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1. Report from the NZASIA President

Many exciting things have been happening in Asian Studies in New Zealand over the past few years. The New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre was established at Victoria University of Wellington, and this year Victoria also set up the New Zealand India Research Institute. Both centres reflect New Zealand's established and growing economic relations with these cultures, as well as the history of Chinese and Indian settlement in New Zealand. On the topic of migration, at the University of Otago, the "Asian Migrations Research Theme" was established this year and brings together a range of scholars working in this field. Further celebration of New Zealand's engagement with Asia was made at Auckland University with its "diplomatic anniversaries" conferences. The New Zealand Asia Institute held an event recognizing 50 years New Zealand-Republic of Korea relations, and a further event celebrating 60 years of New Zealand-Japan relations. Both events help show the importance of Asia-New Zealand links, and provided forums for showcasing scholarly research in these areas.

The next NZASIA biennial international conference will be held at Auckland University, Friday to Sunday (half-day), 22-24 November 2013. More details will follow soon, including information on the conference theme and keynote speakers.

This year marks the end of the current Executive's two-year term, and the new make-up of the Executive is shown in this Newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current Executive for their dedication in ensuring the smooth running of NZASIA, and wish the new Executive all good wishes over the next two years. I look forward to seeing you all in Auckland 2013!

Henry Johnson
President
3 December 2012

2. Regional Updates

2.1 Massey University

Albany Campus

Pathways to Metropolis in the 21st Century: Immigration Issues and Futures 24-26 October 2012, Massey University, Albany

The annual Pathways conference (funded by MBIE and - this year - Auckland Council) was held on the Albany Campus. The format was to have keynote speakers, with the Minister of Immigration, Hon Nathan Guy, opening the conference. Then workshops, arranged around themes and others based on papers took place in the afternoons. A new feature was parallel workshops organised by the International Migration Institute, University of Oxford, that used local experts (from the Pacific) to model immigration scenarios for the Asia-Pacific region.

One of the aims was to look at the changing patterns of migration in the region and to look at key developments in relation to Asian cities. Professor Brenda Yeoh, who occupies the Provost's Chair and is Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore provided a fascinating presentation on the use of migrant healthcare workers in Singapore - as she said, the "feminised... and private spheres... [where] carework is increasingly performed by female migrant workers..." So carework shifts from local to foreign women, but "patriarchal norms and unequal gender relations are reinforced." She showed that a new form of cosmopolitanism emerged.

Professor Jock Collins, UTS Sydney, discussed his findings from a recent survey of Korean immigrants in Sydney, especially what shapes their business location and success, their customer base and supplier networks and their contribution to employment creation.

The workshops covered a broad range of topics and some relevant ones were:

- Reversing the flow: Return migration to China
- Migration in the Asia-Pacific region
- The new media and Chinese migrants
- Auckland and international students

The conference also included a photographic exhibition - "Chiwi Identity" - organised by New Zealand Chinese photographers and a performance by Vera Chian on the Erhu - a stunning performer. The conference attendees were from India, Singapore, Hong Kong, China and the Philippines, and 350 in total.

Paul Spoonley, Conference co-organiser

School of People, Environment and Planning

Dr. Imran Muhammad (Resource and Environmental Planning) presented the following report on his Ph.D students:

- Abdur Rehman Cheema has successfully completed his PhD on disaster management in Pakistan. His research explored the role of the mosque, a community-based religious institution, in the aftermath of the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan. His research was supervised by Dr Imran Muhammad, Prof Regina Scheyvens and Prof Bruce Glavovic at Massey University.
- Waheed Ahmed started his PhD fieldwork in Pakistan. The aim of his research is to investigate women's experiences of transport-related social exclusion, factors responsible for this and how women negotiate restrictions on their mobility in urban areas of Pakistan. Dr Imran Muhammad is supervising his

research along with his colleague, Prof Regina Scheyvens.

- Suryani Eka Wijaya completed her PhD confirmation process. Her research aims to identify multi-level policy tensions, using climate change and transport policies in medium-sized low income Asian cities. Dr Imran Muhammad is supervising her research with his colleague, Dr Jeff McNeill.
- Babar Chohan will start his PhD fieldwork in Pakistan soon. The aim of his research is to investigate whether roads investment contribute to economic growth in New Zealand and Pakistani cities. Dr Imran Muhammad and A/Professor Christine Cheyne are supervising Babar's research.

Sita Venkateswar (Social Anthropology) with Emma Hughes submitted the following publication, *The Politics of Indigeneity: Dialogues and Reflections on Indigenous Activism*, Zed Books (<http://zedbooks.co.uk/paperback/the-politics-of-indigeneity>).

School of Humanities

Geoff Watson (History) announced the publication of *Sporting Foundations of New Zealand Indians: A Fifty Year History of the New Zealand Indian Sports Association*. Geoff was the principal author of the book published by the New Zealand Indian Sports Association. As the title indicates, 2012 is their fiftieth jubilee. It begins with the formation of Indian sports clubs in New Zealand during the 1930s and goes right up to 2012.

Penny Shino (East Asian Studies Programme) reported that Massey University will host a nationwide symposium 'The Tertiary Teaching of Japanese in New Zealand: Issues in the Asian Century' at the Manawatu campus, Palmerston North, on December 8 and 9, 2012. The purpose of the symposium is to provide a forum for tertiary sector Japanese language educators to meet and constructively discuss current issues facing Japanese language teaching in an anomalous era of downward-trending Japanese enrolments and new expectations for New Zealanders in the 'Asian Century.' Strategies will be considered to ensure the continuing appeal, viability and vitality of Japanese in years to come. The symposium is the first event of this kind to be held in New Zealand, supported by generous funding from the Japan Foundation. The keynote address will be given by Professor Yasu-Hiko Tohsaku, University of California, San Diego, who will speak on 'Japanese Language Education in the Global Age: Innovation, Articulation and Collaboration.' Invited speaker is Dr Hyogyung Kim, Senior Language Consultant, The Japan Foundation, Sydney, who will present on the JF Standards for Japanese Language Education 2010. Further information can be found at http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/staffroom/national-sharedservices/external-relations/conference-services/upcoming-events/tertiary-teaching-of-japanese-in-new-zealand/tertiary-teaching-of-japanese-in-new-zealand_home.cfm. The call for papers has closed, but registration remains open until December 2.

Rosemary Haddon (East Asian Studies Programme) reported that over the past several years international translation projects have emerged in both China and Taiwan. In Taiwan the Ministry of Education has sponsored projects that focus on the translation into Chinese of English language articles. The purpose appears to be the dissemination in Chinese of research outputs concerned with Taiwan literature. Three of her articles were selected for translation and publication in volumes produced by the National Taiwan University Press;

- "Engendering Woman: Taiwan's Recent Fiction by Women," in *Dress, Sex and Text in Chinese Culture*, eds. Antonia Finnane and Anne McLaren (Australia: Monash Asia Institute, 1999): 212-224. Tr. Huang Shuying. In Qiu Zixiu ed., *Transcultural Imaginary Subjectivities: Chinese Translations of English Articles of*

Taiwan Postcolonial and Feminist Studies (National Taiwan University Press, 2012): 235-253.

▪ “Cong tongshu dao zhengzhi: Li Ang xiaoshuozhong de huati xingmian mianguan.” Tr and rpt of “From Pulp to Politics: Aspects of Topicality in Fiction by Li Ang.” *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*, 13:1 (Spring 2002): 36-72. Tr. By Huang Shuying. In Qiu Zixiu ed., *Transcultural Imaginary Subjectivities: Chinese Translations of English Articles of Taiwan Postcolonial and Feminist Studies* (National Taiwan University Press, 2012): 255- 294.

▪ “Taiwan xinwenxue he ‘Taiwan minbao’ de fazhan guocheng.” Tr. and rpt of “*Tai-wan hsin wen-hsüeh* and the Evolution of a Journal: *Tai-wan min-pao*. *Tamkang Review*, 25: 2 [Winter, 1994]: 1-35. Tr. by Liang Wenhua. In Li Shih-hsüeh ed, *Yidi fanhua: haiwai Taiwan wenlun xuanze* (Flowers from foreign lands: a selection and translation of foreign articles on Taiwan). Volume 1 of 2 volumes. Jiaoyubu cehua (Ministry of Education project). National Taiwan University Press: 25-53.

Rosemary Haddon

2.2 Unitec Institute of Technology

Unitec’s engagement with Asia included a variety of forms and methods and produced a number of interesting outputs.

Unitec Snowwhite Gallery hosted two exhibitions by Asian artists this year. Jinyao Lin is a new generation artist from Taiwan - being both a composer and video artist. His works was exhibited at Unitec in April-May. Jinyao Lin’s works include music pieces, digital installation and drama. His exhibition *Digital Life*, features two works: *Tracks* and *Auto Music Machine*.

In September it was time for Japanese artist 藤色 fuzishiki - Fuzichoco to exhibit her mesmerizing works filled to the brim with life and colour, exquisitely expressed in vibrant pastel tones. Fuzichoco was also an Artist in Residency at Unitec and a special guest at Overload 2012, NZ comic and manga convention.

Earlier this year, Simon Gamble, contemporary craft lecturer and Master of Design student spent five-and-a-half weeks at the Taipei Artists Village (TAV). According to Simon: “It was an exciting time to be in Taiwan, as my stay coincided with the presidential election. Politics can always be a bit of a hot topic, and Taiwan’s unique political history and current international status underscored some lively discussions with locals.” He continues: “Using street art as my inspiration, I sought to develop “graffiti furniture” that tested the limits of personal expression in the public spaces of the city. It was the correlation between the neon spray paint of tagging and the brightly coloured plastic rope of Tàiyuán Road that provided my material inspiration. During the residency I produced a range of pieces based on two graffiti types - tagging and throw up graffiti.” Simon Gamble’s residency at TAV was supported by Unitec and an Asia:NZ arts grant.



Simon Gamble's stool in Grand Green, which was designed to be placed on the park's stairs

Head of the Department of Language Studies, Nick Shackelford, reflects on 2012; “The Department of Language Studies has some well established relationships with universities in China and Japan that have evolved over time. Some of our partner institutions have been sending groups of students for nearly 20 years. For example, Kansai Gaidai University in Japan sends groups of students for English language training at least three times each year. Maintaining that relationship (and several other well established Japanese university relationships) involves ensuring that the programme runs well and that the students are well cared, together with a short visit from me once every two or three years. Other Japanese universities that I visited in September were: Kumamoto Gakuen University, Totorri University of Environment Science, Nagoya College and Toyo University. Most Japanese universities are requiring English +, which means not just English language course but also courses from other disciplines. For example Toyo sends us short-term English language students but is interested in expanding the relationship to include students from their Department of Health Care and Sports which has close synergies with our faculty. We have also revived our Japanese exchange programme and currently have six Unitec students there, studying Japanese language on short-term exchange programme in partner universities.

My visit to China in September with the delegation was hectic, productive and fun. Unitec’s major partner in China is Shandong University of Finance and Economics (SDUFE) where we are teaching English and Accountancy to over 300 students. Language Studies has had four staff teaching there this semester together with two staff from Accountancy and Finance. The programme is moving into a new phase as the Bachelor of Business (Accounting major) will be delivered in part from March 2014 - and it was a significant achievement to have that proposal recognised by the Chinese Ministry of Education. Other visits in China included Zhongyuan University of Technology in Zhengzhou, Ningbo University of Technology and Ningbo College and Hangzhou Polytechnic. Each of these has good prospects for future co-operation but - as always - they will take time to develop.”

These are just a few examples of Unitec involvement with Asia in 2013.

Research outputs:

Gong, H. (2012). “Enabling the Disabled: Missionaries and their efforts to educate the Chinese blind: The Cases of Agnes Gutzlaff, Joseph Edkins and William Hill Murray.” *Quarterly Journal of the Central Conservatory of Music* (Winter 2012)

Gong, H. (2012). “John Fryer and the Introduction of Tonic Sol-fa in China.” *Journal of the Nanjing Arts Institute*. 3: 1-8.

Gong, H. (2012). “Joseph Edkins and the Education of People with Blindness in Late Qing China.” *Journal of Music Research* (Spring 2012).

Gong, Hong-yu (2012). Review of *Music in Ancient China: An Archaeological and Art Historical Study of Strings, Winds, and Drums during the Eastern Zhou and Han Periods (770 BCE - 220 CE)* by Ingrid Furniss. *Journal of Xinghai Conservatory of Music*. No. 128 (Sum., 2012): 152-56.

Gong, Hong-yu. (2012). Review of *Louis Laloy (1874-1944) on Debussy, Ravel and Stravinsky*, Translated by Deborah Priest (Aldershot, Hants: Ashgate, 1999).

Gong, Hong Yu was invited in May as an all-expenses paid speaker by Fujian Normal University and delivered a paper on cultural relations between New Zealand and China at an international conference in Fuzhou, P. R. China.

Kolesova, E., Willson, S. (2012). *Cool New Asia. Asian Popular Culture in a Local Context*. Conference Proceedings. Unitec ePress, (in press)

- Kolesova, E. (2012) 日ロ関係かんする日ロの歴史教育の比較 — 日露戦争にかんする今日の両国教科書の比較分析 “A comparative study towards history textbook as a medium. The case study of the narrative strategies and descriptions of the Russo-Japanese War in Japanese and Russian history textbooks, ca. 1997-2010.” Conference presentation at the 10th Russo-Japanese Forum, 5-7 September 2012, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan.
- Leaver, L.H.T., Samuelson, R., and Leaver, J.D. (2012). “Potential for Low Transport Energy Use in Developing Asian Cities through Compact Urban Development.” 3rd Conference of the International Association for Energy Economics. Kyoto.
- Mizutani, S., and Koda-Dallow, T. (2012). “Asian vs Non-Asian? Does ethnicity influence the choice of language learning strategies?” ILA Conference, Victoria University, Wellington. 30 August -2 September.
- Naqvi, M. & Papoutsaki, E. (2012, July). “Information Issues in Development: Ethical implications of community profiling by Developmental NGOs.” Paper presented at the 21st AMIC Annual conference ‘Forty Years of Media and Communication in Asia: Retrospect, Introspect and Prospects,’ Shah Alam, Malaysia. [Permanent link to Research Bank version: <http://hdl.handle.net/10652/2015>]
- Naqvi, M. (2011, December). “Growth and diversification of mass media in India: Whose interests, whose ideas?” Paper presented at the International Conference on Diversity & Plurality in Media - Reflections of Society, Bhopal, India. [Permanent link to Research Bank version: <http://hdl.handle.net/10652/1767>]
- Sisavath, P., Simpson, K., and Newlands, K. (2012). “Combating the spread of child sex tourism in South East Asia.” Presentation to 11th Asia Pacific Forum for Graduate Student Research in Tourism, Hong Kong 22-24 May.

Completed Master thesis:

- Syed, Mohiuddin (2012). “Attitudes to New Zealand sheep meat and beef consumption amongst Muslim consumers in New Zealand: Implications for Halal exports to South-East Asia.” Master of Business thesis, Unitec.

2.3 University of Auckland

During the latter part of 2012, a range of conferences with Asian themes have been held at the University of Auckland. On 13 July the New Zealand Asia Institute’s inaugural Asia Dialogue conference was held on the topic of ‘New Zealand in the Halal Economy,’ with speakers from New Zealand and Asia, including the Malaysian business leader Tan Sri Halim Saad. On 7 and 8 September, the Second Asia Savvy conference was convened through the efforts of graduate students of the University of Auckland’s Business School. The speakers included diplomats, government officials, businessmen, academics and students, covering a wide range of topics of interest to students and others seeking to advance the value of knowledge of Asia to New Zealand. Further details of these conferences are available in *Asia Info* at <http://www.nzai.auckland.ac.nz/webdav/site/nzai/shared/newsletters/nzai-bulletin-oct-2012.pdf>.

The School of Asian Studies held its 9th Graduate Conference on 23 October, bringing together students conducting thesis work on Asia in Auckland and attracting a number of graduates from other New Zealand universities to present papers. The session titles were Gender Issues in South and Southeast Asia, Theatre and Arts in China, Chinese Migrants in New Zealand, Political Uses of History in China, Diaspora Issues in New Zealand and Beyond, Literary Discourses of Self and Others, Linguistics

and Literature: Japan and China, and Voices from across Asia: The Maldives, Afghanistan and Vietnam. All of the students presented their papers with a commitment to communicating with their listeners, rather than simply reading a prepared text, and the result readily provoked audience interest and a wide range of questions. The range of topics gives great hope for the breadth of the skills that our advanced graduates will bring to our field in the future. The Graduate Conference is now an established part of the Auckland annual timetable and the School of Asian Studies looks forward to welcoming more students from outside Auckland in future years.

Diplomatic anniversaries have been a major part of 2012, with Japan-New Zealand relations celebrating 60 years of diplomatic ties, the Republic of Korea and New Zealand 50 years, and the PRC 40 years. The University of Auckland, through its New Zealand Asia Institute, chose to celebrate the first two of these anniversaries with major conferences. On 16 and 17 November, at a conference entitled 'New Zealand, Korea and Asia-Pacific: from distance to closeness,' some 75 participants heard keynote addresses by the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Mr Park Yongkyu, and Ms Andrea Smith of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade on the diplomatic relationship past and present, and by Ms Wendy Pye, Mr Patrick Hwang and Mr David Hong. Ms Pye and Mr Hwang revealed their new Smartree project which has launched digitally innovative tools for the learning of English by Korean children, while Mr Hong, President of Korea Society of Auckland, spoke of the aspirations of the Korean community here. Academic papers were presented by 17 speakers drawn from Korea, the USA, Australia and New Zealand. On 3 and 4 December, 'Resilience: Japan and New Zealand moving forward' brings together speakers from Japan, Europe and New Zealand to celebrate the past 60 years and to look at the issues confronting the relationship today.

A further conference, sponsored by the Political Studies Department on 5 December, looks at recent development in the ROC (Taiwan) and relations with New Zealand. One of the principal speakers is Associate-Professor Stephen Hoadley.

Staff publications during 2012 have ranged widely. In the China field, Professor Paul Clark has published *Youth Culture in China: From Red Guards to Netizens*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012, while also reviewing Alex Cockain, *Young Chinese in Urban China* (Routledge, 2012) in *The China Quarterly* 211 (September 2012), 867-868. At a conference on Chinese visual humour, hosted by the Australian Centre on China in the World, ANU Canberra, 18-19 October 2012, he presented a paper on "Bermuda shorts and twinkle toes: Afterlives of the Red Detachment." Professor Gerald Chan of Political Studies has published an article entitled "China's response to the global financial crisis and its regional leadership in East Asia," *Asia Europe Journal*, Vol. 9, 2012, pp. 197-209, and has co-authored a book with Pak K Lee and Lai-Ha Chan, entitled *China engages global governance: a new world order in the making?* London and New York: Routledge, 2012. He will be on research and study leave in 2013, as visiting fellow to Cambridge University's Department of Politics and International Studies from January to March to work on a project on Chinese diplomacy. Manying Ip's edited book *Transmigration and the New Chinese: Theories and Practices from the New Zealand Experience*, Hong Kong: Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Nov. 2011, presents in-depth studies of transmigration, supplemented with personal narratives in the words of new Chinese transmigrants themselves. Dr Robert Sanders has written two articles, one as sole author, "A syntactic classification of the synchronic use of gěi in Beijing Mandarin." *Chinese Language and Discourse: an international and interdisciplinary journal*, 3 (2), 167-199, and one with D. Sperlich, "To mark or not to mark: Just how similar are

Chinese dialects in this regard?” *Cahiers de Linguistique Asie Orientale*. He presented a paper on *Aiming at a shifting target: The development of tone skills*. at the Foundations of Speaking L2 Chinese: A theory and practice workshop, Melbourne. 19 October - 21 October 2012. He also served as English translator and editorial adviser for Iwata, R. (2012), *The Interpretive Maps of Chinese Dialects*, Tokyo: Kohbun Publishing Company.

In the Japan field Dr Lawrence Marceau has published a review of Adam L. Kern, *Manga from the Floating World: Comicbook Culture and the Kibyōshi of Edo Japan* in CAA Reviews (2012) New York: College Art Association, Inc, 2012. Dr Wayne Lawrence has continued his studies into the dialects of Ryukyuan, publishing:- “Miyako-hougen-ni okeru bidakuon-ni tuite” [On the velar nasal onset in the Iyako dialects] *Ryuukyuu-no Hougen* 36: 1-8. 2012, “Southern Ryukyuan,” in Nicolas Tranter (ed.) *The Languages of Japan and Korea*. 381-411, London: Routledge, 2012; “Two problems in Japanese noun-compound structure,” in Bjarke Frellisvig, Jieun Kiaer and Janick Wrona (eds.) *Studies in Japanese and Korean Linguistics*. 93-103. London: Lincom Europa. 2012. During his sabbatical, he has been researching aspects of the Taketomi dialect (Okinawa prefecture), and the distribution and accentuation of the word *mama* ‘cliff, steep slope’ in Eastern Japan. Dr Rumi Sakamoto presented a paper at the Japan Studies Association 18th Annual conference in Honolulu, January 5-7, entitled “Kamikaze, Yushukan and the Cult of Self Sacrifice in War Memory.” With Professor Matt Allen (formerly at Auckland, now in Wollongong University) she is currently editing a four-volume series for Routledge, tentatively titled: *Japanese Popular Culture: Critical Concepts in Asian Studies*. Dr Ellen Nakamura received a Japan Foundation Short Term Research Fellowship to do research in Japan in August-October, 2012, on the topic of “Transforming Medical Lives in Bakumatsu Japan.” She has two research articles, one just published and the other just about to be: “The Private World of a Meiji-era Japanese Doctor: Ishii Kendō's Diary of 1874,” *Social History of Medicine*, 2012.doi:10.1093/shm/hks083 and with A. Jannetta, “Translating Medical Knowledge: Japan's First Medical Journal *Taisei meii ikō*.” *Historia Scientiarum*, 22 (2). 2012. Ms Reiko Kondo has written “Effects of Providing Scripts in Shadowing Practice on Learners' Japanese-language Acquisition,” *Japanese Studies Journal*, Thammasat University, 2012, and been involved in a joint working paper with multiple researchers on “Research on shadowing for developing the language proficiency of Japanese students overseas-toward appropriate language production.”

In the Korea field Dr Inshil Choe Yoon has continued her work on leave on the *T'aengniji*, publishing “*T'aengniji ch'ogip'ilsabon ch'ujōng e taehayō* (On Identifying the Early Period *T'aengniji* Manuscripts),” *Proceedings of the 2012 Joint Conference of the Korean Bibliography Association and the Bibliography Association*, Cheongju University, 2 November 2012, 201-207. Dr Changzoo Song has written two sole-authored articles, “Overseas Chinese and the Globalisation of Korean Food,” *Food Culture* vol. 5, no.1: 40-53, and “On the Direction of the Globalisation of Korean Food: Globalisation from the Bottom, Innovation, and the Democratisation of food Industry,” *Korea Contents Association Journal* vol. 10, no.3: 28-35, and a joint article with Julie Park, “Korean, Chinese, or What?: Identity Transformations of Korean Chinese Migrant Brides in South Korea” *Asian Ethnicity* (2012). Dr Sunhee Koo, who joined as a new Lecturer in Ethnomusicology, Department of Anthropology in the University of Auckland in September 2011, has conducted short field research on North Korean migrant performing artists and their organizations in South Korea during June-July in 2011 and 2012. With her ethnographic research on Pyongyang Minsok Yesuldan (Pyongyang Folk Performing Arts Troupe), she presented her paper, “Politics of Identity and Cultural Negotiation by North Korean Performing Artists in South Korea,”

at the 57th Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, New Orleans, Louisiana, Nov. 1-4. This year, Dr Koo delivered three invited lectures in Auckland and Wellington: “Beyond the Margin: Chinese Korean Musicians and Reshaping of Traditional Korean Music in South Korea,” for the Seminar School of Asian Studies, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand, Oct. 9; “‘Our Music is Different’: The Construction and Negotiation of Diasporic Korean Music among Korean Ethnic Minority in the People’s Republic of China” for Music Forum, New Zealand School of Music, Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand, May 11; and “Music, Agency, and the Politics of Diaspora: Korean Ethnic Minority Musicians in the People’s Republic of China,” for Anthropology Department Seminar Series, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand, May 9.

Thus far this year the following PhD students have completed their degrees with supervision by members of the School of Asian Studies: Tonghong Cai (“Redefining a new cinema: A textual study of Chinese new-generation films”); Jung-hsuan Chen (“Crafting lives: The evolution of identity in the works of Zhu Tianxin and Kapka Kassabova”); Jing Shen (“Masculinity and the nation: Film narratives of the nation in 1930s and 1980s China”); Jige Zhang (“Media evolution and reform politics in China: A case of Guangdong”); Haifeng Zhang (“A Comparative Study of Shen Congwen and Witi Ihimaera as Indigenous Writers”).

Richard Phillips

2.4 University of Canterbury

Confucius Institute at the University of Canterbury

On 28 September 2012, the Confucius Institute at the University of Canterbury (CIUC) hosted a seminar on “Interpreting the Analects” for the 2012 Annual Conference of the Society of Philosophy Teachers. The key speakers were Dr Li Licheng of Beijing Language and Culture University and Dr Zhifang Song of the University of Canterbury. Dr Li introduced the central tenets and structure of the Confucian analects and Dr Song spoke about the effect of the Analects on the common people. The seminar was well-received, with Mr Jay Sloss, the president of the Society of Philosophy Teachers, expressing his appreciation for the seminar and a desire to gain a deeper understanding of Chinese culture.

On the 30 September 2012, the CIUC, in conjunction with the New Zealand China Friendship Society (NZCFS) held a function to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival and China’s National Day. It was attended by the Chinese Consul-General Madam Tan Xiutian, the Rt Hon Nicky Wagner, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of Arts Prof Ed Adelson and the chairperson of the NZCFS Mr Eric Livingstone. Madam Tan discussed the long history of friendship between New Zealand and China and spoke highly of the contribution Mr Rewi Alley made to Chinese society. Students of the Chinese Language Department at the university performed Chinese opera and sang a traditional Chinese folk song. The banquet also succeeded



Madam Tan delivering her speech

in its goal of raising money for the Kathleen Hall Memorial Scholarship, which enables a student from the Gansu province in China to complete their nursing training.

CIUC also had the opportunity to participate in the South Canterbury International Festival in Timaru in October. The theme of the festival was 'family' and the CIUC was able to incorporate this into their exhibitions. Visitors had the opportunity to sample traditional Chinese food, try on ethnic clothing from many of the Chinese minorities and attempt traditional Chinese crafts such as calligraphy and face-painting. The queues to each activity were long throughout the day, with many guests returning for more. The festival was a good opportunity to raise interest in and awareness of Chinese culture.

New Zealand South Asia Centre

The New Zealand South Asia Centre (NZSAC) welcomes the establishment of the New Zealand India Research Institute (NZIRI) at the Victoria University of Wellington. NZSAC members whose research focuses on India will form part of a satellite cluster of centres affiliated to NZIRI.

From the inception of the idea, NZSAC in particular and the UC in general, have played a leading role in the establishment of the India Institute in New Zealand. On 22 June, 2012, NZSAC organized a meeting at UC to discuss the establishment of the India Institute. This meeting brought together participants from other NZ universities (Professor Sekhar Bandyopadhyay from VUW, Professor Brian Moloughney from University of Otago, Professor Amal Sanyal from Lincoln University, and Dr. Sita Venkateswar from Massey University), several members of UC senior management (Professor Ed Adelson, Bob Korzeniowski, Professor Jarg Pettinga) as well as NZSAC members. Additionally, NZSAC organized a videoconference that enabled participation of representatives from Education NZ in Wellington as well as representatives from New Delhi. Subsequent to the June meeting, NZSAC members also attended further meetings on the establishment of the India Institute. Professor Aditya Malik will represent NZSAC and the UC as an Associate Director of the Institute.

On 10 September, 2012, NZSAC hosted a lecture by Professor Venkatraman at the University of Canterbury entitled "Humanity at Crossroads." Professor Ganesan Venkatraman is a renowned physicist and academic and has served as the vice chancellor of the Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning in India. His lecture was a broad based summary of the state of affairs in India with historical vignettes. This was an interactive event, followed by questions and answers from participants, and was well attended by delegates across New Zealand. For the benefit of audiences outside Canterbury, the meeting was streamed live via the KAREN network.

On 14th September, 2012, NZSAC hosted its third annual symposium at the Macmillan Brown Centre, Canterbury. The theme of the symposium was "Culture, Identity, and Environment in South Asia." Professor Partha Ghosh, former professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University and Indian Council for Cultural Relations Visiting Chair at Victoria University at Wellington, delivered the keynote address entitled, "Migrants of South Asia: Within and Beyond." A range of topics were discussed at the symposium. Dr Doug Hill (University of Otago) presented a paper on "Rethinking Questions of Scale in South Asian Trans-Boundary Water Resources"; Ms Faraha Nawaz (PhD candidate, Flinders University) presented online on "Microfinance Programs in Rural Bangladesh: Their contribution on fostering social capital among women at grassroots level"; and members of NZSAC offered presentations on a range of topics: "Capital Account Liberalization in India" by Dr Kuntal Das; historical photography and identity creation among Indian communities in Mauritius by Kathleen Harrington-Watt; music of the Lepchas in the Indian subcontinent by Dr Elaine Dobson; history of the Fijian

community in the South Pacific by Dr Jane Buckingham; and arsenic toxicity in West Bengal and Bangladesh by Dr Arindam Basu.

Japanese Programme

Ken Henshall had two books published in 2012: Palgrave Macmillan released the 3rd edition of *A History of Japan: From Stone Age to Superpower*, and his book *In Search of Nature: The Japanese Writer Tayama Katai (1872-1930)* was published by Global Oriental (Brill). Also accepted for publication was his chapter entitled "Observations on Geomentality in Japan and New Zealand" in Roy Starrs, *Coping with Natural Disaster in Japan* (tentative title), 2013. At present, Ken is working on the 2nd edition of his 1988 book, *A Guide to Remembering Japanese Characters'* (approx. 900 pages) being co-authored with Christopher Seeley and Jiageng Fan, to be published by Tuttle/Periplus, as well as compiling *A Historical Dictionary of Japan to 1945*, commissioned by Scarecrow Press.

Rachel Payne presented a paper entitled "Mrs. Otakesan Buhicrosan - an unlikely advocate of Meiji Japan's radical Westernisation policies" at the ASCJ Conference at Rikkyo University, Tokyo. Forthcoming publications include the chapters "Censorship and Patronage in Meiji Kabuki Theatre" in Routledge's "Negotiating Censorship in Modern Japan," and "Meiji Kabuki spectators' receptivity to foreign cultural material" in Anhui Press's *How East Meets West: China and the World*. She is currently assistant editor for the Cambridge University Press project to create their *History of Japanese Theatre*.

Masayoshi Ogino published "The Challenge of Consistency in NCEA examination papers: The case of Level 3 Japanese reading over a five year period" in *New Zealand Language Teacher*, and presented a paper "What has changed? Aligned achievement standards and the NCEA Level 1 Japanese external examination papers" at the recent New Zealand Association of Language Teachers' Biennial International Conference in Rotorua, subsequently published in the proceedings. Masa is currently working on a paper entitled "Strengthening the link between secondary and tertiary Japanese programmes," to be presented at the Tertiary Teaching of Japanese in New Zealand Symposium at Massey University in December.

Susan Bouterey gave, on invitation, a presentation entitled "Medoruma Shun no Mabuigumi o Jendā no shiten kara yomu" at Ryūkyū University, Okinawa, in the International Institute of Okinawan Studies Special Lecture Series. This was subsequently published as an article in *Okinawa ni okeru Jendāgaku no rironka to gakujutsuteki jissen: Okinawa Jendāgaku no sōshutsu, Gender Studies in Okinawa*, published by Ryukyu University's International Institute for Okinawan Studies. Susan's book *The World/Okinawa of Medoruma Shun: History, Memory, Narrative* was published by Kageshobo at the end of 2011. She is continuing her work on Okinawan novelists. Susan will be accompanying the eight UC students visiting tsunami-struck areas of Tohoku as part of the Kizuna Project.

The Japanese Programme has been active in many new fields this year, including the successful hosting of a joint concert and live art display by the Okinawan musician Misako Koja and avant garde peace artist Seitaro Kuroda. There were some notable student achievements as well. Two UC Japanese programme students were selected to participate in the Monbukagaku-sho one-year exchange programme, and are now studying at Hokkaido and Doshisha universities, and one former Honours student received the Monbukagaku-sho's graduate scholarship to study art history at Tokyo University of the Arts. A group of 300 level students received an award from the Japan Foundation's Sydney Office "Video Matsuri Contest"; they were the only New Zealand tertiary students to receive an award at this event. The Programme is at present

preparing a major contribution for next March's Christchurch Japan Day, being organised by the Christchurch Nihonjin-Kai, and work has also begun on arrangements for the NCEA workshop for Christchurch high school students of Japanese at all levels, scheduled for July 2013.

Current Research, Publications and other Asia-related activities

Richard Bullen (Art History) published two articles: "Art and the Life of the East Asian: some thoughts on teaching East Asian aesthetics," in S.K. Chung (Ed.), *Teaching Asian Art: Content, Context, Pedagogy* (1 ed.): 3-10, Reston, VA: National Art Education Association (2012); and "Freedom and Restraint in the World of Tea," in G. Tamburello (Ed.), *Concepts and Categories of Emotion in East Asia*: 252-265, Rome: Carocci (2012).

Anne-Marie Brady (Political Science) was inaugural visiting fellow at the New Zealand Studies Centre at Beijing University in November 2012. She published two edited books this year. The first, with Douglas Brown, is entitled *Foreigners and Foreign Institutions in Republican China*, Abingdon: Routledge (2012). She wrote the introduction with Douglas Brown, "Foreign bodies" and contributed an article to the edited volume: "Adventurers, Aesthetes, and Tourists: Foreign Homosexuals in Republican China."

Her second edited book, *The Emerging Politics of Antarctica* was also published by Routledge (2012). She contributed the following articles: "China's Rise in Antarctica," "New Zealand's Antarctica," and, with Kim Seungryeul, "South Korea's Strategic Interests in Antarctica."

Anne-Marie also published the following articles: "Polar Stakes: China's Polar Activities as a Benchmark for Intentions," *China Brief* 12(14): 11-15 (2012); "Democratising Antarctic Governance," *The Polar Journal*, 2:2 (2012); and "The Emerging Economies of Asia and Antarctica: Challenges and Opportunities," in J. Jabour, M. Haward and A. J. Press, *Australia's Antarctica: Proceedings of a Symposium to mark 75 years of the Australian Antarctic Territory*, Hobart, 24 August 2011, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, Occasional Paper, No.2, (2012) pp.103-113.

Jane Buckingham (History) co-edited a book with V. Nilakant, *Managing Responsibly: Alternative Approaches to Corporate Management and Governance*, Farnham, Surrey: Gower (2012). She contributed an article to this edited book, "Guilds and Governance in Ancient India: Historical Practices of Corporate Social Responsibility."

2013 promises to be an exciting year for **Piers Locke** (Anthropology) research wise. He has a research grant to study the historical photography of human-elephant relations in colonial South Asia, and this will also finance a New Zealand South Asia Centre workshop on human-elephant relations that will lead to a volume edited by Piers and Jane Buckingham. Already some world class scholars have agreed to attend and contribute.

He is also about to submit a review paper entitled "Explorations in Ethnoelephantology: The History, Ethnography, and Ecology of Human Elephant Relations" for a special human-animal themed issue of the journal *Environment and Society: Advances in Research*, co-authored with his research student Kierin Mackenzie.

His publications this year include the following: "Food and Ritual in The Nepali Elephant Stable: A Photo Essay," *The South Asianist* (2012, in press); and with K.Mackenzie, "The Ethnozoology of Human-Elephant Relations," *International Society of Ethnobiology Newsletter* (2012, in press).

Aditya Malik (Anthropology) was recently appointed as Associate Director of the New Zealand India Research Institute. He is currently based in India as Visiting Professor at the University of Delhi's new Cluster Innovative Centre where he has been teaching into courses and interacting with students and staff involved in the development of a BTech in Humanities degree. He held a public lecture at Delhi University on 7 November entitled "Many Stories - Many Worlds: Oral Narratives and Cultural Communication in India." The talk was given in the Popular Lecture Series hosted by the vice-chancellor of Delhi University.

Aditya represented UC at the recent official visit of the Tertiary Education Minister Steven Joyce to India on 17-19 October. The ministerial delegation was made up of members representing higher education, skills development, and the aviation sector. The higher education delegation included Steve Maharey (VC, Massey), Roy Crawford (VC, Waikato), Sekhar Bandhyopadhyay (Director, New Zealand India Research Institute, Victoria), Aditya Malik (International Implementation Committee, CoA, UC), Penny Fenwick (Executive Director, Universities New Zealand, Wellington), Manpreet Kaur (Waikato), and Jugnu Roy (Education New Zealand, New Zealand High Commission, Delhi). The three day meetings culminated in Kapil Sibal (Indian minister for Human Resource Development) and Steven Joyce presiding over the inaugural session of the India New Zealand Education Council (INZEC) that will foresee the creation of joint research, student and staff exchange between Indian and NZ tertiary institutions, particularly in the fields of social sciences and humanities, but also the physical sciences. The Indian delegation comprised, among others, the vice-chancellors from Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, NEHU, and Orissa who visited UC in February, as well as the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC). The INZEC will have an annual fund of NZ\$1 Million. It was agreed at the meeting that the New Zealand India Research Institute at Victoria in November will act as a nodal point for collating and selecting projects pertaining to INZEC in New Zealand. During the three-day meetings several MoUs between Indian and NZ universities were signed. In this context plans have also been drawn up to work out the details of an MoU between UC and the University of Delhi which is India's top-ranked university, and St. Stephen's College which arguably the top-ranked undergraduate institution in India.

Aditya's current book has been accepted for publication by OUP (New York). The book is tentatively titled: *Tales of Justice and Rituals of Divine Embodiment: Oral Narratives from the Central Himalayas*. His other publications include an edited book with G Oddie, G Bailey and W Sweetman, *Sage Handbook of Hinduism in Asia*, New Delhi: Sage Publications (2012). Aditya contributed two articles to this edited volume: "Folk Hinduism: The Middle Ground?" and "Oral Traditions." He also published several articles: "Identity and Violence," in A. Taylor, M. Connolly (Ed.), *Responses to Violence in Society*, Christchurch: Canterbury University Press (2012); "The Darbar of Goludev: Possession, Petitions, and Modernity," in W. Sax and H. Basu (Ed.), *Law of Possession*, New York: Oxford University Press (2012); and *Vernacular Oral Epics*, in Oxford Bibliographies Online: Hinduism, New York: Oxford University Press (2012).

Patrick McAllister (Anthropology) published the following: "Connecting places, constructing Têt: Home, city and the making of the lunar New Year in urban Vietnam," *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* 43(1): 111-132 (2012). He presented "Tradition and modernity among migrants in Ho Chi Minh City: The case of cúng xóm (hamlet worship) during the lunar new year festival" in Hanoi, Vietnam, at the Fourth International Conference on Vietnamese Studies, 26-28 Nov 2012.

Jim Ockey (Political Science) was the recipient of the 2012 Lee Kong Chian NUS-Stanford distinguished fellowship on Contemporary Southeast Asia and spent his sabbatical earlier this year in Palo Alto and Singapore. While at Stanford he gave a

seminar in March at the Walter H Shorenstein Asia Pacific Research Center, "Political Inheritance and Hybrid Democracy: Family Politics and Democracy in Thailand." He was a panel discussant at the Fourth Annual Koret conference (March 2012) hosted by the Walter H. Shorenstein Asia Pacific Research Center, "Historical Contexts of National Identities. Korea and Vietnam: The National Experiences and Foreign Policies of Middle Powers." In Singapore, he gave two seminars at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore: "Politics as an Inheritance: Family Politics and Democracy in Thailand" and "Family Matters? Political Families in Thai Parliamentary Politics."

In February this year, he gave a seminar at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, "Red, Yellow, Green, and Pink: The Thai Military in Politics." In the following month, Jim gave a presentation to a joint seminar of the Naval Postgraduate School, the Defense Language Institute, and the Institute of International Studies, Monterey, California, "Of Loyalty and Lese Majeste: The Politics of the Thai Military since the 2006 Coup."

During his sabbatical, he worked on a book project, *Trakun Kanmuang: Family Politics in Thailand*. The book analyses patterns of family relationships in the Thai parliament, outlines the role of provincial political families in the democratization process at local and national levels, and explores the place of political families in the social structures of provincial Thailand.

He completed two articles for publication early next year, "Thailand in 2012: Reconciling a New Normal, *Asian Survey* 53 (1) (2013) and "Broken Power: The Thai Military in the Aftermath of the 2006 Coup" in Pavin Chachavalpongpun (ed), *Good Coup Gone Bad*, ISEAS: Singapore (2013).

Zhifang Song (Anthropology) coedited with K Zhuang and G Seaman, *Perspectives on visual culture from China: Methodology, Analysis and Filmic Representations*, Beijing: Intellectual Property Publishing House (2012). He contributed an article to the edited book, "Taping Fieldwork: Using Digital Video in Ethnographic Research."

Alex Tan (Political Science) published several articles as follows: with R.C. Manacza, "'Strong Republic' Sidetracked: Oligarchic Dynamics, Democratization, and Economic Development in the Philippines," *Korea Observer* 43(1): 47-88 (2012); with R. Harmel, "One-party Rule or Multiparty Competition? Chinese Attitudes to Party System Alternatives," *Party Politics* 18(3): 337-347 (2012); with C. Clark, "Political Polarization in Taiwan: A Growing Challenge to Catch-all Parties?" *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* 41(3): 7-31 (2012); with C. Clark, "Taiwan's Increasingly Boxed-in Economy: Economic Performance and Democratization," *Korea Observer* 43(1): 113-144 (2012); and "China and Its Neighbors: Too Close for Comfort?" in K.P. Williams, S.E. Lobell, and N.G. Jesse (Ed.), *Beyond Great Powers and Hegemons: Why Secondary States Support, Follow, Or Challenge*: 193-206, Stanford: Stanford University Press (2012).

Naimah Talib

2.5 University of Otago

Erica Baffelli (Department of Religion and Theology) has had a productive year. Her publications have included: "Buddhism and New Religions in Japan (shinshūkyō)," in *Oxford Bibliographies in Buddhism*, Ed. Richard Payne, New York: Oxford University Press, 2012, <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com>; "Hikari no Wa: A New Religion Recovering from Disaster," *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 39/1 (2012): 29-49; (with Ian Reader) Editors' Introduction, "Impact and Ramifications: The Aftermath of the Aum Affair in the Japanese Religious Context," *Japanese Journal of Religious*

Studies 39/1 (2012): 1-28; “Japanese New Religions Online: Hikari no Wa and ‘Net Religion’” in Heidi Campbell ed. *Digital Religion: Understanding Religious Practice in New Media Worlds*, New York and London: Routledge, in press (forthcoming December 2012). She was invited to give the following talks: “Being There Without Being There: Agonshū’s rituals and satellite broadcastings” a lecture at the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, Nanzan University, Japan, 11 May 2012; “Mediating (Buddhist) rituals: The Case of Agonshū and Satellite Broadcasting” at Major ‘Booms’ and Minor Trends in Modern Religious Practices: An Open Workshop in Honour of Ian Reader, University of Manchester, 27-28 February 2012; “The Latest and Newest Media and Religions in Japan” - a seminar at the University of California, Santa Barbara, 16 February 2012. Erica also presented a paper entitled “Mediating (Buddhist) rituals. ‘Sacralized screens’ and Agonshū’s satellite broadcasting” at the Religion, Science and Technology IAHR conference, held in Trondheim, 1-2 March 2012. She continued her involvement in a research project on ‘Religious Studies in Modern Japan: A Re-examination from an International Perspective’ funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), and based at the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, Nanzan University (Nagoya). The special edition of the *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* ‘Aftermath: The Impact and Ramifications of the Aum Affair in Japan’ (2012) is the first product of the section of this project in which Erica is involved.

David Bell (College of Education) is currently preparing two book chapters: “Hokusai and Fuji: Cognition, sensibility and pictorial invention in East Asian Arts” for the *Cambridge Handbook on the Psychology of Aesthetics and the Arts*, and “Iki and the floating world” for *New Essays in Japanese Aesthetics*, edited by Minh Nguyen, to be published by Lexington Books (in preparation). His catalogue essay for an exhibition of Japanese prints on the theme of Kanadehon Chūshingura held at the Muzeum Sztuki I Techniki Japońskiej Manggha (Krakow, Poland), entitled “Chūshingura in Woodblock Prints,” will appear in December. He also has a chapter, “Kinsey and the Collectors: Sir Joseph Kinsey and Collecting *Ukiyo-e* in New Zealand,” in *Asia in New Zealand Lives* edited by Jacob Edmonds and Henry Johnson. He has had two book reviews published in successive issues of the *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies: Teaching Asian Art: Content, Context, and Pedagogy*, ed. Sheng Kuan Chung, and *Reading the Tale of Genji: Its Picture Scrolls, Texts and Romance*, ed., Richard Stanley-Baker, Murakami Fuminobu, Jeremy Tambling. David continues to be active in community education, contributing lectures on Japanese woodblock and ukiyo-e to University of the Third Age series in the Upper Clutha and Dunedin, and presenting a public lecture at the Dunedin Public Art Gallery (Oct.)

Stephanie Dobson (Department of Anthropology and Archaeology) presented a paper entitled “Religious Interpretation and Praxis Among Asian Muslim Women in New Zealand” at the Reconsidering Gender in Asian Studies: A Pacific Perspective, a symposium organised and hosted by the Asia-New Zealand Research Cluster, University of Otago, Dunedin, 8-9 June 2012, and her article “Reconciling Local with Global: New Zealand Muslim Women Articulating Faith in their Lives,” was published in *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*, 13 (3): 228-244.

Jacob Edmond (Department of English) had a monograph, *A Common Strangeness: Contemporary Poetry, Cross-Cultural Encounter, Comparative Literature*, published by Fordham University Press in June. *A Common Strangeness* exemplifies a new, multilingual, multilateral approach to literary and cultural studies. Edmond begins with the entrance of China into multinational capitalism and the appearance of the Parisian flâneur in the writings of a Chinese poet exiled in Auckland, New Zealand. Moving among poetic examples in Russian, Chinese, and English, he then traces a

series of encounters shaped by economic and geopolitical events from the Cultural Revolution, perestroika, and the June 4 massacre to the collapse of the Soviet Union, September 11, and the invasion of Iraq. In these encounters, Edmond tracks a shared concern with strangeness through which poets contested old binary oppositions as they reemerged in new, post-Cold War forms. He also has a chapter on “Sinophone New Zealand Literature” in *Sinophone Studies: A Critical Reader*, due out from Columbia University Press in January 2013.

Elizabeth Guthrie-Higbee (Department of Religion and Theology) co-supervised (with Dr Erica Baffelli) Tenzin Mullin's MA thesis on lay Buddhist rituals at Baoguo Si, Emei Shan, Sichuan, and co-supervised (with Dr Xiaohuan Zhao) Phra Kittipanyo Bhikkhu's MA thesis on the biography of An Shigao. She gave a conference paper: “Late colonial Buddhist iconography in the Mekong Delta and its origins,” at the conference, ‘Religious Studies in Cambodia: Understanding the Old and Tracing the New’ held at the Centre for Khmer Studies, Siem Reap, Cambodia, June 2012 and she has been invited to contribute her paper to the publication of the conference proceedings (forthcoming in 2013). She travelled to Vietnam and Cambodia in June-July to continue her long-term research into late colonial Cambodian Buddhist mural paintings in Cambodia and South Vietnam, finished two translations from Khmer of the biographies of Cambodian nationalists Okhña Son Kuy and Son Ngoc Thanh, and obtained and began the digitisation and translation of two nationalist Khmer newspapers, *Khmer Kraok* and *Khmer Thmei* which appeared briefly in the early 1950s, and are important for the history of Cambodian nationalism.

Susan Heydon (School of Pharmacy) spent six weeks in Nepal in January and February on a University of Otago-funded project talking to Sherpas about their ideas and experiences with taking medicines between the 1950s and the present in the Mt Everest region of Nepal. She gave the following presentations: “Taking medicines: Sherpa perspectives” at the 17th International Social Pharmacy Workshop, Phuket (Thailand), 23-26 July 2012; “Modern medicine in the Mt Everest region of Nepal and its encounter with Sherpa beliefs and practices” as part of a panel organised by the Cross-Cultural and Comparative Studies University of Otago research theme, 15th International Philosophy and Psychiatry Conference, University of Otago, Dunedin, 5-7 July 2012; and “Sherpas and medicine taking: Does gender matter?” at the Reconsidering Gender in Asian Studies: A Pacific Perspective, a symposium organised and hosted by the Asia-New Zealand Research Cluster, University of Otago, Dunedin, 8-9 June 2012.

Henry Johnson (Department of Music) was a Visiting Professor (June to October) at the Research Center for the Pacific Islands, Kagoshima University, Japan, during which time he researched “Transmitting Taiko within, Between and Beyond the Japanese Nansei Islands.” There, in July, he presented a paper on “Learning On and From Islands: Brief Commentary on a Field Trip to Iwojima, Kagoshima-ken, Japan, and Some Comparisons with New Zealand” at the Island Studies Symposium hosted by the Research Center for the Pacific Islands (Japan). His book *A Dictionary of Traditional Japanese Musical Instruments: From Prehistory to the Edo Period*, co-authored with Gunji, Sumi was published by Eideru and his chapter “A modernist traditionalist: Miyagi Michio, transculturalism, and the making of a music tradition” appeared in *Rethinking Japanese modernism*, edited by Roy Starrs and published by Global Oriental. A journal article entitled “Drumming in the transcultural imagination: Taiko, Japan and community music making in Aotearoa/New Zealand” appeared in the *International Journal of Community Music* 5 (1): 11-26 (2012), and his review of *Babylon East: Performing Dancehall, Roots Reggae, and Rastafari in Japan* by Marvin D. Sterling appeared in *Asian Studies Review* 36 (1): 129-31.

Roy Starrs (Department of Languages and Cultures) edited *Rethinking Japanese Modernism* (Leiden/Boston: Brill) and gave public talks on the topic “From Mishima to Aum: The Changing Culture of Religio-political Terrorism in Late 20th Century Japan” at the University of Tübingen, Germany and the University of Venice, Ca'Foscari, in June.

Will Sweetman (Department of Theology and Religion) co-authored and co-translated, with R. Ilakkuvan, *Bibliotheca Malabarica: Bartholomäus Ziegenbalg's Tamil Library* (Pondicherry/Paris: Institut Français de Pondichéry/Ecole française d'Extrême Orient, 2012). In 2012, the Department of Theology and Religion gained a new staff member specialising in Islam. Dr Taneli Kukkonen is a philosopher and an expert on al-Ghazali. The Department also renewed, for a further five-year term, its memorandum of understanding with a Buddhist foundation which supports two lecturers in Buddhist Studies, and postgraduate students at Otago. Dr Erica Baffelli is leaving the Department, and we are in the process of appointing a replacement who will be a specialist in either Islam or Buddhism. In December 2011, the Department of Theology and Religion hosted the conference of the NZ Association for the Study of Religions, which met jointly with the Australasian Association for Buddhist Studies (the first time the latter has met in NZ). In April 2012, it hosted a lecture by Bernard Faure, Kao Professor of Japanese Religions at Columbia University.

Vanessa B. Ward (History & Art History Department) co-convened the University of Otago Asia-NZ Research Cluster Symposium on the theme of “Reconsidering Gender in Asian Studies” (8-9 June, see report below), and presented papers on Chō Takeda Kiyoko at the Asian Studies Conference of Japan (Rikkyō University, Tokyo, 30 June-1 July) (which is currently being revised for publication in *Asian Cultural Studies*), the University of Otago Asian Migrations Theme (August), and to her own department (October).

Reconsidering Gender in Asian Studies: A Pacific Perspective

NZ-Asia Research Cluster Symposium, University of Otago

Over 8-9 June, approximately 30 students of gender and Asian studies gathered at Te Tumu (School of Maori, Pacific and Indigenous Studies), University of Otago for two full days of presentations and discussion at the University of Otago's NZ-Asia Research Cluster symposium. Associate Professor Wendy Parkins (Associate Dean Research, Division of Humanities, University of Otago) formally opened the symposium, graciously welcoming participants and highlighting the value of conversations about research in the humanities. Keynote presentations were given by Professor Haroon Akram-Lodhi (Trent University) and Professor Ikue Kina (University of the Ryūkyūs) that outlined the broad context for critical analysis of gender in Asian countries in terms of recent global economic developments, and the situation of the indigenous women's movement in Okinawa in light of the islands' history, respectively. Both provided important stimulus for discussion over the course of the symposium. Points of focus in the symposium included contemporary Japan, South-East Asia, Diaspora/Migration, Masculinities, and Gender and Knowledge Production, with many presentations reflecting on first person experiences including fieldwork in Asian societies. Participants included established and emerging academics, postgraduate students and activists from New Zealand, Australia, Japan and Canada.

Te Tumu generously provided the venue for the symposium. A large kitchen and dining area was available for lunches, and morning and afternoon teas, offering a

sunny and comfortable space for convivial conversation. The symposium dinner was held at a nearby Vietnamese restaurant located close to cafes and bars open to the wee hours.

Vanessa Ward

2.6 Victoria University of Wellington

Asianists throughout VUW have begun to organise regular meetings on Friday afternoons to foster scholarly and social interaction among colleagues at the university interests in Asia and Asian studies. Next year, seminars will be developed around three major themes emergent within the group: identity, soft power and narrative. The first meeting next year will be held on Friday 22 March at the New Zealand-India Research Institute, and Professor Sekhar Bandyopadhyay will speak about his Marsden research. Early discussions are being held about whether such gatherings might be extended virtually to the entire NZ Asianist community via the KAREN network.

New Zealand India Research Institute

The Council of the Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) has just established the New Zealand India Research Institute, as a consortium of scholars actively engaged in research on India in five New Zealand universities (VUW, Otago, Canterbury, Massey and Auckland). The other three NZ universities, i.e., AUT, Waikato and Lincoln, have also been invited to join.

The goals of the India Institute will be to:

- Promote and facilitate research on India and NZ-India relations
- Increase visibility of India related research done in NZ
- Promote postgraduate studies on India in NZ universities
- Promote academic exchanges between India scholars in NZ, India and other parts of the world - at institutional as well as individual level.
- Contribute to academic capacity building in NZ and India.
- Engage with government, business and community organisations on India related policy research.

Research activities of the India Institute will focus on five thematic areas:

- Society and culture
- Migration and diaspora
- Economics and business
- Environment and sustainability
- Politics and security

The main administrative centre of the India Institute will be located at VUW with Professor Sekhar Bandyopadhyay taking over as Foundation Director, and Associate Directors appointed for four other university chapters. The four Associate Directors are: Associate Professor Greg Booth (Auckland), Associate Professor Aditya Malik (Canterbury), Dr. Sita Venkateswar (Massey) and Dr. Vijay Devadas (Otago). In these five universities all academic staff who are actively engaged in research on India will become Fellows of the Institute. It should have a Governing Body consisting of the Director and the Associate Directors. There will also be an Advisory Board, representing external stakeholders.

As for the funding arrangement, VUW will provide funding for the establishment and daily administrative costs of the Institute; while Education New Zealand has provided a core annual funding to run its activities, which will include for 2013 two

conferences in New Zealand and a joint Indo-NZ conference in India. The funding will also provide for up to five short term visiting fellows from India.

The India Institute will be taking a leadership role in the activities of the recently established India New Zealand Education Council (INZEC), jointly chaired by the NZ Minister of Tertiary Education and the Indian Minister of Human Resource Development. During his India visit this year, Prime Minister John Key established INZEC with an annual budget of NZD \$1 million to promote educational exchanges between India and NZ. At the first INZEC meeting in New Delhi on 19 October (participated by Sekhar Bandyopadhyay and Aditya Malik) the India Institute was identified as the main expert body which would manage and oversee, on behalf of the Universities New Zealand, all higher education and research related activities under the INZEC.

New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre

International Conferences:

- *Public Service Reform in China and the Asia-Pacific: Theory and Practice.* Conference jointly sponsored with China University of Political Science and Law. 68 participants from China, Singapore, Korea, the US, France and New Zealand met in Beijing to debate public service reform in China and the Asia-Pacific.
- *Wellington Conference on Contemporary China: The Chinese Model of Modern Economic Development and Social Transformation.* This conference was held at Victoria in August and brought together leading international scholars to debate what has been driving rapid economic development and social change in China.

Public Symposia:

- *2012 China Business Symposium: Successful Branding and Channel Management in China.* Co-hosted with the New Zealand China Trade Association and located in Auckland. The symposium was targeted at both practitioners and academics and aimed to increase the awareness of opportunities in China for New Zealand businesses, improve understanding of the complexity in the China market and help facilitate the development of successful strategies and operational plans.
- *40th Anniversary of the Establishment of New Zealand - China Diplomatic Relations.* This public symposium was jointly organized with the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs and held at the Legislative Council Chamber in Parliament. A series of speakers followed the Prime Minister's keynote speech to discuss all-round NZ-China diplomatic relations and where to from here. A companion conference is planned for December of 2012 in Beijing and jointly hosted by China Academy of Social Sciences.
- *Opening Doors to China: NZ Inc China Strategy.* Hosted by the New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre; Business NZ; NZ China Trade Association; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT); NZ Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) in March 2012. The Opening Doors to China Seminar explored what the NZ Inc strategy means for businesses and other key stakeholders in New Zealand.

Public lectures:

- NPPCC Chairman Jia Qinglin delivered a 40 minute speech at the Centre followed by questions to mark the 40th anniversary of the NZ-China diplomatic relations.

Visiting research fellows:

- Wang Dongfang of China University of Political Science and Law - researching Chinese civil society and NGOs

- Kang Xuejun of Hebei University of Economics and Business - researching China's film industry
- Qu Yun of the Institute of Economics at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences - NZ-China trade relations
- Also hosted visiting delegations from the European Union External Action Service, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Chung-Hua Institute for Economic Research.

The Political Science and International Relations programme is running the China Field Study (POLS/INTP378) at the moment. Marc Lanteigne and Jason Young are currently in Beijing with 28 students for three weeks of study and field trips at China University of Political Science and Law.

Congratulations are due to Jason Young, who won a Marsden Fast Start grant for his project 'Investing in Rural China: New Zealand Agribusiness and the Local Global Nexus.' Jason describes the project as follows;

Foreign direct investment (FDI) has been critical to the Chinese economic miracle, a driving force behind domestic reforms toward a market economy and an important site of interaction and learning for international companies operating in the Chinese market. Much debate, however, remains on how foreign investment impacts a developing state and how this can be measured. The role of FDI in rural Chinese development remains critically understudied. As central and local government implement policy to attract international agribusinesses to the developing agricultural sector this debate has taken on a new importance for Chinese development. This research uses New Zealand agribusinesses as cases to develop a model and a more nuanced understanding of how international agribusinesses interact with local conditions in rural China. This will be achieved through institutional analysis that incorporates qualitative and quantitative data, including interviews, secondary and primary source data collection and trade, investment and development statistics. Two detailed case studies of Fonterra and Maori businesses will be carried out in Hebei and Guizhou provinces to provide a comparison of investment in developed and developing rural regions. This will contribute to our understanding of international agribusiness operations and the role of investment in the development of rural China.

Stephen Epstein

3. NZASIA Executive Committee, 2013-14

Results of the NZASIA executive committee (2013-14) election were recently announced;

President: Stephen Epstein (Victoria University of Wellington)
 Secretary: Vanessa Ward (University of Otago)
 Treasurer: Naimah Talib (University of Canterbury)
 NZJAS Editor: Paul Clark (University of Auckland)
 Publications Officer: Rosemary Haddon (Massey University)

4. Membership

We remind you that the membership fee includes a subscription to the *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies* (published twice yearly). The subscription period runs from 1 January to 31 December. There is an option of either a one-year or three-year subscription. Other benefits of membership include:

- the Newsletter
- conference participation with reduced rates, including reciprocity with ASAA conferences
- the potential for networking with other members
- the benefits of keeping abreast of developments in Asian Studies, including scholarship opportunities

Membership Fees for 2013

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