, Shanghai, thanking the people and the city for being a refuge for over 30,000 Jews escaping the European Holocaust during the Second World War and now for being the host city for CSUN students such as himself. During his scholarship study at Shanghai Normal University, Bernard did extensive research on the life of Jews in Shanghai. Both Bernard and Angus have appeared frequently on Chinese TV programs. You will read their heart-warming stories in our newsletter.

Here at CSUN, we have successfully completed the leadership training program for the fifth group of young leaders from Guangzhou. Over the past five years, we have trained over 100 young leaders from the Guangzhou and Dalian Governments. Each of them developed and completed a comparative study over one aspect of development in China and the U.S., and all have returned to China to assume important leadership positions. Many have been promoted and many have achieved excellence in scholarship. Dr. Donghai Wei from the Guangzhou Medical College, for example, has authored five books in the past two years, including the biography of Dr. Zhong Nanshan, who has been recognized internationally as China’s leading authority in treating SARS. The book has been serialized in 30 national and provincial newspapers in China and abroad. We are very proud of their achievements. We are planning to conduct a follow-up study on our former scholars in China this summer to determine the impact that CSUN training programs have had on them as emerging leaders in China’s development and reform.

In October, 2003, two new MOUs were signed between CSUN and Shanghai Theatre Academy and Dalian University of Foreign Languages. New exchange programs are being considered under these MOUs, including the development of training programs for Chinese TV and newspaper journalists, the participation of a CSUN theatre troupe in the 2004 Shanghai Experimental Theatre Festival, and the preparation of a theatrical project jointly created by the CSUN Department of Theatre and the Shanghai Theatre Academy, to be presented at the 2008 Olympic Arts Festival in Beijing.

Finally, thanks to a special request made by Dean Philip Rusche of Michael D. Eisner College of Education and concerted efforts made by the Chinese Education Consul Li Yaosheng, the Chinese National Commission on the Teaching of Chinese has recently donated nearly 900 reference books and instructional materials on Chinese language and culture to CSUN. These books will find their new homes in our lovely Oviatt Library and become a major resource for the study of Chinese language, culture, history and tradition for our faculty and students, and for the surrounding schools and community. As we enter the Chinese New Year of the Monkey, the China Institute promises to carry on the “Monkey King” spirit and to continue its mission as a bridge to promote friendship, understanding, collaboration and exchange between CSUN and China.

Justine Zhixin Su, Ph.D.
Professor and Director
The China Institute

The China Institute
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Teaching, Learning, and Traveling in China and Asia

By Burcu Aydin, CSUN Education Student

I am very happy to share with you my wonderful experiences in China. I have been in Shanghai for more than five months, but it feels like only yesterday when I arrived at this great country. I have accomplished a great deal in the last five months. I decided to take a break from my masters program after completing one year as an ELPS graduate student at CSUN and came to China to achieve three goals—teaching ESL, learning Chinese, and traveling in Asia. Luckily, I have been able to reach all my goals. Teaching is going very well for me. I have had great opportunities to teach from elementary, secondary to high school students, businessmen to Chinese English teachers. Not only have they changed my reality, but also they have helped me overcome obstacles in language and life in China. I have been taking Chinese classes and now I can get lost in the city without being worried.

Traveling in China has been a wonderful experience as well. I have never been to so many cities in another country. I don’t think there are words to describe what it feels like to climb up the Great Wall and to learn about the emperors’ concubines while touring the Forbidden City. Shanghai as China’s center of modernity has also become a home to me. I always feel at home to arrive at the Pudong Airport in Shanghai after visiting other cities and other countries. If you have any questions about teaching, traveling, and studying in China, do not hesitate to contact me at BurcuAydin@alumni.usc.edu.

In addition to teaching, learning, and traveling in China, I have also traveled far in Asia during vacation time. I got a chance to taste the real Korean barbecue in Seoul, saw the cleanest country on earth in Singapore, climbed the Petronas Twin Tower in Malaysia, and I spent the Chinese New Year’s holiday in India and Thailand. I got on a Tuk Tuk in Bangkok and took a picture of Taj Mahal in India. During the spring break in May, I hope to go to Tibet and Nepal. One cannot leave Asia without seeing Tibet.
Inside this issue:
- Teaching ESL in China
- Public Libraries in China
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- Research on Technology
- Health care training
- New Exchange Agreements
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- Chinese Book Donation
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- Chinese Visiting Scholars and CSUN Mentors
- Chinese Delegations to CSUN
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- Awards and Grants

Volume 01-04
February 28, 2004

Director's message:

Dear Members and Friends of the China Institute,

We take great pleasure in welcoming you to the Chinese New Year of the Monkey and in sharing with you in this newsletter the unusual names, images and moments from the Sheep Year. We have succeeded in continuing our exchange programs with China, despite of the temporary set-backs caused by SARS.

Indeed, SARS seriously affected international communication and collaboration in the spring of 2003. Many education delegations and scholars, including our own faculty and staff, had to cancel or postpone their planned travels. Our scholarship students in China also had to stop their learning and return to L.A. earlier. However, as soon as the travel warning was lifted, members of the China Institute went to China to continue their worthy projects. Angela Lew, our senior reference librarian and Co-Chair of the San Fernando Valley Chinese Cultural Association, was among the first to fly to China in the summer of 2003. There, she and her friends helped establish two rural public libraries near the border of China and Myramar. Since 1990, the Association has raised funds and established 44 such small public libraries throughout rural China, in order to provide free access to information and cultural enrichment to China’s rural populations. From our College of Business and Economics, Dr. Chao Chen and Dr. Mingfang Li, Co-Directors of the Center for China Finance and Business Research, also went to China right after the SARS scare last summer and again during their winter break. They presented lectures, developed collaborative projects with the Chinese business and academic community, and explored new sister university relationships. They also organized and hosted workshops and seminars on U.S.-China business issues at CSUN and in the Chinese American community in L.A.

Later last year, Dr. Louis Rubino from our Dept. of Health Sciences took his memorable trip to China, where he lectured to hundreds of Chinese health professionals, received visiting professorship at the famous Zhong-shan University, and developed a student exchange program with the Guangzhou Medical College. Since 1999, Dr. Rubino has mentored and trained many Chinese health professionals at CSUN. Moreover, he has collaborated with Chinese scholars to write and publish ten papers on comparative studies of health administration in the U.S. and China. His significant contributions have been recognized by the Chinese health industry, which honored him as the cover story in the November 2003 issue of China Health Industry. Another unforgettable visit to China at the end of last year was taken by Dr. Rie Mitchell, Chair of our Dept. of Educational Psychology and Counseling, who conducted workshops on Sandplay Therapy in our two sister universities, South China Normal University and Shanghai Normal University. Dr. Mitchell and her husband, Dr. Rex Mitchell from our Dept. of Management, also fulfilled their life-long dream of visiting the beautiful West Lake in Hangzhou during the New Year’s Day holiday.

Meanwhile, three more CSUN students won the prestigious Chinese Government Scholarship Council awards to study in the Central Academy of Fine Arts, Peking University, and Sichuan University in 2002, 2003 and 2004. Four other CSUN students, who were earlier recipients of these awards, continued their study, work, and life in Beijing, Nanjing, and Shanghai. Living in China has become a “perfectly normal experience” for them! They are making extraordinary contributions to further the