Director’s Column

This past year brought a number of changes, reaffirmations, and new directions to the Center for East Asian Studies. On the personnel front, the Center welcomed Shen Xiaohong as its new Assistant Director. Xiaohong, a Ph.D. in history from Yale, came to us after establishing and directing the CIEE program at Fudan University in Shanghai. She already has things well in hand and is taking initiative to move the Center in new and positive directions. Xiaohong is a great addition to our wonderful staff of Connie and Pamela. I hope to have this effective and energetic teamContinue on page 9

B.A. Alumni Study Leads to Renewal of Program

Last summer the Center for East Asian Studies surveyed all its alumni and finished analyzing the responses just in time for a university review of the undergraduate major. The survey results, which were very encouraging, played a large part in the five-year renewal of the B.A. program, on a unanimous vote of the Faculty Senate.

CEAS has 92 undergraduate alumni. Combining survey results with other information, we could track 67 of the students, and found that 51% of them had gone on for some advanced degree beyond the B.A. This included five Ph.D.’s, twelve J.D.’s and M.D.’s, five M.B.A.’s, and eleven Master’s degrees. We found that 48% of our majors are engaged in business, 20% in education, 12% in law and medicine, and 8% in media or journalism. Information on 28 of them is unknown (30% of the total), and one is the full-time mother of four young children.

The survey asked respondents to rate the B.A. program in East Asian Studies on a scale of one to five, from poor to excellent, on the following points:Continue on page 6

M.A. Alumni Respond - Most Very Happy with Education

The Center for East Asian Studies surveyed all its alumni in the summer of 1998. Of 325 alumni of the M.A. program, we received 123 responses, a very satisfying response rate of 38%.

The survey asked ten questions, and left room for graduates to describe their employment, additional degrees, and to make comments on the program.

The results are summarized in the charts following, and were quite gratifying. Ninety-two percent described the East Asian Studies master’s program as excellent or good in meeting their own academic professional goals. Eighty-six percent described course offerings as good or excellent. Ninety-two percent said the quality of teaching was good or excellent, and 91% said the intellectual breadth, depth, and quality of the program was excellent or good. Continue on page 4
Students Embark on New Stages
Jobs and Fellowships for Next Year

Melissa Abbe, graduate student in Chinese art history, delivered a paper in May at the Guggenheim symposium on “Painting Public Interest: Chen Shizeng’s Duhuatu.”

Paul Atkins, Ph.D. in Japanese literature, 1999, will be assistant professor at Montana State University in the fall.

Mark Berkson, advanced Ph.D. student in Religious Studies and a CEAS alumnus, has a teaching job at Hamline University in Minnesota. His first child is due in September—this is a big year. Mark was an adjunct faculty member at University of San Francisco. In May he delivered an address at the USF conference on Buddhist-Christian Dialogue, entitled, “In Defense of Dialogue: A Polemic Against Polemics.” His specialty is Chinese religion and philosophy and comparative religion and ethics.


Ive Aaslid, East Asian Studies, Catherine Bae, History, and Julia Bullock, Asian Languages, received Blakemore Awards to study at the Inter-University Center in Yokohama next year.

Tsung-Pei Jennifer Chang, who minored in East Asian Studies and graduated in June, will be a summer intern at the Institute for National Policy Research in Taiwan, and then will join a management consulting firm in San Francisco.

Ann Collins, M.A. in East Asian Studies, received a Korea Foundation Award and FLAS to study Korean language at Yonsei University in Seoul next year.

Julie Dow and Nina Lin, Ph.D. students in Asian Languages Department, won Centennial T.A. Awards this year.

Michael Ouyang, M.A. in EAS, here with Professor Bill Lyell, will enter the Ph.D. program in Chinese literature in the fall.

Jennifer Evers
Jennifer Evers, M.A. in East Asian Studies, 1999, will be associate dean at the Cranbrook Schools in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. The school is discussing the possibility of starting a Chinese language program within the next couple of years, and Jen will be in a good place to help create it.

Michael Foster and Lorinda Kiyama, Ph.D. students in Japanese literature, received Fulbright fellowships to study in Japan next year.
William Gardner, 1999 Ph.D. in modern Japanese literature, will be assistant professor at Middlebury College in the fall.

Peter Hansen, Rana Siu and Michelle King, M.A. students in East Asian Studies, received Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships to study at the Inter-University Board Program at Tsinghua University next year.

Wilburn Hansen, Ph.D. student in Religious Studies, was awarded a FLAS to study at the Inter-University Center in Yokohama next year.

Elizabeth Herman

Elizabeth Herman, M.A. in East Asian Studies in June, 1999, will enter Stanford’s Ph.D. program in Japanese history in the fall.

Heino Klinck, who started in the M.A. program in East Asian Studies last year, has been assigned to the American Embassy in Beijing by the U.S. Army. He looks forward to language study and lots of travel.

Eric Leventhal, undergraduate major in East Asian Studies, did the summer language program in Beijing last year, and then spent the year in Stanford’s Kyoto Center for Japanese Studies.

Rachel Brunette, B.A. in East Asian Studies, 1999, with Jean Oi, Director of CEAS.

Eric Lofgren, Ph.D. in Japanese literature, 1999, returned to Stanford in cap and gown for June commencement and two weeks of research at the Hoover East Asian Collection after his first year of teaching at Bucknell.

Michael Ouyang, M.A. in East Asian Studies, 1999, will begin the Ph.D. program in Chinese literature at Stanford in the fall.

Elizabeth Oyler, Ph.D. in medieval Japanese literature, 1999, will be assistant professor of Japanese at Washington University in St. Louis in the fall.

Philipp Rickert, M.A. in East Asian Studies, 1999, will continue his Ph.D. program in Business at WHU Koblenz, Otto Beisheim Graduate School of Management in Germany. Next year he will spend at Keio University’s School of Business Administration, doing research on venture businesses in Japan.

James Robson, Ph.D. student in Religious Studies, will be a graduate student fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center next year. His dissertation is “Excavating the Strata of Mt. Nanyue’s Religious History.”

Joel Sahleen, Ph.D. student in Asian Languages Department, has a Whiting Fellowship for next year to work on his dissertation on Xunzi.

Ethan Segal, graduate student in Japanese history, has a Fulbright to study at the University of Tokyo next year. Miho Segal, his wife, has been the leader of Japanese PALM (Program for Advanced Language Maintenance) for several years, and we will miss her.

Continued on page 15
M.A. Response
continued from page 1

Two-thirds of respondents marked "good" or "excellent" for faculty advising, and this category also drew some critical comments from respondents. One student who is now a Ph.D. candidate in anthropology said, "I've always felt that, as M.A. students, we fell through the cracks in terms of attention from faculty (with exceptions), and certain expectations of intellectual rigor. For my part, 'advising' was non-existent."

Another criticism by several people was that course coverage was spotty when professors went on leave. As one respondent said, "Since the professors owe their primary allegiance to their departments (rather than to the Center) it seemed that the Center had only minimal leverage to orchestrate a really coherent interdisciplinary program...."

There were a few suggestions for improving the M.A. program penned eloquently on the back of the survey. One respondent, who works for a non-profit in Washington, D.C., suggested offering a graduate seminar with an academic approach to regional studies. Another, now a marketing communications specialist, suggested more structure to the program, in the form of two or three required courses. She also suggested that students writing their M.A. theses work with a formal committee and defend their ideas, be it to the committee or to their peers. ("...one over-committed faculty advisor does not an M.A. committee make.")

Overall, however, the evaluation of the program by alumni was strongly positive.

Yuko Hori
CEAS M.A., 1999

Students commented in particular about the usefulness of the training for their future work.

In examining employment of alumni, we found that the largest number of respondents (31%) were engaged in business, including international banking, consulting, and computers, as well as other ventures. The next largest category was university teaching (17%), but if you add in the 14% that are currently in Ph.D. programs, that category nearly matches the numbers in business. Eight percent had gone into law and eight percent into government service (several as Foreign Service Officers in the State Department). Nine percent were working in non-profits, and six percent were pre-collegiate teachers.

Almost everybody said they were using their East Asian Studies background in their work.

Venetia Carotenuto
CEAS M.A., 1999

One alumnae who has been investing mutual funds in Asia since 1991 said, "The coursework for my M.A. in East Asian Studies helped with language training, political understanding of the region, and economic background for the investment decisions I make every day. I believe the flexibility that the EAS degree offers in choosing courses across department lines is invaluable. My M.A. in EAS was infinitely more enjoyable and useful than my undergraduate degree in economics."

An alumnae who is now a medical school dean reported, "I feel that the academic excellence I was immersed in at Stanford encouraged me to maintain that standard in my subsequent work in medicine. As a dean, my broad background has allowed me to be the 'translator' for faculty from diverse backgrounds."

An alumnus who works in China commented, "My education in EAS is the cornerstone of all I do. My time at Stanford was an excellent opportunity to deepen and broaden my knowledge and skills; it also launched me on the adventure of the next seven years following graduation. I am now working in the legal field and developing an expertise in energy industry and project finance."

A professor in Chinese history at an East Coast school, one of our alumni, regularly advises his students to apply to the Stanford M.A. program and observes, "Stanford's East Asian program continues to be the model for all other universities—there's none better."

by Connie Chin,
with help from Yuko Hori and Venetia Carotenuto
Alumni Survey Results for the M.A. Program, 1998

Intellectual Breadth, Depth, Quality of Program

Excellent 61%
Good 30%
O.k. 6%
Poor 0%

M.A. Careers

University Teaching 7%
Government 14%
Non-Profit 16%
Law 10%
Business 11%
Other 6%

Quality of Teaching

Excellent 61%
Good 31%
O.k. 7%
Fair 1%
Poor 0%

Program Preparation for Post-Graduate Plans

Excellent 45%
Good 36%
O.k. 14%
Fair 5%
Poor 0%

Quality of Faculty Advising

Excellent 38%
Good 30%
O.k. 18%
Fair 10%
Poor 6%

Course Offerings/Coverage of Field

Excellent 43%
Good 43%
O.k. 12%
Fair 2%
Poor 0%

Quality of Staff Assistance

Excellent 45%
Good 39%
O.k. 11%
Fair 3%
Poor 2%

Meeting Own Academic/Professional Goals

Excellent 51%
Good 41%
O.k. 8%
Poor 0%

East Asian Studies Background Before Program

Excellent 15%
Good 44%
O.k. 24%
Fair 11%
Poor 6%

Class Size

Excellent 61%
Good 34%
O.k. 11%
Poor/Fair 5%

Many people took the opportunity to add comments. One alumna, who works for the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, wrote, "I found that my training was invaluable. The interdisciplinary approach to the major provided a model for approaching all topics. The vigor, complexity, and differing perspectives that the major offered have enabled me to take these approaches and apply them to my current area of expertise. Ironically, it was my experience in East Asian Studies that prepared me for my current position...much more so than my studies in art history."

Another, an M.D., wrote, "The quality of teaching surpassed that of my pre-med curriculum. I see no need to change the program requirements." A graduate now engaged in the real estate business wrote, "It would have been helpful to have more information about post-grad opportunities—particularly careers...I thought the academic part of the program was great." A graduate who became an engineer and businessman wrote, "...My favorite classes were in Chinese history and philosophy. I should also point out that although I examined other related majors, none of them let me pursue the studies that I wanted—and I think it would be a shame if EAS were no longer offered. From my point of view, the flexibility of EAS is one of its strong points, so I wouldn't change that at all." A graduate who is an intercultural consultant in Osaka wrote, "I wanted to work in Japan and the interdisciplinary nature of the program gave me an excellent background in history/culture, economics and politics that I was able to apply to work and life."

An alumnus who was a business consultant and currently attends Wharton's MBA program wrote, "The East Asian Studies program is an excellent one and was an extremely good fit with my academic interests as an undergraduate. A key benefit, in my opinion, is its interdisciplinary nature which allows students to focus on those areas which are of most interest to them while, at the same time, exposing them to their field in a broad, holistic way. Though I also majored in economics as an undergraduate, today I remember far more from my East Asian Studies classes than from my economics classes. In fact, although I have been working in business since I graduated in 1995, I would say that the humanistic and cultural concepts studied in classes such as Chinese history and philosophy have been far more applicable and useful than anything I learned in economics."

A recent alumna made two concrete suggestions that have been incorporated into the major. She said that students should be required to get faculty approval on their coursework. She had felt lost with little faculty advice or direction, until too late. In her senior year, she got to know CEAS graduate students in class, but before that she had felt isolated. The second suggestion was to make the language requirement based on competency, not units. In re-designing the B.A. major, the new requirement is for at least second-year competency, with a minimum of 15 units (instead of 30), which might be met by advanced language courses or by beginning a second Asian language.

by Connie Chin
Alumni Survey Results for the B.A. Program, September 1998

Meeting Own Academic/Professional Goals

Intellectual Breadth, Depth, Quality of Program

Quality of Staff Assistance

Course Offerings/Coverage of Field

East Asian Studies Background Before Program

Quality of Teaching

Class Size

Quality of Faculty Advising

Program Preparation for Post-Graduate Plans
Members and friends of the M.A. program in East Asian Studies toast marshmallows over a bonfire that went into the night at Half Moon Bay, May 22, 1999.

New Gateway Courses, Eminent Faculty
To Introduce Freshmen and Sophomores to East Asian Studies

By Connie Chin

CEAS’s committee for undergraduate studies has put a lot of thought and effort into an innovative series of Gateway Courses earmarked for freshmen and sophomores, which will start in the fall.

The committee, whose members are Hal Kahn, chair, Mike Oksenber, and Haun Saussy, designed three new courses which will lead to more advanced courses in the major in East Asian Studies, and acquaint other students with East Asia while fulfilling the distribution requirement in World Cultures.

CEAS Director Jean Oi was successful in getting funds from the Dean for Undergraduate Studies to implement the new courses in the first year.

Prof. Kahn, specialist in Chinese history, and Angus Lockyer, Ph.D. candidate and lecturer in Japanese history, will teach the autumn quarter Gateway Course, called “The Roots of Modern East Asia.”

In winter quarter, Peter Duus, Bonsall Professor of Japanese history, and Mike Oksenber, Political Science professor, also of Asia/Pacific Research Center, will co-teach “East Asia in the Age of Imperialism.”

Spring quarter Prof. Oksenber, a specialist in Chinese politics, will be joined by Jennifer Amyx, lecturer and recent Ph.D. in Japanese political science, to teach “Contemporary East Asia.”

The three Gateway courses will embrace history, the social sciences, and the humanities, focusing on long-standing interactions among Japan, Korea, China and the peripheries of Central, Southeast, and South Asia. They will treat the region as a whole, examining common challenges, developments and trends. Each course will be lead by a senior faculty member eminent in the field. Those lucky undergrads!
years. As was reported in the Stanford Report, this is a major victory and a sign of new confidence and support for CEAS. Some of you may remember that the B.A. program was threatened with closure in the wake of a critical review by the University. As part of our attempt to revamp and improve on our B.A. program CEAS is instituting a series of Gateway courses aimed at freshman and sophomores. This initiative was extremely well received by the University and has also yielded some additional funding for our program.

While we have made headway in a number of areas, continuing to build up our seminars and colloquia, as well as course offerings, we realize that there is much to be done. As part of that effort, CEAS convened an outside Visiting Committee this past spring to evaluate our strengths, weaknesses, and needs. To give credit where it is due, this was an idea outlined by previous Director Peter Duus in the last Title VI proposal. By all accounts, the visit went well. I want to thank all of you who took time to talk with the distinguished members of the committee, Joyce Kallgren and Martin Colcut. Their informative report will be used for the Title VI application that we are in the midst of preparing and it will be sent to the Stanford administration. Members of the Center who wish to read it should simply contact Xiaohong. We welcome your comments.

The preview for this coming year looks positive. Financially, while CEAS still faces tight budget constraints, we are happy to announce that beginning this year CEAS has will have four three-month summer grants and one full year grant for language study in Taiwan. This money is given by the Ministry of Education, ROC. Later this fall, look for information on the application procedure and deadlines.

You will also notice a new look at CEAS. The University has granted CEAS a minor renovation for its space. Work is to take place during late August. We thank the Buddhist Studies Center for providing us use of their offices during our renovations. Hopefully we will be back in our quarters by early September. The Center will still be short on space, but at least the space we have will be more conducive to our needs.

This coming academic year promises to be an especially full one for seminars and special programs. A number of special events are in the works, including a year-long speakers series to mark the 50th year of the People’s Republic of China. We also are pleased to announce a new monthly seminar series, “Corporate Governance in China,” a joint effort organized by members of the Law School and CEAS, with funds from Institute for International Studies. We look forward to your support and participation as we move into the new millennium.

Jean C. Oi
Director, CEAS

M.A. students Michelle King (L) and Rana Siu (R) flank Youqin Wang who leaves to teach at University of Chicago from next year.
Visitors Help Out in 1999-2000

We are privileged to have several visiting faculty teach East Asian Studies courses this year.

Ursula-Angelika Cedzich, from the Department of Religious Studies at DePaul University, is a specialist on Daoism and Chinese popular religion. She will teach two undergraduate courses, Introduction to Chinese Religions and Introduction to the Daoist Religion, and graduate courses on East Asian Religions and Early Daoist Ritual.

Roger Thompson, on leave from Colby College, has written on Late Imperial, Republican and Modern China. He will teach Modern and Contemporary Chinese History for undergraduates, an Undergraduate Colloquium: The Chinese Revolution, an Undergraduate Research Seminar: Creating Modern China: From Empire to Nation in the Age of Imperialism, and a Graduate Colloquium: Topics on Modern Chinese History.


Sandra Soo-Jin Lee, a medical anthropologist and specialist on Korea, is visiting the Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology, where she will teach Gender in East Asia.

Atsuko Ueda, new Ph.D. from University of Michigan, is a specialist on modern Japanese literature and literary theory. She will teach Modern Japanese Literature in Translation, Readings in Classical Japanese, Readings in Modern Japanese Literature, and Graduate Seminar in Modern Japanese Literature.

ALD Gets New Instructors

Asian Languages Department has several new language instructors.

Shelly Wing Chan is a Ph.D. candidate in Comparative Literature and Humanities at University of Colorado-Boulder, where she has taught Chinese since 1992. She has participated in developing interactive videodisc lessons for intermediate-level Chinese.

Howard Choy, also a Ph.D. candidate in Comparative Literature at University of Colorado-Boulder, teaches First-Year Chinese and Cantonese. His publications and translations range from Li Po's poetry to studies of historical novels to Gastro-historiography (“History, Food and the Body in Su Tong's Rice”).

Marina Chung, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Oregon, Eugene, teaches First-Year Chinese and Advanced Conversation. She was Director of the Chinese Language Program at Oregon, and has taught beginning to advanced level Chinese classes.

Hisayo Okano Lipton is co-developer with Momoyo Kubo Lowdermilk of a new track at Stanford, “Japanese Language, Culture & Communications.” She taught at U.C. Berkeley, San Francisco State, and several other schools. Her M.A. in Japanese, with a concentration on Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language, is from San Francisco State University. Ms. Lipton and Ms. Lowdermilk have developed extensive web-based materials for the new track.

Faculty Books, Awards

Gordon Chang, associate professor of history, received a Guggenheim Fellowship award in 1999. His field is diplomatic history and Asian American history.

James Reichert, assistant professor of Japanese, will be a fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center next year, working on a manuscript on “Modernity and Sexuality in Meiji Literature.”


Two books by Jean Oi, associate professor of political science, were published in 1999: Rural China Takes Off: The Institutional Foundations of Economic Reform (University of California Press); and Property Rights and Economic Reform in China (Stanford University Press), edited with Andrew Walder, Professor of Sociology.

Donald Keene, of Columbia University, spoke at a CEAS special lecture in May. Here he greets people after his talk, accompanied by Professor Susan Matisoff who left Stanford this summer after 27 years to become Chair of the Asian Languages Dept. at UC Berkeley beginning in the 1999-2000 academic year. Her gifts as mentor, scholar and colleague will be greatly missed by the East Asia community at Stanford.

Two New Assistant Professors for Next Year

This year the Asian Languages Department and the Department of Cultural and Social Anthropology will have new assistant professors.

Tze-lan Deborah Sang, whose specialty is modern Chinese and comparative literature, will teach Introduction to Modern Chinese Literature, a survey for undergraduates, and Women Writers of Transnational China. Sang received the Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley, and has been teaching at University of Oregon in Eugene. Her dissertation is on The Emerging Lesbian: Female Same-Sex Desire in Modern Chinese Literature and Culture. Her B.A. is from National Taiwan University, and her M.A. is from State University of New York, Albany.

Her research interests include modern Chinese histories of sexuality, Mandarin Duck and Butterfly writers, the rise of popular women novelists, postmodern and avant-garde women writers in the 1980s and 90s, the aesthetics of Chinese art, theater, and film, and globalization.

Matthew Kohrman, whose specialty is medical anthropology, is joining the new department of Cultural and Social Anthropology, where he will teach Social Change in Contemporary China: Modernity and the Middle Kingdom, and Health, Disease, and Global Social Change.

Kohrman's Ph.D. is from Harvard University, where he wrote a dissertation on Damaged Bodies: History, Science and the Experience of Disability in Modern China.

During field work last year he interviewed Deng Pufang, son of Deng Xiaoping and director of the China Disabled Persons' Federation. His previous field research was done in Beijing and Hainan.

Stanford researchers have discovered that a perennial herb used in Chinese medicine to relieve rheumatoid arthritis symptoms is effective in suppressing overactive immune systems, preventing inflammation and killing cancer cells. Peter Kao and Glenn Rosen, professors of pulmonary and critical care medicine at Stanford Medical School, published their studies, "Tripterygium Wilfordii Hook," in the May 7 issue of the Journal of Biological Chemistry.
Language Center Holds Retrospect on Foreign Language and Area Studies

In June, the Language Center at Stanford held a one-day conference on the study of foreign languages in the new century: Retrospect on The President's Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies and Prospects for the Future.

Panelists representing IREX, Carnegie Mellon, the Modern Languages Association, Stanford University, and Leon Panetta, former advisor to Pres. Clinton and congressman from Monterey, all emphasized the importance of foreign language instruction for the future of America.

Mr. Panetta called for the U.S. to commit itself to requiring by the year 2010 that all students study a foreign language, and that this requirement be a condition for receipt of federal funds for education. Panetta said that the U.S. is showing signs of de-emphasizing internationalism in higher education just as the rest of the world's universities are becoming more international.

Other speakers called for sustaining foreign language instruction from kindergarten through the university, and encouraging heritage speakers to maintain and develop their mother tongue instead of abandoning it. Increasingly, global markets make solid foreign language skills and overseas experience valuable.

The convenor of the conference, Elizabeth Bernhardt of the German Studies Department and Director of the Language Center, received the Dinkelspiel award for distinctive contributions to undergraduate education at commencement this year.

Professor Claude Buss: A Long Life in the Trenches

Claude A. Buss, Professor Emeritus of History, died Nov. 17 at his home in Palo Alto at the age of 94. After a stroke three years ago put a crimp in his golf game, Buss played three Scrabble games a day until his death, winning as often as he lost, according to daughter Lynne Curtiss.

Prof. Buss began teaching at Stanford in 1946, with courses on Southeast Asia, China and American policies toward Asia. He was author of Arc of Crisis, 1961; Southeast Asia and the World Today, 1958; The Far East, 1955; and War and Diplomacy in Eastern Asia, 1941.

Buss served as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer, stationed at the U.S. legation in Beijing from 1927 to 1928 and as vice consul in Nanking from 1931 until 1934, when he joined the faculty of the University of Southern California. He left USC in 1941 to become executive assistant to the U.S. High Commissioner in the Philippines. As ranking U.S. official left behind when the Japanese invaded the Philippines, Buss surrendered Manila to the Japanese and was interned from 1943 to 1945.

Buss served as a consultant to the War Department for its Strategic Bombing Survey of Japan from 1945 to 1946, and worked as a civilian consultant on Gen. Douglas MacArthur's staff for the Allied Occupation Forces in Japan and as special Southeast Asia consultant to the U.S. Embassy in Japan from 1948 to 1949.

In 1968 Buss received a State Department citation for meritorious service in recognition of devoted service to the cause of Philippine-American friendship and understanding for more than a quarter of a century.

Professor Buss retired from Stanford in 1969, but returned to academia to teach Asian Studies at Monterey Institute of Foreign Studies. He was named acting dean of academic affairs there in 1977.

Instead of a memorial service, Claude Buss asked friends to "raise a glass."
Governor’s First Stanford Address is on Asia

On June 3 Gray Davis made his first appearance at Stanford after being elected Governor of California to talk about “California and Asia: Partners for the Future.” His talk inaugurated the Walter H. Shorenstein Forum on Asia/Pacific Studies at Stanford, under the auspices of the Institute of International Studies.

Davis’s speech was preceded by a conference for entrepreneurs, academics, venture capitalists and lawyers from the U.S. and Asia, who gathered to assess the ingredients behind Silicon Valley’s success. Visitors from Japan, South Korea, China and other Asian nations have come to Stanford in increasing numbers to try to discover what makes Silicon Valley tick.

Conference attendees concluded that it is not just technology that makes Silicon Valley a hub of innovation. Business services and informal personal networks are equally important for new companies to establish themselves. William Miller, former provost and head of Stanford Research Institute, said that it is a fragile ecosystem composed of a special breed of lawyers, venture capitalists and marketing people that specialize in the needs of high-tech start-ups.

E. Floyd Kvanne, a partner in the venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caulfield & Byers and a trained electrical engineer, remarked, “I don’t recall in the 1960s, 1970s and early 1980s ever even noticing an MBA in the valley.” The passion for technology, the excitement about building “insanely great products,” is what sets Silicon Valley apart from other places, he said.

Silicon Valley lawyers see themselves as “coaches” for entrepreneurs who are creating start-ups, claimed Joshua L. Green, a director at the Venture Law Group of Menlo Park.

Others say that the pre-eminence of entrepreneurial engineers led to a meritocratic culture that placed a high priority on sharing knowledge, a trait that turned this region into an incubator for innovation.

Speakers noted possible shoals ahead for the region: fierce competition from outside, investment shifting from new technologies to start-ups that rely more on marketing, and the boom in the Internet, which is draining resources away from established businesses.
Alumni Make Their Mark

Chris Armacost, M.B.A., 1999, has joined General Mills in Minneapolis.

David Blumenthal, M.A. in East Asian Studies, 1990, is president of Herald Translation Service in Beijing.<c. lewis@post.harvard.edu>

Chris Bolton, Ph.D. in Japanese, 1998, is teaching at U.C. Riverside and writes, "Kija and I are finally settled into our new place in Riverside, situated in the desert between Las Vegas and Los Angeles, surely the heart of American postmodernism." Email <christopher.bolton@post.harvard.edu>.


Grant Finlayson, M.A. in East Asian Studies, 1982, talked about career opportunities in law and business in Asia with current CEAS students this spring. Grant heads the Asian corporate and M&A practice of Orrick, Herrington, & Sutcliffe, dividing his time between the Bay Area and Tokyo.

Frances H. Foster, J.S.D. 1987, is Professor of Law at Washington University, where she teaches courses on Chinese Law, Socialist Law in Transition, and Trusts and Estates. She spent spring, 1998, as a Research Fellow at Harvard Law School’s East Asian Legal Studies program, and published three articles on Chinese law that year.

Lydia and Mark Francis, Ph.D.s in Chinese literature, 1996 and 1995 respectively, have moved to Boston. Lydia is teaching at Tufts University.

Eric Horn, B.A. in Philosophy, 1995, will begin the Ph.D. program in applied ethics at University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign this fall.

Devin Joshi, B.A. in History, 1998, has been studying sinology at the Humboldt University in Berlin. He received a DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service Award).

T.Y. Lau, M.A. in Communications, 1982, was a visiting scholar at Hoover Institution and visiting professor at U.C.L.A. last year after managing mass media companies in Indonesia for the previous five years.

Tahirih V. Lee, M.A. in East Asian Studies, 1985, is Visiting Associate at Harvard University’s Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, working on a historical study of the courts of Shanghai and on a contemporary study of the relationships of the legal systems of PRC, Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan.

Catherine Lewis, Ph.D. in Psychology, 1980, is joining Mills College as a Senior Research Psychologist at The Women’s Leadership Institute. After a year as visiting scholar, she will move to the Education Department there.

Ken Norton, B.A. in Japanese, 1967, retired to Auckland, New Zealand after 29 years in the Foreign Service. He was stationed in Fukuoka and Tokyo, Korea, and Taiwan.

Mark Peattie, M.A. in History, 1952, is a Senior Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution. He taught a course on World War II through Continuing Studies last fall, and is completing a manuscript with David Evans, Ph.D. in History, 1978, on the rise and fall of Japanese naval aviation.


David Rosenfeld, M.A. in EAS, 1991, just completed a Ph.D. in modern Japanese literature at University of Michigan, where he will teach Japanese and Western Great Books next year.

Seiichiro Takagi, Ph.D. in Political Science, 1977, is a Professor in the Graduate School of Policy Science and Director of the Institute for Policy Science at Saitama University. He visited Stanford for a conference in March.
Thank you, Donors!

We gratefully acknowledge those who generously supported East Asian Studies and the Asian Languages Department last year.

Many thanks to W. Gregory Chuck, Mary Hom and Thomas Cooper, Lynn McFarland Eyberg, Lawrence Frank Farrar, and Neil K. Jablon, all of whom gave to Asian Languages Department.

We are grateful to Philip Arnold Jones, Kyu Sun and Peggy Kim, and Margaret Cloherty, who donated to East Asian Studies.

Please know that your gifts will benefit current students and faculty, and allow us a little flexibility when special needs arise.


Read Vanderbilt, M.A. in East Asian Studies and M.S. in Engineering, Environmental Science and Policy, 1997, continues to work on environmental issues in China with Don Kennedy and Michel Oksenberg. He is project leader for the Project on Sino-American Environment and Energy Cooperation.

John Wallace, Ph.D. in Japanese, 1990, returns to Stanford in the fall as a visiting professor in the Asian Languages Department.

After ten years at Ohio State, Tim Wong, Ph.D. in Chinese, 1975, is back out west as Director of the Center for Asian Studies at Arizona State University in Tempe. His daughter Rachel just received her B.A. from Stanford in June.

Zhang Yingjin, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, 1992, was promoted to Associate Professor at Indiana University, Bloomington, where he received an Outstanding Junior Faculty Award in 1997. He is co-author of Encyclopedia of Chinese Film (Routledge, 1998) and editor of China in a Polycentric World: Essays in Chinese Comparative Literature (Stanford, 1999). He is currently working on a book on Chinese national cinema and doing research on Chinese visual arts.

Students continued from page 3

Shi Yuzhi, with a dissertation from Asian Languages Department on Chinese linguistics, will be assistant professor of Chinese at National University of Singapore, starting this fall.

Nancy Stalker, Ph.D. student in history, will be in Japan next year on a Japan Foundation award.

Mark Swislocki, Ph.D. student in History, did research in Shanghai last year on a CSCPRC fellowship. Mark will be at the Stanford Humanities Center as a graduate student fellow next year, working on his dissertation, "Feeding Shanghai: Commerce, Cuisine and the State."

Bob Tierney, grad student in Japanese literature, won the Shizuoka Translation prize this year, one million yen. He will be in Japan next year.

Suzanne Wright, Ph.D. in Art History, 1999, will be Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Qing Zhang, Linguistics Department grad student, won the Fellowship for the Study of Women in Asia for this year. She will carry out a study on "Gender, Professional Identity, and Phonetic Variation: A Sociolinguistic Study of Chinese Professionals Working for International Businesses."

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We’d like to keep in touch with you, our alumni and friends. Write and tell us what you are up to!

Clip this half of the page and return it to our address (see below).

Name ________________________________________________

Field and year of graduation __________________________

Degree ______

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