Past 2004 Fall and Summer Successes!

Third Annual Symposium on Asia in the Curriculum

EASC sponsored the Third Annual Symposium on Asia in the Curriculum, a three-day event held at IUPUI September 16-18, 2004. This seminar was open to all educators working in the field of East Asian studies and provided a forum for participants to share their experiences and ideas on promoting Asian studies at all levels of education. One hundred and sixty-four participants from across the United States attended the symposium, including Mr. and Mrs. Houghton Freeman, founders of the Freeman Foundation.

The symposium included panels, tracts and lectures and special events such as the showing of the Korean film, The Way Home. Keynote speeches were given by Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Sue-Ellen Reed and special invited speaker Frances Wood who discussed 'The Mysterious East.' Perhaps most well known for her book Did Marco Polo go to China?, Dr. Wood is the Head Librarian of the Chinese Section of the British Library and author of many other notable titles including The Blue Guide to China, Oriental Gardens, No.Dogs and not Many Chinese: Treaty Port Life 1843-1943, and The Silk Road.

Participants also had the opportunity to attend three sessions of panel discussions: “Asia in the Curriculum: Beyond the Textbook,” “Asia in the Classroom: Emerging Needs” and “Next Steps.” In addition, three “Arts in Asia” panels incorporating music and the visual arts, were featured. A final session called “Next Steps in the Symposium’s Evolution,” focused on future development of the symposium. Next year’s Symposium will be held at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu.

2004 China Study Tour

Seventeen teachers from the Midwest had the opportunity to travel to China this summer to learn more about that country and culture firsthand. The EASC study tours are a follow-up to the 30-hour NCTA Teaching about Asia seminars for teachers to improve their knowledge of East Asia. Both the seminars and the study tours are generously funded by the Freeman Foundation.

The teachers—from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and Alabama—prepared for the trip with extensive reading, orientations in Bloomington and Chicago, and curriculum planning. During their three weeks in China they visited Beijing, Xi’an, Nanjing, Shanghai, Suzhou and Hong Kong. The group visited many historical sites, visited two Chinese and Japanese restaurants were also of the Japanese-American Citizens League. Known as enrichment programs in south-central Indiana traveled to Chicago as a follow up to their seminar work. We welcome two new outreach assistants to our EASC staff. Jeremy Mixell will be assisting with the NCTA Teaching About Asia seminars. Jeremy is originally from Muncie, Indiana, and he received his B.A. in Gender Studies from Indiana University. Jessica Dzieweczymski will be working with the 2005 study tour and the spring Honors Seminar. Born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Jessica received her B.A. in Chinese Studies from Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. She has studied in China and was in Japan for a year with the JET program.

EASC also welcomes Anne Sorenson as our new conference assistant and Clark Hudson as our new grants assistant.

A Current Outreach Program

Exploring East Asia through Stories

Once again, the East Asian Studies Center is reading stories in elementary classrooms, preschools and day care centers in the Bloomington area. Our sessions using kamishibai, a Japanese form of storytelling with picture cards, are very popular. Although we don’t ride our bicycles with the kamishibai stage on the back in the traditional way, students nevertheless enjoy these illustrated tales. To see and hear some kamishibai stories, visit Kids Web Japan at http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/folk.html. For further information on our program, visit www.indiana.edu/~easc/storytelling.

NCTA Enrichment

Summer 2004 Chicago Trip

Alumni of the Teaching about Asia seminar programs in south-central Indiana traveled to Chicago as a follow up to their seminar work. We welcome two new outreach assistants to our EASC staff. Jeremy Mixell will be assisting with the NCTA Teaching About Asia seminars. Jeremy is originally from Muncie, Indiana, and he received his B.A. in Gender Studies from Indiana University.

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Tea is a commodity that people readily associate with East Asia. The leaves of the *Camellia sinensis* bush are known by a variety of names in Western languages yet the words for tea often share similar pronunciations:

- **tay** - English (before the 18th Century)
- **tea** - English (after the 18th Century)
- **thé** - French
- **tè, té** - Italian, Spanish
- **tee** - German
- **chá** - Portuguese
- **chá** - Russian
- **tsai** - Greek

The origins of these words lie in 17th and 18th century European trade contacts with China. European merchants who traded in southern China’s port of Amoy (Xiamen), called tea by the Chinese Minna dialect’s word *t‘e*. Europeans who traveled to Canton (Guangzhou) or Hong Kong heard the Cantonese dialect’s pronunciation of tea, *ch‘a*. The Mandarin dialect of northern China also calls tea *ch‘a*. The Russians, trading with northern China, adopted *ch‘a* as their word for tea.

Classroom Applications: Have students use the Internet to research European language names for tea. Group the student findings by these two Chinese pronunciations. Use this information to illustrate early trade contacts between China and the West. (A map activity would reinforce this concept.) Also, use the example of tea’s pronunciations to illustrate the variety of linguistic dialects spoken within China. Students may wish to explore the etymology of other English words with Chinese linguistic connections (*China*, *ketchup*, *silk*, *typhoon*, etc.)

For more information see: http://www.wordiq.com/definition/Tea
http://www.yellowbridge.com/language/chineseloon.html