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### *Congratulations to the Class of 2015!*

We would like to officially congratulate our graduate class of 2015! This year the Asian Studies program has nine graduating students, all who have worked diligently throughout their studies and are now moving on their future projects.

This commencement ceremony was held on May 16th and was attended by our proud faculty and graduating students as well as their friends and family. Best of luck to our Asian Studies Master Graduate Class of 2015!



### *Department of Asian Studies Class of 2015 Graduates*

Louis George Cannrozzi  
 Zhaoyang Dou  
 Michael Raymond Dutko

Qingqing Lan  
 Xiwen Li  
 Qi Qi

Clarence Henry Seniors  
 Wanqi Shen  
 Yihan Zhou

### *Welcome from the Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures*



Spring 2015 has been a productive time for the Asian Studies Program. The 18th annual Japan Week, directed by Dr. Shigeru Osuka, was held from April 7-14, and featured events such as the annual Kite Contest and kite-making workshop and the 18th Annual Graduate Student and School Teacher Symposium on Japanese Studies. An additional highlight was the special guest lecture on Japanese international relations, in which Koichi Ai,

Consulate General of Japan in New York, spoke on the topic: Double Vision: A Diplomat's Perspective on Japan-U.S. Relations. Our Chinese program also hosted the Hubei Chinese Opera, who performed King Lear and The Taming of the Shrew at the SOPAC theatre in South Orange. In April, the Chinese Speech Contest was held and the program also co-sponsored a guest lecture on "China's Tale of Two Cities: Beijing, Shanghai and a Legacy of Catholic Perseverance" in conjunction with the Department of Catholic Studies.

### *A Message from the Director of Graduate Studies*



Spring 2015 witnesses some wonderful accomplishments from our students. First of all, nine have graduated, one of whom will start his Ph.D. program in the fall, and another will pursue a second M.A. degree. Among the graduates, one has successfully landed on a job in dancing. Second, over a dozen have been admitted into our program. Many have committed to enroll in the coming

academic year, and a few more are on the way to joining us when the fall semester begins in late August. Thirdly, one student will teach in the DSIC (Duke Study in Summer), the intensive Chinese language program in Beijing this summer. Last but not the least, we initiated a project connecting the Asian Studies alumnus: so far a partial email list was completed, and SHU Asian Studies established on WeChat, a social messaging tool. Congratulations to the graduate class of 2015!

### *Remarks from the Director of the Asian Studies Program*



This winter weather lasted until the middle of April. It was one of the coldest winters we have experienced. In late April suddenly all flowers blossomed to initiate the most wonderful season in the Garden State. Our program, just like the season, is one of the flourishing moments of life. This year the Asian Studies Program has continued with the program assessment. This program recently initiated proficiency infusion into our curricu-

lum. This area is now advancing high academic standards and improving the future of our program. Finally, congratulations to the class of 2015 for their future accomplishments. There are many examples of their achievement but I would like to commend: Yihan Zhou who was admitted to a Ph.D. program in the University of Illinois, Stephen Torowicz was admitted to a Ph.D. program at the University of Arizona, Matthew Barros was admitted to our M.A. program, Sara Shirer will be teaching English in Utsunomiya, Tochigi, Japan.

*Chinese Han Opera Performing Shakespeare: King Lear by S. Borek-February 16th-17th*

I found the Chinese adaptation of the English Shakespearian play King Lear very interesting and unique. I had never see a Shakespearian play put on by Chinese professionals. The setting struck me the most. The adaptation did not change the original Celtic Pre-Roman Britain setting to a similar dynasty in China, but instead kept that setting while substituting the British/European culture with Chinese culture. This play embodied the core Confucian virtue of filial piety. While the first two

daughters sang high praises of their father to gain favor, it was the youngest daughter who represents true filial piety by going to the aid of King Lear even after his fall from dignity and power. The third princess, in effect, fulfilled this Confucian saying in the positive way: "To know what is right and not do it is the worst cowardice." The performance itself was very elaborate, the dances were very graceful; the diverse and harmonious sounds of the instruments, helped create immer-

sion, and greatly enhanced the mood in the opera. It was my first Han Opera and was definitely a worthwhile cultural experience overall.



*China Night Response By Sammy Chang-February 26th*



I currently work for the Chinese Corner and this year I was very happy to help students prepare for China Night. Some students provided photos of their travels through China. While reading the articles, I related with the students feelings about learning another language and culture of a country completely different from their own. One student, Luobaoen related her own life's transformations to China's development. Luobaoen thought that Chinese and U.S. relations have always

been interesting since the young U.S. country has made connections with China's rich and ancient culture. We had to use our teaching experiences to put on this performance as well. In order to make the fun but challenging process of a performance successful, we had to help students by printing dialog for them to memorize on vibrant orange paper and add background music to emphasize the Chinese atmosphere. Students and teachers working together made this event great.

*Visiting Professor Lectures on Catholic Perseverance in China by Michael Stone*

Anthony E. Clark, Ph.D. of Whitworth College presented his lecture: "China's Tale of Two Cities: Beijing, Shanghai and the Legacy of Catholic Perseverance" at Seton Hall on April 27, 2015. Dr. Clark recounted the state of Catholicism in these cities, especially during the period when Pierre-Marie Favier, CM served as a missionary and diplomat in China in the late nineteenth century. Favier was also an architect and his work helped transform the Beijing landscape. This was the time of the anti-West and anti-Christian

Boxer Rebellion and its siege of Beijing's foreign legation in 1900. During the Rebellion, the Boxers killed 200 foreign missionaries, approximately 32,000 Chinese Christian converts, and 100,000 Chinese civilians. A coalition of foreign 19,000 troops killed thousands of Boxer rebels although the precise number is unknown. Learning about Catholic presence in Beijing and Shanghai was a wonderful learning experience. We thank the co-sponsorship with Catholic Studies for this year's enlightening event.





### *Chinese Speech Contest –April 21st*

Students in all levels of Chinese participated in the Chinese speech contest this year. Students representing each level presented in Chinese through speeches, tongue twisters and skits. Students from the introductory class were a little nervous. However, they did a good job in making a public speech in Chinese for the first time. Some spoke about their family, some talked about school life, others commented on the

language learning experience. Although, most English speakers are familiar with the adage “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind” first said by Neil Armstrong, Westerns are generally unfamiliar with famous sayings in Chinese. Intermediate Chinese language students hosted an interactive game, in which they shared famous sayings in Chinese and the audience guessed the corresponding

person who spoke the sentence. Students from the advanced Chinese class showed their fluency in the language by performing tongue twisters in Chinese. Students from the business Chinese class created a skit that shared their experiences with learning Chinese. It was a great success. All students had the chance to showcase their many Chinese language abilities.

### *Japanese Architecture in Ecology and Great Earthquakes-April 7th*

Japan Week 2015 started with a guest lecture on Japanese Architecture in Ecology and Great Earthquakes. Mr. Takashi Sakai is the president of studio SHOH, Architecture Company and board member of the Japan Wooden Building Association in Japan. He revealed the secret of Japanese buildings and how the Japanese handled the problems with industrialization, climate change, and natural disasters. Mr. Sakai spoke about the devastation of the March 2011 Earthquake that caused massive casualties and widespread damage throughout the Tohoku region in Japan. Mr. Sakai explained the historical strength of Japanese architecture as well. Everyone learned that the five-story pagoda located in Horyu Shrine

(the world’s oldest surviving wooden structure) of Nara Japan inspired the internal design for the Tokyo Sky Tree. This clever design allows buildings to

withstand earthquakes. Mr. Sakai also shared his recent projects with wall greening in Japan in order to create urban oases and prevent overheating.



### *Japanese Language & Digital Story Telling Awards Ceremony-April 9th*

During this awards ceremony, many undergraduate and graduate students received awards for digital stories created or recognition for their exemplary Japanese language study. All students receiving the digital story award used their Japanese language ability to express their feelings and ideas about a subject they were interested in such as hobbies, favorite teachers, friendships and travels abroad. They achieved this honor not only by expressing them-

selves Japanese, but also by using various illustrations and lovely background music to match the mood set by the

topics. This event truly validated everyone’s Japanese language study so far.



### *The 16th Annual Kite Contest-April 8th*



Many students and faculty participated in the Annual Kite Contest. All participants brought in handmade kites to the University Green. Participants designed very different kits that came in many shapes and sizes. Even though some attendees did not bring homemade kites to the event, everyone looked into the sky with awe as kites, big and small, flew through the air. Besides first, second and third place winners, the contest also included categories for highest-flying kite, biggest kite, smallest kite and most creative kite design. Those who did not make it home with a trophy received complementary gifts of cup ramen for showing their support!

### *The 18th Annual Graduate Student & School Teacher Symposium on Japanese Studies*

On April 10th of this year seven graduate students presented research papers related to Japanese civilization and culture during a daylong conference with their peers. The keynote speaker Dr. Robin Kietlinski from LaGuardia Community College enlightened the attendants with her presentation on *The Olympic Games and Japanese International Relations*. She shared the current national conflict with the 2020 Olympics and the controversial new stadium under construction in Tokyo Japan. Fears and concerns about the stadium

included the threat of poverty that tends to strike host cities after an Olympic event. She offered great insights on the issue and provoked new perspectives for anyone wishing to attend the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympic Games. The following topics were presented: *Man, Machine, Moment: The Influence of Gunpowder on Japanese Warfare in 1560-1600*, by Vaughn Rogers; *Ishii Shiro (1892- 1959) and his involvement in Unit 731*, by Sunedara Davis; *Buddhist and Christian Ideas of Hell*, by Dan Sullivan; *Hojo Yasutoki (1183*

*- 1242) and the Joie Shikimoku*, by Mario Maximous; *Hojo Soun (1432 - 1519): Life and the Twenty-One Articles*, by Gabriel Thompson; *Could Japan have Repelled the Mongol Invasions of 1274 and 1281 Without the "Divine Winds?"* By Michael A. Stone; *Ashikaga Yoshimitsu (1358 - 1408) and Kango Trade between Japan and Ming China*, by Yuzhen Li. This daylong conference was very informative and all graduate presenters improved their presentation and discussion skills.





### *Special Guest Lecture on Japanese Diplomacy & International Relations-April 13th*

Mr. Koichi Ai, Deputy Consul-General and Director of the Japan Information Center, Consulate General of Japan in New York offered his seasoned opinion on Japan-U.S. relations to students of

Japanese and Diplomacy students that day. Though brief, his words held great meaning as he shared his twenty-six years of knowledge to those in attendance. No one in the audience could eas-

ily answer his question, "What is Diplomacy?" In his opinion, a diplomat was always an honest person. In his words, "Diplomats might make things up, but they are never liars." This statement not only spoke to his character as a person but also to his ability to adapt to changes in dynamic diplomatic environments. He the floor for students with provocative questions about Japanese-U.S. relations as well as changes in its future. Even though nothing in the future is guaranteed, Mr. Ai seemed optimistic. He also looked forward to attending the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympic Games.



### *Origami Workshop-April 14th*

The Japanese words oru (folding) and kami (paper) create the word origami or paper folding craft, which is a creative folk art in incredibly popular Japan today. It is a lovely art form, and quite fun to learn. During the lecture, we used beautifully colored papers that were soft and easy to fold. Ms. Yuki Mori and Ms. Hanna Miura explained the steps for students to make various creations such as a paper airplane and bird, by folding a single colored paper. One of the most elegant and well-known models of these origami birds is the crane. The challenge of transforming just a sheet of paper into different

shapes was quite enjoyable. Learning how to create different forms by folding papers needs patience. By paying attention to the instructions, listening carefully, and asking questions every-body was able to make their origami. It

was friendly atmosphere and students shared their handmade origami with each other. At the end of the program, students took pictures with the Japanese instructors, and kept their handmade forms to take them home.



### *The Tale of Princess Kaguya-April 14th*

The Anime Club hosted its first event in conjunction with Japan Week. To commemorate this event the club had a Seton Hall premier showing of the 10th Century Japanese folktale, *The Tale of Princess Kaguya* (Originally known as *The Tale of the Bamboo Cutter*). Over 30 students attending the showing and are now one step closer to

understanding Japanese Culture. This story has been adapted many times in popular Japanese media as well as in the U.S. as a featured story on the world famous Sesame Street. The tale chronicles the journey of a young girl found in a bamboo shoot and her journey into womanhood as a princess, the life she was destined to fulfill on Earth.



## New Jersey Association of Teachers of Japanese 2015 Language Award Ceremony-March 13th



From all across New Jersey, this year, Fifty-Three Students of Japanese received Japanese Language and Culture Study Awards. Five students from Seton Hall University: Matthew Barros,

Adeline Fagel, Mario Maximous, Eun Sung Lee, Ashely Taylor and Vivian Wong all won awards for their exemplary study and achievement in the Japanese language. To celebrate their

achievement the New Jersey Association of Teachers of Japanese invited the honorees to a ceremony where they received an award certificate and attended a cultural presentation. Award winners spoke briefly on their Japanese study and spoke to the audience about the difficulties they had while learning Japanese. All students were excited to receive their awards and have their own diligence as well as their Japanese professors to thank for the skills they have learned during their language study.

### Recent Achievements



Stephen D.  
Torowicz  
M.A. '13

I spent several years in the M.A. program at Seton Hall as a student and employee in the Office of International Programs I credit Professors Osuka, Leung, Gregory and Ming as instrumental in my pursuit of knowledge and further graduate study. The University of Arizona's Ph.D. program in East Asian Studies accepted me recently, and I plan to study Chinese Philosophy and Buddhism.



Yihan  
Zhou  
M.A. '15

I have been a part of many of the programs with the Chinese language department during my studies here at Seton Hall. I am happy to join University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for East Asian studies to gain my Ph.D. in second language acquisition linguistics. It has been a great pleasure working here and I hope to find even more fulfilling experiences in my new University.



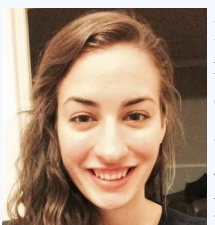
Bingjing  
Dong  
M.A. '13

I am currently pursuing my Master's Degree in the field of International Education Development at the Teachers College, Columbia University. I am grateful for what I have experienced at Seton Hall University. Not only the knowledge and academic success. The friends that I made as well as instructors and mentors who guided me through difficulties, truly made me who I am.



Teddy  
Yen  
M.A. '05

After graduation I worked in NYC for 5 years in the financial services industry. My company has relocated me to Singapore and I now have the opportunity to travel all over Asia. My advice for current students: stay positive and maintain clear goals and intentions during their studies. I would be happy to speak to anyone with questions about my current field of work.



Sara  
Shirer  
B.A. '15

I will be going to Japan with Amity Corporation, a private language company that offers English tutoring to children of all ages. I will be moving to Utsunomiya in July and staying for a minimum of one year. While in Japan, I hope to strengthen my understanding of Japanese language as well as learn more about the Japanese culture that I have studied at Seton Hall University.



Matthew  
Barros  
B.A. '15

I recently graduated this May 2015 and will pursue my Masters degree in Asian Studies here at Seton Hall University. While I am studying my Masters degree I will focus on Japan and want to become a college professor in Japanese Studies. After the M.A. program I want to teach English in Japan and strengthen my language ability in order to pursue a Ph.D. program.

### Join the Asian Studies Association

If you wish to join the Asian Studies Association, please contact Thomas Zucker at [thomas.zucker@student.shu.edu](mailto:thomas.zucker@student.shu.edu) or Dr. Dongdong Chen, advisor for the Asian Studies Association, at [dongdong.chen@shu.edu](mailto:dongdong.chen@shu.edu)