Director’s Welcome

It is my great pleasure as the acting director of the Fairbank Center to extend warm greetings to all members of the Chinese studies community at Harvard. Whether you are student or faculty, visiting scholar or staff member, I hope that each of you has passed a relaxing winter break, wherever you have been. I look forward to seeing your cheerful faces, either in the hallways of CGIS South or in the quiet alcoves of the Fung Library across the street.

This academic year at the Fairbank Center continues to be one full of productive and stimulating intellectual engagement. Despite unprecedented budgetary pressures, the Center this year maintains its usual extraordinary range of activities and events. This includes our various regular seminars—covering topics from religions to gender studies, politics, business, history, arts, humanities, and new research in all disciplines—as well as our endowed lectures, the Charles Neuhauser Memorial Lecture in the fall and the Edwin O. Reischauer Lectures in the spring.

We have already supported a number of important conferences in the fall: “New Century, New Literature: A Dialogue between Chinese and American Writers and Critics,” in collaboration with the Asia Center; “Artful Retreat: Garden Culture of the Qing Dynasty,” with the Peabody-Essex Museum; and “Fresh Ink: Ten Takes on Chinese Tradition,” with the Museum of Fine Arts. We are especially grateful to the Rockefeller Fund for East Asian Art and our art history faculty for making possible the exciting collaborations with local museums. More special events and conferences will be announced on our website and our weekly events email.

In addition, after a very successful initial year, the Center is continuing its graduate student associates program and is pleased to host thirteen doctoral students from the fields of anthropology, sociology, East Asian languages and civilizations, business, history, and art history. Let me also extend a special welcome to this year’s China and the World postdoctoral fellow, Andrew Erickson, and our four An Wang postdoctoral fellows, Weihong Bao, Felix Boecking, Ling Hon Lam, and Lihong Shi. We have long come to rely on our graduate students and post-docs to provide us with fresh perspectives, and this year’s group has already helped seed more than one challenging discussion.

We think of the Fairbank Center as belonging to Harvard, which indeed it does. But the Fairbank Center is also a transnational site where scholars from around the globe regularly come to engage with us.

Seeing Utopia at the Fairbank Center

Through March 2011, visitors to the Fairbank Center can enjoy an exhibition of contemporary photographs by two Beijing-based artists, Wang Di and Xing Danwen. The show juxtaposes Wang Di’s nostalgic photographs of 1950s Soviet-style architecture with Xing Danwen’s cool observation of upscale contemporary life set within architectural models of commercial real estate. Organized by art history professor Eugene Wang, the exhibition and the related symposium “Seeing Utopia: Visions of Contemporary Chinese Urbanscapes” brought scholars, artists, and critics together to discuss China’s socialist and postsocialist ideals.

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The exhibition “Seeing Utopia: Visions of Contemporary Chinese Urbanscapes” is on view through March 2011.
Top image: Building No. 15, 4th Road in Jiu Xian Qiao (2005), Wang Di
Bottom image: Urban Fiction, Image 13 (2005) Xing Danwen
Director's Welcome

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This fall, the Fairbank Center welcomed two new staff members whose energy and talents have already boosted the center's operations. Mariah Tollgaard, left, staff assistant, greets visitors, answers inquiries, and works on administrative projects. Jascha Smilack, right, events coordinator, is in charge of all logistics for Fairbank Center events. Mariah's hours are 9 am to 1 pm, and Jascha's are 1 pm to 5 pm.

Fairbank Center News is published annually by the staff of the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies. For inquiries, comments, address changes, and submissions, please contact Editorial: Lydia Chen, lydiac@fas.harvard.edu Distribution: Linda Kluz, lkluz@fas.harvard.edu Design: Kelly Maccioli, kmmacc@fas.harvard.edu

New Fairbank Center Staff

Mariah Tollgaard,
left,
staff assistant

Jascha Smilack,
right,
events coordinator

Mark C. Elliott

Mark Schwartz Professor of Chinese and Inner Asian History
Acting Director, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies
Benjamin Elman, professor of East Asian studies and history at Princeton University, will deliver the 2011 Reischauer Lectures. His teaching and research interests concern Chinese intellectual and cultural history, the history of science, the history of education, and Sino-Japanese cultural history. He received his Ph.D. in oriental studies from the University of Pennsylvania and was on the faculty of UCLA before joining Princeton's faculty.

In three consecutive lectures this spring, on April 13, 14, and 15, Professor Elman will examine the dynamics of Sino-Japanese cultural and intellectual relationships, beginning with notions of the “rise of Japan” and the “fall of China” that dominated Sinology and Japanology in the twentieth century.

In the first lecture, “The Great Reversal,” he will refer to recent controversies over representation of the 1894-95 Sino-Japanese War to anticipate new historical perspectives concerning “modern” China and Japan. In the second lecture, “Philologists as Rogues,” he will step into the past to address the Japanese discovery in the 1740s of a native manuscript version of a fifth-century work by Huang Kan, which had been lost in China since the Southern Song dynasty. He will examine the rogue behavior that led to the work’s subsequent, and ironic, re-introduction to China. In lecture three, “Medical Philology in the ‘Second Rome,’” he will position the study of traditional Chinese medicine as an integral part of classical learning in East Asia.

Imagine that your research requires information about the trend of change in population of Hefei, the capital of Anhui province: you want to know the sex ratio, the illiteracy rate, and the number of children aged five to nine, from 1990 to the present. It’s rather a daunting process, wouldn’t you say? But imagine that you could build a visual map of this data with only a few clicks of your mouse. The ChinaMap project at the Center for Geographic Analysis at Harvard is developing just such a tool, under the direction of Professor Peter Bol.

Staff members Lex Berman and Wendy Guan, along with others at the Center for Geographic Analysis, are now embarking on this innovative project to create a highly flexible system for scholars, researchers, and the general public to integrate large amounts of information about China onto multiple map layers. The ChinaMap project is built on the WorldMap framework, which is a map-based interface first implemented for the continent of Africa in 2008. ChinaMap is now collaborating with Social Explorer, a privately funded online tool for analyzing and visualizing demographic information. The ChinaMap project has received support from the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and the Juliet and Lee Folger Fund.

Still in its early stage of development, ChinaMap, through its map-based interface, is experimenting with four categories of information: demographic, topographic, historical, and place names. The national census is an important source of data about the Chinese population—residence, migration pattern, occupation, and level of educational attainment. ChinaMap will begin by loading information from the census of 1990, 2000, and later 2010. In addition, various sets of other data—news agency locations, courier routes, and even temples by county—are incorporated as compatible map layers.

The website allows users to select data for background display either on Google Maps—which includes a terrain model of physical geography, a topographic map of administrative boundaries and transportation networks, and a mosaic of satellite images and aerial photos—or on images of scanned paper maps from earlier times. “Instead of opening multiple browsers, ChinaMap allows users to access, search, and compare all levels of information about China through one window,” explains Guan. For example, users can superimpose farming intensity over the illiteracy rate and visualize the relationship between the two, and its variations from place to place, at one glance. Changes over time and space can be played out through time animation on one screen.

One of the strengths of ChinaMap is that it is a user-oriented site, which allows users to contribute content. Using publicly available resources such as YouTube and Picasa, users can upload content onto the site and add links to further information. For instance, if a scholar visits China and takes a video clip or photo of a specific location, he or she can upload it directly to YouTube or Picasa, label the file with a descriptive phrase, such as “Chongqing, Sichuan street scene June...”
The symposium "Fresh Ink: Ten Takes on Chinese Tradition," with sponsorship from the Rockefeller Fund for East Asian Art and the Harvard-Yenching Institute, was held at the Fairbank Center in December 2010. About 250 people attended this standing-room-only event to listen to curators, scholars, and artists discuss the works on display in the Fresh Ink exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Boston. The groundbreaking exhibition featured new works by ten contemporary artists from China and the Chinese diaspora that were created in direct response to masterpieces in the MFA's permanent collection. The new works and the sources of inspiration were exhibited side by side.

Artists who participated in the symposium were: Arnold Chang, Li Huayi, Li Jin, Liu Dan, Liu Xiaodong, Qin Feng, Qiu Ting, Zeng Xiaojun, and Yu Hong. The symposium was organized by the faculty and students of the East Asian art history program at Harvard in collaboration with Hao Sheng, Wu Tung Curator of Chinese Art at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Thomas J. Christensen, professor of politics and international affairs at Princeton University, presented the 2010 Charles Neuhauser Memorial Lecture this fall. The annual lecture recognizes public intellectuals who bridge the worlds of academia and public service.

In his lecture titled "A New Direction for U.S.-China Relations," Professor Christensen analyzed the progress and setbacks since the Bush administration in setting U.S.-China relations on a new course by making China a more responsible stakeholder in the international order. An article based on his lecture will be published in Foreign Affairs magazine.

Thomas Christensen was deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs from 2006 to 2008. Currently he co-directs the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program and serves on the editorial boards of many international affairs journals. He also advises the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, the Council on Foreign Relations, the National Bureau of Asian Research, the Brookings Institution, and the U.S. State Department. Before joining Princeton, he was on the faculty of M.I.T. and Cornell University. He received his Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University.

In November 2010, the Fairbank Center joined with the department of history of art and architecture, the Peabody Essex Museum, and the Harvard-Yenching Institute in sponsoring the symposium "Artful Retreat: Garden Culture of the Qing Dynasty." The symposium took place over two days, with a full day of panel sessions at Harvard followed by a visit to the special exhibit "The Emperor’s Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City" and closing presentations at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts.

At the symposium, scholars from China, the United States, Australia, and Europe explored the artistic, literary, political, historical, and economic aspects of garden culture in China since the seventeenth century. The keynote speaker was Geremie Barmé of the Australian National University. The symposium was organized by Nancy Berliner, curator of Chinese art at the Peabody Essex Museum, and Professors Mark Elliott and Eugene Wang of Harvard University.

The related exhibit at the Peabody Essex Museum featured furnishings, garden and architectural elements, and art objects from the Tranquility and Longevity Palace Garden (Ningshougong huayuan 寧壽宮花園) in the northeastern section of the Forbidden City. Also known as the Qianlong Garden, this two-acre complex of rockeries and pavilions was completed under the personal direction of the Qianlong emperor in 1776. This was the first public display of objects from the Qianlong Garden since the fall of the Qing dynasty.

Join Our Email List

To receive weekly announcements of upcoming Fairbank Center events, please send a message with the word 'subscribe' as the subject to: fairbankevents-list-request@lists.fas.harvard.edu
Several new books on China have been published recently by the Harvard University Asia Center publications program.

In a study on classical literature, Robert Ashmore (Harvard Ph.D., 1997) of the University of California, Berkeley revisits the poet Tao Qian’s approach to his own readers in The Transport of Reading: Text and Understanding in the World of Tao Qian (365–427). He places Tao’s approach to his readers within the particular poeticics of address that characterized the Six Dynasties classicist tradition. How would Tao Qian have anticipated that his readers would understand him? Situated between the history of literature and the histories of reading and thought, this book uses these questions of address and understanding in Tao Qian’s poetry as a lens through which to explore both the poet and the cultures of reading and interpretation in the Six Dynasties classicist tradition.

Wretched Rebels: Rural Disturbances on the Eve of the Chinese Revolution is a condensed translation, by Philip Liddell, of the prizewinning Jacqueries et révolution dans la Chine du XXe siècle by Lucien Bianco, former director of the China Center at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris. Focusing on “spontaneous” rural unrest in early twentieth-century China, Bianco argues that such social protests tended to be directed not toward the landowning class, as revolutionary leaders would have it, but against institutions of the state, such as taxation, conscription, and government-imposed reforms.

In Through a Forest of Chancellors: Fugitive Histories in Liu Yuan’s Lingyan ge, an Illustrated Book from Seventeenth-Century Suzhou, Anne Burkus-Chasson of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign examines the dialogues created among the texts and images in Lingyan ge from multiple perspectives. She demonstrates how Liu Yuan’s 1669 re-creation of an early Tang portrait gallery embodies the historical moment in which it was made.

Writing on Tang dynasty poetry, Jack W. Chen (Harvard Ph.D., 2002) of the University of California, Los Angeles highlights the relationship between historiography and the literary and rhetorical strategies of sovereignty. The Poetics of Sovereignty: On Emperor Taizong of the Tang Dynasty addresses Taizong’s construction of a reputation for moral rulership through his own literary writings.

Wiebke Denecke (Harvard Ph.D., 2004), who has joined the faculty of Boston University, recaptures the development of early Chinese philosophy as a history of the traditional genre of “Masters Literature” (zishu) in The Dynamics of Masters Literature: Early Chinese Thought from Confucius to Han Feizi. Denecke seeks to propose alternatives to the dominant philosophical paradigm through which the rich corpus of Chinese “Masters Texts” has been approached since the early modern period. She claims that by historicizing the notion of a “Chinese philosophy” we can discover in these texts new dimensions that will help us rethink the history of Western philosophy and inspire new questions for the future of philosophical thought.

David Johnson of the University of California, Berkeley presents a detailed description of the ritual world of a group of rural Shanxi settlements before 1949 in Spectacle and Sacrifice: The Ritual Foundations of Village Life in North China. Through newly discovered liturgical manuscripts, Johnson reconstructs north Chinese temple festivals and demonstrates that they are sharply different from the Daoist- and Buddhist-based communal rituals of South China.

Christopher Nugent’s (Harvard Ph.D., 2004) Manifest in Words, Written on Paper: Producing and Circulating Poetry in Tang Dynasty China engages the textual realities of medieval literature by shedding light on the material lives of poems during the Tang, from their initial vocalization or writing through their paths of circulation. Nugent, who teaches Chinese language and literature at Williams College, argues that understanding Tang poetry requires acknowledging that Tang literary culture accepted the conscious revision of these works by authors, readers, and transmitters.

Finally, in Songs of Contentment and Transgression: Discharged Officials and Literati Communities in Sixteenth-Century North China, Tian Yuan Tan (Harvard Ph.D., 1997) of the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London sketches the largely unknown literary landscape of mid-Ming north China through an examination of three officials in the sixteenth century—Wang Jiuxi, Kang Hai, and Li Kaixian—who chose to engage in the marginalized genre of qu (songs) when forced to retire. Wang, Kang, and Li are studied not as solitary writers but as central figures in the “qu communities” that formed around them, allowing readers to see how sanqu and drama were produced, transmitted, and “used” among these writers.

Kristen Wanner is editor of the Asia Center publications program.

Find Us On Facebook

Log onto Facebook and search for “Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies” and like our page. You will receive event updates on Facebook.
Cultivating Global Citizens

The 2008 Edwin O. Reischauer Lectures delivered by Susan Greenhalgh, professor of anthropology at the University of California, Irvine, were published this fall by Harvard University Press. In her book, *Cultivating Global Citizens: Population in the Rise of China*, Greenhalgh examines China’s strategy in the past decade to view its people as human capital to be strengthened, cultivated, and transformed to advance the nation.

Ellis Joffe Book Fund

Ellis Joffe, professor emeritus of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and long-time friend of the Fairbank Center, passed away in January 2010. In recognition of Professor Joffe’s contributions to the study of contemporary China, his friends and colleagues have established a book fund for the Fairbank Center collection in the Fung Library. A book plate with the wording ‘The Ellis Joffe Book Fund’ and the seal of the Fairbank Center will be inserted in all books purchased from this fund.

Donations may be sent to Susan McHone, director of finance and administration, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, 1730 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. Checks should be made payable to “Harvard University” with the notation “Ellis Joffe Book Fund” in the check memo area. For more information about the book fund, please contact Nancy Hearst at email: hearst@fas.harvard.edu.

Faculty Publications

Last summer, we asked our faculty to provide us with information about their research publications in the 2009-10 academic year. The list of very interesting topics and achievements quickly became too long to include in this newsletter, so we have posted the list on our website. Please see what our faculty have been publishing lately at: http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu.

Congratulations to the following faculty for their prize-winning books:


James Robson, associate professor of East Asian languages and civilizations, received the Stanislas Julien Prize from the French Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres for his book *Power of Place: The Religious Landscape of the Southern Sacred Peak (Nanyue 南嶽) in Medieval China* (Harvard East Asia Monograph Series, 2009). The prize is named after Stanislas Julien (1797-1873), who translated the classics of Confucianism and Taoism into Latin and French, and who wrote on the silk industry, porcelain, Chinese Buddhist pilgrims to India, Sanskrit and Chinese grammar, and other interactions between China and the West.

ChinaMap continued from page 3

2010_clip”, and ChinaMap will automatically display it when someone puts in a search term that contains “Chongqing,” “Sichuan,” or “June 2010.” ChinaMap also will show where the image or video, and its descriptions, are originally located.

The ChinaMap team has been building new data sets as well as new functions. New layers under construction include environment, pollution, public health, economy, topography, and regional development. Users will be able to create their own mapping site, upload their own data, control access to their site and data, and change mapping symbols—to personalize their maps. “The ChinaMap project,” Berman says, “is about using technology to open possibilities.”

Users can access ChinaMap at: http://worldmap.harvard.edu/eastasia/

Ruyi Lu was a student assistant at the Fairbank Center last year and received her Ed.M. in 2010.

Check Our New Website

The Fairbank Center website now has a dynamic events calendar, searchable pages, and Google translation of every page into Afrikaans, Arabic, Estonian, Latvian, Welsh, Yiddish, and more than 50 languages, including simplified and traditional Chinese. Try it out! Our new url is: http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu.
New Fairbank Center Associates

The executive committee of the Fairbank Center has approved five new center associates. Center associates are scholars who have consistently engaged with the Fairbank Center intellectual community over many years and who continue to make outstanding contributions to the center’s programs.

JOSEPH FEWSMITH is professor of international relations and political science and director of the Center for the Study of Asia at Boston University. His research concerns comparative politics and Chinese domestic and international politics. He is author of *China since Tiananmen: From Deng Xiaoping to Hu Jintao* (2008). He cohosts the Chinese Politics and Foreign Policy Workshop.

STEVEN M. GOLDSTEIN is Sophia Smith Professor of Government at Smith College. His research concerns Chinese domestic and foreign policy, mainland China–Taiwan relations, and U.S.–Taiwan relations. He is coeditor of *Presidential Politics in Taiwan: The Administration of Chen Shui-bian* (2008). He directs the Taiwan Studies Workshop and leads the annual Fairbank Center cross-straits delegation.

RUDOLF G. WAGNER is senior professor and co-director of the Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context: Shifting Asymmetries in Cultural Flows” at the University of Heidelberg, Germany. His research interests are in Chinese religions and philosophical thought. He is a recipient of the Leibniz Award. He is a frequent participant at Fairbank Center conferences, lectures, and workshops.

ROBERT P. WELLER is professor of anthropology at Boston University. His research concerns China and Taiwan in comparative perspective, and religion and philanthropy in China. He is author of *Discovering Nature: Globalization and Environmental Culture in China and Taiwan* (2006). He cohosts the Chinese Religions Seminar.

ELLEN WIDMER is Mayling Soong Professor of Chinese Studies and chair of the East Asian languages and literatures department at Wellesley College. Her research concerns gender in Chinese literature, comparative East Asian literatures, and late-Qing fiction, family history, and media ecology. She is author of *The Beauty and the Book: Women and Fiction in Nineteenth-Century China* (2006). She cohosts the Gender Studies Workshop.

New Associates in Research

The Fairbank Center welcomes four new associates in research who will be active in academic activities at the Fairbank Center and will pursue their Chinese studies research at Harvard libraries. The associates in research program includes about one hundred scholars from other institutions who participate in Chinese studies activities at the Fairbank Center. New applications must be received by March 15 each year. For a full roster of current associates in research, please visit our website: http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu.


ASHLEY ESAREY teaches East Asian politics at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. He pursues research on China’s propaganda system, the commercialization of state media, and digital communication and Chinese politics. He was an An Wang postdoctoral fellow at the Fairbank Center in 2008-09.

VITALY KOZYREV is assistant professor of political science and international relations at Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts. He studies post-communist transformations, Chinese foreign policy, international security in East Asia, great power politics, and Chinese-Russian relations. His Ph.D. in global history is from Moscow State University, where he was also a faculty member.

JIANGHE NIU is an independent scholar conducting research on culture and diversity in China, Canada, and the United States.
The Postdoc Experience: A Lot to Gain  BY RUYI LU

On a casual afternoon, one may hear laughter floating across the Fairbank Center hallway as scholars engage in lively conversation. Last year, four postdoctoral fellows—Donglin Han, Enhua Zhang, Min Ye, and Xiaohong Yu—participated in the life of the center.

For some, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies is a dream destination. Donglin Han, who had read history and politics books by John K. Fairbank and other Fairbank Center faculty during his college years at Fudan University, said, “I hardly thought I could come to the Fairbank Center one day.” He completed his Ph.D. in social science at Hong Kong University of Science Technology in 2009 and received a China and the World postdoctoral fellowship, which provided him with his own desk at the center.

So what kinds of opportunity are presented to scholars at this “dream place”? For those who take the initiative, it is possible to create an atmosphere of civil exchange among scholars from even conflicting perspectives. Enhua Zhang, an An Wang postdoctoral fellow and assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, actively coorganized the “Red Legacy in China” international conference. The two-day event brought together scholars from different political stances to engage, as Zhang describes it, “in harmony” on some of the most complex issues of the Mao legacy.

With full access to Harvard University’s resources, the postdoctoral fellows can immerse themselves in the various libraries and in discussions with professors and colleagues. Min Ye, a China and the World postdoctoral fellow and assistant professor at Boston University, was “extremely impressed” by the research of her fellow postdocs and benefited greatly from discussions with Professor Elizabeth Perry who provided her with insightful comments on her research. She also used the available resources and is grateful for the support of Nancy Hearst at the Fung Library and Xiao-He Ma at Harvard-Yenching Library.

In addition to stimulating conferences and seminars, the Fairbank Center also hosted art events, providing the scholars with a creative take on China’s rapidly changing society. Zhang recalled the documentary screenings in the “Emergent Visions” series and the exhibition “Seeing Utopia” as valuable contributions to her study. She said the films and photography put her in touch with “sheer Chinese social reality” in a visually direct way not easily achieved through other means.

While at Harvard, fellows may participate in activities beyond the Fairbank Center and benefit from the intellectual network of the university at large. Xiaohong Yu, an An Wang postdoctoral fellow who had just received her Ph.D. from Columbia University, presented her research on rule of law under authoritarianism at Harvard Law School and participated in the China law discussion group there. She also taught a course in the department of government, which she remembers as a “particularly intriguing experience.” Most of all, she remembers spending time with fellow postdocs, saying, “We exchanged ideas, gave advice, and offered collegial support to each other.”

Reflections of a Graduate Student Associate  BY JOSHUA HILL

Last academic year, ten of us—dissertation-level graduate students from a variety of disciplines and departments—participated in the life of the Fairbank Center as the first-ever graduate student associates. Inhabiting the interior offices of the center’s CGIS South home, we were lucky to be able to make use of a variety of center resources, from sturdy bookcases to an endless supply of coffee and tea, to collectively produce several completed dissertations, a large number of dissertation chapters, and a number of conference presentations. This is, we hope, a burst of productivity that would satisfy the spirit of Professor Fairbank, as well as the demands of our advisors.

Spending time in the Fairbank Center, however, was about more than just a quiet place to think and write. As a group, we scheduled a series of formal meetings throughout the academic year in which we each presented portions of our dissertations. The most challenging aspect of the meetings was the need to explain our topics and methodologies to people with different disciplinary perspectives; this was one of the most difficult and the most intellectually rewarding aspects of the year.

Perhaps the best part of spending a year in the Fairbank Center, though, were the opportunities that simply being here created for unstructured, informal, spontaneous interactions. The coffee machine, the lunch table outside S-153, and the copier/printer room became places to meet a variety of other center affiliates, from faculty to staff to postdocs. Although not every conversation was strictly academic in nature, these interactions provided another chance for each of us to reach outside the boundaries of our home departments.

Thanks to Our Supporters

The Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies programs are supported in part by the generosity of friends. We would like to thank James M. Fitzgibbons, the Lee and Juliet Folger Fund, Frederic D. Grant, Jr., Marshall and Merle Goldman, Joyce and Edward Kallgren, Peter L. and Isabel Malkin, Robert H. Morehouse, the Skinner Estate, the Smith Richardson Foundation, Wang Di, and the James and Virginia Welch Foundation.

To build and sustain the programs of the Fairbank Center, please contact Associate Director Lydia Chen, email: Lydiac@fas.harvard.edu, phone: 617-384-6606.
Fairbank Center Postdoctoral Fellows

The Fairbank Center welcomes five postdoctoral fellows this year. Our An Wang postdoctoral fellowship recognizes exceptional scholarship in Chinese studies in any field of the humanities and social sciences. This year we also host one fellow from the Princeton-Harvard China and the World postdoctoral program, which supports exceptional young scholars whose work bridges China studies and international relations.

An Wang Postdoctoral Fellows

WEIHONG BAO is assistant professor of Chinese film and media culture at Columbia University. She will be completing her book manuscript, "The Art of Display: Cinema and Intermedial Culture in China, 1884-1945." The manuscript examines how Chinese cinema existed in tandem and cross-fertilized with historical new and "older" media technologies and modes of exhibition to produce distinct notions of spectatorship and public sphere. By excavating a "multimedia" history of Chinese cinema, it questions the conception of cinema as a singular, fixed medium and throws into historical relief contemporary debates on "the end of cinema" and the ubiquity of digital media. This year, she is also a postdoctoral fellow at the Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles and will spend time on both coasts. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2006.

FELIX ALBRECHT BOECKING, is lecturer of modern Chinese economic and political history at the University of Edinburgh in the United Kingdom. He is completing a book manuscript titled "No Great Wall—Trade, Tariffs and Nationalism in Republican China, 1927-1945." His thesis challenges the widely accepted idea that the key to the Communist seizure of power in China lay in the incompetence of the Nationalist government of Chiang Kai-shek. His research demonstrates the strength of Nationalist state building in the crucial area of taxation and fiscal policy, based on his analysis of Nationalist tariff policy. In the book, he will present a broader history of the interplay of international trade, consumption, and political nationalism in Republican China. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge in 2008.

LING HON LAM is assistant professor of Chinese literature at Vanderbilt University. He is completing a book manuscript titled "From Exteriority to Theatricality: Exploring the Spatiality of Emotion in Early Modern China," which reconceptualizes emotion as a spatial structure subject to historical changes. He focuses on a historically specific mode of spatiality of emotion — namely, theatricality — in late sixteenth- to eighteenth-century China. Arguing against accounts of theatricality as a universal category, he traces its emergence out of the medieval dreamscape in China. This year he is also a resident fellow of the Newhouse Center for the Humanities at Wellesley College. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2006.

LIHONG SHI is completing a book manuscript titled "Embracing a Singleton-Daughter: Transforming Reproductive Choice in Rural Northeast China," which explores reproductive choice and family change under China's birth-planning policy. Her research shows an increasing willingness by peasant couples to have a daughter as an only child. Prior to coming to Harvard, she received a Mellon/ACLS Recent Doctoral Recipient Fellowship and was a visiting fellow at the Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University. She received her Ph.D. from Tulane University in 2009.

China and the World Postdoctoral Fellow

ANDREW S. ERICKSON is associate professor in the strategic research department of the U.S. Naval War College. He is completing a book project based on his dissertation, "Great Power Aerospace Development: China's Quest for the Highest High Ground." Focusing on China, with comparative case studies involving India and Brazil, he explores why different great powers adopt different technological strategies to further their power. He aims to provide insight into what type of power China will become. He is also a fellow in the public intellectuals program of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. He received his Ph.D. from Princeton University in 2006.

Library Tip

See what the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies Collection in the Fung Library has to offer by checking the Fairbank Center website at http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu.

You can find general information about our library, as well as lists of both current and past Chinese- and English-language acquisitions.
Visiting Scholars

We welcome the following visiting scholars this year and look forward to their engagements with our community. For more information please visit our website at: http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu.

MABLE CHAN (陈美宝) is a broadcast journalist with a career background in international television news. She has produced feature segments, special series, and breaking news stories for ABC News, NBC News, CNN, Fox News Channel, and CBS News, and was principal anchor and correspondent for Hong Kong Television broadcasts. Her research this year will examine the changing environment for international media partnerships in China. She is an alumna of the Regional Studies-East Asia master’s program at Harvard.

GUANGLIN JIN (金光林), professor of humanities at Niigata Sangyo University, is undertaking a comparative study on the formation of East Asian family names and genealogies. He examines how family names and systems change across China, Japan, and Korea, differences in how family genealogies are recorded, and evidence of population movement in the pre-modern era. He received his Ph.D. in interdisciplinary cultural studies from the University of Tokyo in 1997.

CHUNYING LIU (刘春英), associate professor of English and Chinese at Jinan University, pursues research in Chinese and American literature, cross-cultural studies, literary translation, and aesthetics. She will work on a project on the eco-poetry of A Dream of the Red Chamber and also explore resources on Emerson and Thoreau while in the Boston area.

ZONGBAO MA (马宗保), professor and dean of the Institute of Hui Ethnic Minority at Ningxia University, examines sociocultural changes experienced by the Hui ethnic minority during urbanization in contemporary China. His research focuses on societal relations, especially between Han and Hui ethnic groups; between different sects of Islam; and between religious and political institutions. He received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Lanzhou University in 2004.

QIANG XIN (信强), associate professor and deputy director of the Center for American Studies at Fudan University, will examine the development of U.S.-China maritime security relations against the background of modernization by the PLA Navy. His research also concerns U.S. politics and the Taiwan issue. He received his Ph.D. in international relations from Fudan University in 2002.

SONGTAO WANG (王松涛), chief planner and vice director-general of the Chengdu Planning and Management Bureau, is interested in sustainability issues of urban development and system reform. He will be conducting a comparative study of Chinese and American urban planning issues, including economic analyses. He received his Ph.D. in urban planning from Chongqing University in 1999.

YESONG ZHANG (张业松), professor of Chinese language and literature at Fudan University, is engaged in a research project on the polemics of Chinese left-wing literature in a global perspective. His recent studies have focused on the writing and literary thoughts of Lu Xun and Zhou Zuoren, and he is editing the complete works of Lu Ling. He received his Ph.D. in modern Chinese literature from Fudan University in 1999.

Desmond and Whitney Shum Fellows

The Fairbank Center selected three Desmond and Whitney Shum fellows for 2010-11. These doctoral students receive funding generously provided by Mr. and Mrs. Desmond Shum to advance the understanding of contemporary China through graduate student research conducted in China.

WEIHUA AN, Ph.D. candidate, sociology, will conduct a social experiment in several schools throughout central China, involving about 6,000 students, as a means to collect social network data on the peer influence of cigarette smoking among adolescents. He will be working with Beijing Normal University. His faculty advisors are Nicholas Christakis and Martin Whyte.

JOHN PAUL SNIADECKI, Ph.D. candidate, social anthropology with media, will analyze the lived-experience of independent documentary filmmakers, while also incorporating the social, economic, and political conditions of their media productions. He will conduct field research in Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Kunming, and Chengdu. His faculty advisors are Arthur Kleinman and Lucien Taylor.

YANFANG SU, D.S. candidate, health systems, will conduct a cross-sectional study of 7,000 households and 33,000 individuals in rural areas of Ningxia province. She aims to provide evidence-based evaluations of policy interventions, to test the comparative effectiveness of vignette methods in overcoming problems with self-reported health measures. She will be working with Ningxia Medical School and Tsinghua University. Her faculty advisor is William Hsiao.

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Graduate Student Associates

The Fairbank Center welcomes eight advanced doctoral students to our CGIS South offices as new graduate student associates. Throughout the year they will be sharing their perspectives from a variety of disciplines, from anthropology to history, sociology, film, and business. Five experienced GSAs from our first cohort will support this program.

New GSAs

WEIHUA AN (安卫华)
Ph.D. candidate, Sociology, G5
Weihua An focuses on formal and statistical analysis of peer effects on health and social behaviors, and social-network-based policy interventions. His faculty advisors are Nicholas Christakis, Martin Whyte, Robert Sampson, and James O'Malley.

SHU CHANG (常殊)
Ph.D. candidate, Anthropology, G7
Shu Chang examines the practice of radical socialism and its long-term consequences in Chinese society, with fieldwork in a village in northern China. She also explores the methodology of historical ethnography. Her faculty advisors are James L. Watson, Arthur Kleinman, and Michael Herzfeld.

YINAN LUO (罗真楠)
Ph.D. candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, G6
Yinan Luo investigates the Chinese state-building experience from the Northern to the Southern Song dynasties. His faculty advisors are Peter Bol, Anthony Saich, Dannel Ziblatt, and Michael Szonyi.

YING QIAN (钱颖)
Ph.D. candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, G6
Ying Qian examines evolving documentary visions in twentieth-century China. She is interested in the social processes and "film thinking" that have enabled and shaped the making of documentary images and the ways in which these images have affected historical change. Her faculty advisors are Michael Szonyi and Eileen Cheng-yin Chow.

YANG WEI (魏阳)
Ph.D. candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, G6
Yang Wei explores how fiscal reform in the mid-Ming resulted in the shrinkage of local government functions, which provided space for alliances and associations between scholar/officials, or the relationships traditionally referred to as shi. His faculty advisor is Peter Bol.

HSIN-CHAO WU (吴幸钊)
Ph.D. candidate, Sociology, G8
Hsin-chao Wu focuses on the conscious construction of continuity as an effort to transition to a new era.

Her fieldwork has been in three villages in Fujian Province, where she studies how these communities use the revival of local traditions to redefine themselves and adapt to socio-economic changes. Her faculty advisor is Orlando Patterson.

SUI LIN YAP (叶瑞玲)
D.B.A candidate, Harvard Business School, G3
Sui Lin Yap studies the strategies that firms use in response to missing or underdeveloped institutions, and the roles that governments play in this entrepreneurial process to drive economic development. Her regional focus is on Asia, especially China, and her faculty advisor is Tarun Khanna.

MIN ZHANG (张敏)
Ph.D., candidate, Anthropology, G6
Min Zhang uses her observations of everyday life in a rural middle school in northwest China to address the daily operation of a state institution, the complex interplay of individuals and the national institution they live with, and cultural production in state discourses and local practices. Her faculty advisor is James Watson.

Second-Year GSAs

SONG CHEN (陈松), Ph.D. candidate in East Asian languages and civilizations, is completing his dissertation, "Managing the Provinces from Afar: Imperial State and Elites in Sichuan, 755-1279," advised by Peter Bol, Philip Kuhn, Michael Szonyi, and Orlando Patterson.


VINCENT LEUNG (梁萃行), Ph.D. candidate in East Asian languages and civilizations, is completing his dissertation, "The Politics of History in Early China," advised by Michael Puett, Peter Bol, Wai-ye Li, and Wei-ming Tu.

HAIHONG LI (李海鸿), Ph.D. candidate in East Asian languages and civilizations, is completing her dissertation, "Instructing Kins: Bureaucracy and Kinship Organizations of the Manchu Society (1644-1912)," advised by Philip Kuhn, Mark Elliott, Michael Szonyi, and Peter Perdue.

ALLISON MILLER (米艾琳), Ph.D. candidate in history and the languages and civilizations of East Asia, is completing her dissertation, "Exploring the Emergence of Rock-Cut Mountain Tombs in the Mid-Western Han Dynasty," advised by Michael Puett and Eugene Wang.
The first cohort of Fairbank Center graduate student associates shared their research projects in formal and informal interdisciplinary conversations throughout the year. Gathered in their familiar CGIS South seminar room in May 2010 were, (back row) Director Bill Kirby, Joshua Hill, Vincent Leung, Allison Miller, Alison Denton Jones, Haihong Li and (front row) Associate Director Lydia Chen, Jie Li, Cole Roskam, John Wang, and Song Chen. Rui Guo from the Harvard Law School was unfortunately absent that day.