

I write at the tail end of our momentous first week back to campus, after eighteen months of lockdowns and remote instruction. I wish I could say that the first day back was triumphal, rather than tiring. That it was a carefree return to form, and not an anxious step toward an uncertain new normal. That the joy hadn't been muted by the Delta variant, and by a new mask mandate. And yet! What a pleasure it was to finally stand together with students in a classroom, to see the campus bloom with life, to get back to the work of teaching and learning together. Our first week may have been worrisome, it may have been weird, but I hope we can all take quiet satisfaction in the courage and resilience of our community, and celebrate the determination of our students to come home to Cal.

None of this, of course, could have happened without our devoted staff and, yes, our devoted administrators. Preparing to come back to in-person instruction has been infinitely more complex than locking down. I have a had front seat view of the hard and grinding work behind-the-scenes that made this all possible. We owe them all a debt of gratitude.

Arrivals

Fully half of our undergraduates are arriving on campus for the first time, and EALC and Asian Studies are also welcoming a bumper crop of new graduate students. Jay Husson (premodern Chinese literature) and Drew Korschun (modern Japanese and Korean) have joined us this fall. Kelly Fan (modern Chinese literature) and Leon Jenkins (modern Japanese literature) are also making the transition from the Asian Studies MA program into our doctoral cohort. We are also joined this year by a vibrant group of seven new master's students in Asian Studies. A warm welcome to all!

Finally, let's all celebrate the long-awaited arrival this Fall of Professor Kevin Michael Smith — a wonderful addition to our faculty in EALC, and to the endeavor of expanding Korean Studies across campus. We are so glad you are here, Kevin!

Departures

Four of our graduate students have recently completed, or are on the brink of completing, their doctoral work at Cal. Melissa Van Wyk is on her way to taking up an assistant professorship in Japanese literature at the University of Chicago upon

completion of a dissertation entitled "Restaging the Spectacular: Misemono and Kabuki Theater 1700–1900," that calls into question existing discourses about kabuki dramaturgy and reveals the theatrical nature of public discourses of knowledge, medicine, and wonder in early modern Japan. Chris Elford, whose dissertation examines the media and material basis of the emergence of new poetic voices in the Han and Six Dynasties period, will be taking up a two-year postdoctoral berth at Hamilton College. Julia Keblinska has filed her dissertation on media culture at the cusp of China's post-socialist transition. She will be taking up a postdoctoral fellowship situated jointly in the Centers for Historical Research, Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, and East Asian Studies at the Ohio State University. Xiangjun Feng has also recently filed a thesis on the "Secret Scroll" in late imperial and early twentieth century Chinese print culture and will return to his alma mater, Peking University, as a postdoctoral fellow. Warm congratulations to all of you!

Mingzhe Zheng of the Chinese Language Program, finally, has taken up a new post teaching at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey. We wish you well, Mingzhe!

New Courses and New Initiatives

While the pandemic has raged, our faculty and graduate students have been assiduously developing new courses and curricula to respond to a rapidly changing world and to student needs. This fall, Kevin Smith will be teaching a new graduate seminar, East Asian 204, on "Romanticism and Asia." Professor Yoko Hasegawa will launch Japanese 164, "Reading Japanese Texts Using Grammatical Analysis." Alan Tansman is teaching or co-teaching three new courses this year: an "Art of Writing" class called "Writing the Limits of Empathy"; a class with Jake Dalton called "East Asian Texts, Psychoanalytic Readings"; and a "Compass Course" called "What is Asia," co-taught with Tang Chenxi (German) and Colleen Lye (English).

In reaction to the horrific epidemic of anti-Asian violence across the US, a group of graduate students, including Xiaoyu Xia, Hardy Stewart, Chelsea Ward, Amanda Su (English), Cheng-Chai Chiang (English) among others have imagined and begun to implement a new initiative for cross-departmental, anti-racist curricular reform in the East Asian humanities. The initial course in this effort is being offered this fall as an R1B course in EALC, "Building Worlds" on Asian and AAPI speculative fiction, taught by Ramya Janandharan (Ethnic Studies). We look forward to further augmenting Cal's offerings in the Asian humanities for entering students.

Another group of graduate students including Julia Keblinska, Jianqing Chen (Film and Media Studies), Yvonne Lin, Jiahe Mei, and Linda Zhang, have been busy translating and subtitling films from post-1949 China, with support from the Graduate Assembly and the Berkeley Language Center (BLC). The films will be made available on Lumiere, and available for viewing and inclusion in a broad array of syllabi.

Wendy Wan-ting Wang is also teaching a border-crossing new R&C course called "The Islandic, the Archipelagic, and the Oceanic."

Chika Shibahara of the Japanese Language Program was one of six lecturers selected for a BLC fellowship, allowing her to develop a new series of lesson plans based on film clips. She will present her work this coming semester at BLC. And Yuriko Miyamoto Caltabiano is in the final stages of developing an exciting new summer course that combines language study abroad in Japan with public service and community engagement.

New Books and Articles

Scholars in EALC also continue to extend the realm of knowledge in their respective fields.

Kelvin Chi Leung Chan has just published, with co-author Hu Mingxiao, *Learning Mandarin and Cantonese Through Classroom Conversations* (Hong Kong: Chung Hwa, 2021).

Chika Shibahara has co-authored with Claire Kramsch a chapter in a book called 日本語教育の新しい地図 ("State-of-the Art in Japanese Language Education: Rewriting Expert Knowledge"), published by Hiitsuji Shobo, Tokyo, in 2021.

Yifan Zheng has published a book chapter, co-authored with Professor Mark Csikszentmihalyi, entitled "Narratives of Decline and Fragmentation, and the Hanshu Bibliographic Taxonomies of Technical Arts." The volume in which the chapter appears, *Technical Arts in the Han Histories*, was edited by Mark Csikszentmihalyi and Michael Nylan (SUNY Press, 2021).

Robert Sharf has published, with co-editors Yasuo Deguchi, Jay L. Garfield, and Graham Priest, a new book from Oxford University Press entitled *What Can't Be Said: Paradox and Contradiction in East Asian Thought*.

Ling Hon Lam's "Premodern Fiction and Fiction Collections" appeared in a new collected volume edited by Jack W. Chen, Anatoly Detwyler, Christopher M.B. Nugent, Xiao Liu, and Bruce Rusk called *Literary Information in China: A History* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2021).

Sophie Volpp's "How to Read the Jin Ping Mei" is forthcoming in a volume entitled *How to Read Chinese Fiction* published by Columbia University Press. She also has an essay on the Harvard-Yenching's grants of 1942-44 to Chinese sinologists forthcoming in Chinese in *Ouzhou Hanxue* (European Sinology) from Zhonghua shuju, and in English in a volume entitled *The China Experience and the Making of Sinology* from Harrasowitz Verlag.

Mikiko Soga has recently published an essay entitled "Traditional and Modern Beauty in Japan's Meiji Period: Material Culture, Clothing, and Consumer Practices" in *A Cultural History of Beauty in the Age of Empire*, edited Jessica P. Clark. London: Bloomsbury (2021).

Daryl Maude has published a piece entitled "Grass-Colored Air: Breathing with Osaki Midori" as part of a special dossier on "breath" in *Qui Parle* 30:1 (June 2021).

Be on the lookout, finally, for the imminent release of Sophie Volpp's new monograph *Substantive Fictions: Literary Objects in China 1550-1775* (forthcoming from Columbia University Press); a newly revised edition of Eileen Chang's *Written on Water* (translated by Andrew F. Jones and forthcoming from NYRB Press); and Alan Tansman's *Very Short Introduction to Japanese Literature* from Oxford University Press.

Fellowships and Leaves

Huang Opportunity Program Scholar Tina Tianyi Liu won a URAP Summer Fellowship (<https://urap.berkeley.edu/>) to continue working with Professor Volpp on her project on the "Preservation of Rare Books in Republican China."

Wendy Wan-Ting Wang was awarded a fellowship from The Shung Ye Museum of Formosan Aborigines Endowment Fund to facilitate her research on media technology and indigeneity in Taiwan.

Yifan Zheng has received a dissertation completion fellowship from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for Scholarly Exchange.

Both Paula Varsano and Weihong Bao will be serving as fellows at the Townsend Center for the Humanities this year. Professor Bao will be on leave as she works on her

new book project entitled "Background Matters: Set Design and the Art of Environment." She will also participate in a UCHRI Residential Research Group studying "Distance/Proximity."

Sophie Volpp has also received research support from the Humanities Research Fellowship and the Mellon Project Grant in pursuance of a new book on the history of the National Peiping Library, and will be on sabbatical.

Changes and Contributions

Our very own Jan Johnson was enthusiastically nominated for and awarded campus-wide recognition for her "Excellence in Management." Jan has not only competently, compassionately, and unflappably led the department through the complex challenges of the pandemic, but also presided over important changes in our staffing arrangements. EALC, the Group in Buddhist Studies, and the Group in Asian Studies have joined forces with South and Southeast Asian Studies, Ancient Greek and Roman, and the program in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology. As part of this "clustering" process, Kristen Brooks (who is GSAO for AGRS and SEASS), and Linda Eason (who handles reimbursements, reservations, and purchases) have moved downstairs. Cassandra Dunn (who will be working on outreach and communications for the cluster) remains upstairs. Please welcome them all into the EALC fold!

Starting this fall as well, Damien Donelly (Chinese Language Program), Junghee Park (Korean Language Program), and Yukiko Tsuchiya (Japanese Language Program) have begun two-year terms as representatives for their respective programs. At the same time, a trio of lecturers will be participating in a Pedagogy Improvement Project, aimed at studying, building on, and further refining our already formidable language programs. A heartfelt thanks to Weisi Cai (CLP), Ina Choi (KLP), and Hayato Saito (JLP) for serving in this capacity.

Give Thanks

The past eighteen months have been difficult — but as you can see from the foregoing account, we have as a department risen to not one, but many challenges. I want to thank every one of you for your dedication to our calling as educators and scholars. Despite Delta, and in defiance of wildfires, I am looking forward to the semester, and to spending time together once again as a community! Take care and Go Bears!

Warmly, Andrew

It's late spring here in Northern California. Blue ceanothus is in fleeting bloom, and poppies are popping up across the landscape like little bursts of sunlight. Here at Cal, faculty and students float across campus festooned in blue and yellow regalia, on their way to and from the commencement exercises that mark the conclusion of another academic year.

We had a lot to celebrate at our 2022 EALC Commencement. We applauded the achievements and the resilience of our graduating class — who made it through wildfires, an unprecedented global pandemic, the loneliness and anxiety of “Zoom University,” and increasingly uncertain and dangerous times to arrive at this day. Congratulations to Grace Margaret Heidtke (recipient of our Department Citation and class valedictorian), Soyun Park and Jerry Wong (winners of the EALC Book Prize), and to all twenty-seven members of our graduating class!

Daryl Maude was recognized this year as our Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor for his inspiring teaching; and Xiaoyu Xia and Yisheng Tang received the Cyril Birch Award for their academic excellence and service to the department and the graduate student community.

Departures

We were also delighted at the commencement ceremony to be able to honor and to thank two members of our EALC community for their years of service and dedication to the department. Yasuko Konno-Baker has been an indispensable presence and beloved teacher in our Japanese Language Program since 1992. Professor Youngmin Kwon, a towering figure in the study of modern Korean literature who has taught at Cal over the course of many years, will be returning to Korea this summer. They will be greatly missed!

Several of our graduate students will also be leaving campus in pursuit of new beginnings. Linda Zhang, a newly minted Ph.D. in Chinese, will be heading to a tenure-track position at Fulbright University in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam to teach cinema and media culture! Congratulations, Linda! And Alec Fraser, who graduated this year from the Asian Studies MA program, will be heading off this summer to the IUC program in

intensive Japanese in Yokohama, Japan (along with his doctoral classmate, Leon Jenkins).

EALC in the World: Courses, Initiatives, and Distinctions

Exciting and progressive new initiatives are afoot in our language programs. Kelvin Chi Leung Chan has been awarded a Berkeley Language Center fellowship to create Mandarin/Cantonese learning materials to enable health professionals to engage better with the local Asian-American community. And Weisi Cai (Chinese Language Program), Kyongmi Park (Korean Language Program), and Kyoko Takahara-Ahn (Japanese Language Program) have won a UC-AFT professional development grant to continue their research on hybrid pedagogies that will make language learning accessible to a wider range of students.

The Korean Language Program presided over the Korean Literature Essay Contest this spring. Open to all Berkeley students, the contest was supported by the Center for Korean Studies. Participants read the Korean novel *Almond* by Won-pyung Sohn and submitted critical essays about the work, with seven participants receiving awards for their outstanding efforts. The KLP will continue to hold the essay contest next year.

Linda Zhang's innovative Chinese 172/Film 145 course, "Contemporary Chinese Language Cinema" challenged her students to delve into the deep history and cultural significance of Chinese cinemas and theaters across the Bay Area. Their research blog documents their adventures and findings: <https://chinesecinemacal.blogspot.com/>. Take a look — their research is inspiring.

Pratiti (of our Asian Studies MA program) also developed a new course, SSEAS R5B, "Detectives in Indian Literature and Cinema" — and was awarded a Center on Contemporary India grant for two projects "The Bizarre in the City: Science, Nature, and Narratibe in Calcutta, and "How Tintin Became Bengali? Hergé's After-work in India."

Paula Varsano, who was a senior fellow at the Townsend Center this past academic year, gave a [two-part seminar on methods in sinology](#) at the University of Zurich and the University of Pennsylvania.

Andrew Jones was featured on the "Chinese Literature Podcast," speaking on Lu Xun's *zawen*: <https://www.chineseliteraturepodcast.com/?p=1119>

Xiaoyu Xia was awarded the Domitor Early Cinema Student Essay Award for her "Fighting with a Brush: Calligraphic Intertitles and Early Chinese Cinema."

Translations, Special Issues, Articles, and a Forthcoming Book!

EALC faculty and graduate students continue to produce an impressive outpouring of new research in the East Asian humanities:

Hardy Stewart translated Xu Jianwei's 徐建委 book review of *Embellishing the Imperial Order: The Formation of the Hanshu and Its Circulation in Medieval China* 潤色鴻業：漢書文本的形成與早期傳播 (a book by Chen Jun 陳君, 2020). His translation will be published in the *Journal of Chinese Literature and Culture* (JCLC) volume 9, issue 2.

Andrew F. Jones' translation of Fei Ming's 廢名 1928 short story "Peach Orchard" 桃園 will appear in *Renditions* 97 (Spring 2022).

Paula Varsano co-edited (with Min-hua Wu) [a special issue](#) of *Wenshan Review* on "Literary Translation and the Subjectivity of the Translator."

Weihong Bao is co-editor of a special issue of *Representations* 157 (Winter 2022) on "Climate Media": <https://www.representations.org/new-issue-representations-157-media-climates/>. Weihong has also authored two major new essays: "Hermeneutics of Doubt: Atmospheric Knowing and an Ecology of the Mind," in *Representations* 157 (2022), 142-192; and "Archaeology of a Medium: The (Agri)Cultural Techniques of Paddy Farm Films," in *Boundary 2* 49.1 (2022), 25-70.

Yifan Zheng's essay "Institutional Management of Returning the Deceased from Frontiers to their Hometowns and Related Administrative Procedures during the Qin and Han Dynasties" will appear in the *Bulletin of the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica* (Taipei), volume 94, number 2.

Ling Hon Lam's chapter on "The Peony Pavilion: Emotions, Dreams, and Spectatorship," is featured in a new volume called *How to Read Chinese Drama*, edited by Patricia Sieber and Regina Llamas (New York: Columbia University Press, 2022), 212-34.

Yoko Hasegawa has not one but two forthcoming book chapters:

“Kaishaku-jutsugo to naiyō-jutsugo no shuyōbu-kōtai: Run_risk furēmu ni kakawaru Eigo to Nihongo no bun-kōzō no hikaku-taishō kōsatsu” [Head-switching between interpretation and content predicates: A comparative study of constructions involving the Run-risk frame between English and Japanese] (with Kyoko Hirose Ohara). In Yo Matsumoto and Kyoko Hirose Ohara (eds.), *Furēmu imiron no kōken: Dōshi to sono shūhen* [Contributions of Frame Semantics: Verbs and related constituents], 20-41. Tokyo: Kaitakusha, 2022.

“The metapragmatic speech-style shift in Japanese: From the telling mode to the showing mode.” In Chris Shei and Saihong Li (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Asian Linguistics*. London: Routledge, 2022.

Finally, and with much fanfare, I am happy to announce that Jonathan Zwicker’s new book, *Kabuki's Nineteenth Century: Stage and Print in Early Modern Edo*, is now forthcoming from Oxford University Press.

Fellowships, Leaves, and Visitors

Ling Hon Lam has been awarded a Townsend Fellowship for 2022-23 at the Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities. Weihong Bao will be Newhouse External Fellow for 2022-23 at the Suzy Newhouse Center for the Humanities at Wellesley College. And Robert Sharf has been granted a Humanities Research Fellowship from the Division of Arts and Humanities. Mark Csikszentmihalyi and Andrew F. Jones will be on sabbatical leave in the Fall 2022 semester, and back for Spring 2023.

We are excited to announce that we will have two visiting professors in the Fall. Our very own Roy Chan, now associate professor at University of Oregon, will be back in Berkeley to offer a seminar in modern Chinese literature and teach an undergraduate course on popular media in modern China. Dennis Washburn of Dartmouth University, and an eminent scholar of Japanese literature and translator of an acclaimed new edition of *The Tale of Genji*, will also be on campus, co-teaching our introductory survey in Japanese literature, and offering a variety of public lectures and workshops.

Changes

Finally, I will conclude my term as chair at the end of this month. It has been a high honor to work with all of you, and to serve this community for the past three years. The department will be in capable hands as we move onward and upward: Professor Robert Ashmore has agreed to take on the reins. Please help me welcome him!

Warm wishes for a productive and peaceful summer,

Andrew