Center for Asian Studies Receives Title VI Grant for 2003–2006

The highlight of last year was the Center’s ranking in the 2003-06 Title VI grant competition administered by the U.S. Department of Education for the National Resource Centers for South Asia. The Texas NRC is an integral part of the Center for Asian Studies, and was funded at an unprecedented record of $1,893,816, an increase of 154% over its previous three-year award. Funding for our graduate studies program through the Foreign Languages and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships jumped from $129,000 in 2000 to $348,000 in 2003, an increase of 269%. There were 120 National Resource Centers representing 14 world regions funded by the Department of Education in the competition. Texas programs received the third-highest level of funding among all national centers in all world areas.

This unprecedented Title VI funding emphasizes the impressive foundation built at UT over a number of years. The extraordinary backing we have received from senior administrators and the indispensable support from endowments, notably from the Meyerson Chair, have led to our South Asia program climbing much higher in national ranking.

The Center for Asian Studies is one of four cultural study areas in the College of Liberal Arts at The University of Texas at Austin. “In today’s political and economic climate, the increase in this funding is especially important,” said Dr. Richard Lariviere, Dean of Liberal Arts.

“It will allow us to continue teaching our students about vital aspects of these world regions including government, religion, history, and culture.”

The FLAS fellowships support 16 graduate students from a number of disciplines focusing on South Asia. Title VI funding for the Center will enable us to undertake a variety of programs and activities, including outreach to high school teachers and students, college teachers, community, and businesses; several seminars and conferences, including the South Asian Languages Analysis World Congress (SALA), and a conference on religion, conflict, and security in South Asia.
Graduate Student Research in Japan

Kukhee Choo, a Ph.D. student in Asian Cultures and Languages, is studying at the prestigious Inter-University Center for Japanese language study in Yokohama this year. She has received fellowships from the U.S. Department of Education and the Shoyu Foundation in order to facilitate her study.

Kukhee’s area of research is Japanese popular culture, specifically Japanese *manga* (comic books) and *anime* (animation). She has already given presentations on her work at several conferences throughout the United States. These presentations have included feminist readings of such popular Japanese animation series as “Fruits Basket” and an overview of the development of Japanese animation in general. She has also been a teaching assistant in the course “The World of Japanese Animation,” one of the few courses specifically on *anime* taught in the U.S.

The Inter-University Center administers one of the most challenging Japanese language programs in the world. Students attend classes for 6 hours each day and are then given up to six hours of homework each day. Most scholars now prominent in Japanese Studies have attended it. Kukhee hopes that by the next semester she will have a little more time to pursue her own research interests. She plans to take advantage of being in Japan by working on the historical development of *manga* and *anime*.

—Susan Napier

This summer, I returned to Kyoto to research one of Japan’s top three festivals, the Gion Festival. For over a millennium Kyoto citizens have celebrated this festival. The simple rites have evolved into elaborate parades in which tens of thousands of spectators crowd downtown to watch floats, ranging from 1.2 to 12 tons and nine of which tower at approximately 25 meters, pushed and pulled downtown to attract a number of deities to rid the nation of epidemics.

Based on observations, personal involvement, and interviews this summer and seven years ago, I am exploring possible connections between festival participation among (mainly) elderly males and health benefits that may directly or indirectly result. On the day I arrived in Japan, I rushed off to my first interview. After getting lost, then escorted by a complete stranger to an unknown location, I was relieved to sit down for what turned out to be a fruitful interview.

On another day, I chanced upon a rehearsal of Gion Festival music by the women’s float—a recently formed group that has yet to be accepted into the completely male-dominated *Yamaboko* Parade. I was invited to stay for a two-hour lecture on the Gion festival’s history and highlights by an avid fan and participant who later became a tremendously resourceful informant.

This month of rituals and festivities proved an ideal place to research religion and health connections in Japan, and I am truly grateful for the assistance of the Asian Studies Summer Scholarship and Mitsubishi Fellowship in making it possible.

—Michael Roemer
Dr. Oliver Freiberger has been a Harrington Faculty Fellow in the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Texas since the fall of 2002. He received his Ph.D. in 1999 from the University of Gottingen, Germany, with a focus on Indian Buddhism. His intimate knowledge of Buddhism has helped round out the Department of Asian Studies, where no other faculty member specializes in the subject. In the spring semester, Freiberger taught a graduate seminar on the topic of Buddhist monasticism in South Asia, where hotly debated issues were discussed, such as the role of gender in Buddhist monastic traditions. He also presented a paper on comparative approaches to the study of asceticism as part of the Center for Asian Studies’ regular lecture series.


Although his clear area of specialization is South Asian Buddhism, Freiberger’s academic interests include topics as varied as comparative religion and early Egyptian Christianity.

As part of his activities this past year, Freiberger also organized a conference entitled “Criticizing Asceticism: Asian and European Religious Views in Comparative Perspective,” held earlier this year.

—David Brick

Conference held on "Criticizing Asceticism: Asian and European Religious Views in Comparative Perspective"

Sponsored by the Donald D. Harrington Faculty Fellows Program and held September 19-20, 2003, the conference explored an issue that has so far not been dealt with extensively in the study of the History of Religions: the criticism of asceticism. Strong traditions of asceticism used to exist both in Asia and in Europe, in some periods dominating religious worldviews. The task of this conference was to highlight the views of those who, for religious reasons, object to the ascetic way of life. The aim was to consider several aspects of critical views on asceticism, arguments, and positions, and to discuss them in comparative perspective.

There were ten papers, five on Asia and five on Europe, presented by scholars from the United States and from several European countries. The conference was run in workshop form, with plenty of time for comparative discussion.

![Oliver Freiberger (R) and conference participants](image)
Meyerson News

This past year, the Meyerson Faculty Travel Grants were put to use by several Center Faculty. Descriptions of three diverse projects supported by this grant follow below:

Cynthia Talbot used her Meyerson Faculty Travel Grant to spend several days collaborating in person with Dr. Catherine Asher, her co-author for the book *Medieval India: A Political and Cultural History*. This survey of the period from 1200 to 1750 will be innovative in its extensive coverage of political culture as manifested in texts and the built environment, the interactions between Muslims and non-Muslims, and the varying developments in the regional societies of the sub-continent. It will also make ample use of visual illustrations, with 60 photographs and 12 maps. The book is to be published by Cambridge University Press.

Sharmila Rudrappa used a Meyerson Mini-Grant in the summer of 2003 to facilitate preliminary field research in Bangalore. In this project, titled “Indian Mothers, Techno-Braceros And Other Such Phenomena: Conceiving Citizenship in 21st Century United States,” she looks at how globalization is altering the contours of American citizenship. In the United States, by the mid-1990s every year over 40% of the H1-B visas—temporary work permits—were issued to Indian computer programmers, persons she has termed 'techno-braceros.' With the present economic downturn, American IT companies have either gone bust, are outsourcing at ever increasing rates, or are relocating operations to India where the comparative advantage of cheaper labor has meant increased profit margins in these unprofitable times.

Ward Keeler traveled to Burma this summer to continue his research on Burmese rap music. He became interested in the topic in 2002, when attending several all-night performances (za’ pwè in Burmese) in the area of Mandalay. His interest initially was in examining the more classical sections of performance. However, the audiences seemed biggest and most enthusiastic during the “stage show” portion of the performances: a couple of hours of rock, rap, and hip hop.

A question that immediately presented itself was whether Burmese saw links between rap and an indigenous Burmese tradition of call-and-response rhythmic chanting. The affinities with rap seemed clear. Burmese over the age of forty all made the connection without any prompting. However, the current military regime took a dim view of chanted political satire and stamped it out in the early 90s, before a lot of Burmese rappers paid any attention.
New Faculty Join Asian Studies

Asian Studies is pleased to welcome Nancy Stalker as an Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies. After receiving her Ph.D. in History from Stanford University in the fall of 2002, Stalker lectured at Yale before joining UT. Past research areas have included explorations of the Japanese “new religion” Oomoto and the national identity it created. She has presented at conferences at Harvard, Sophia University (Tokyo), the University of Canterbury (New Zealand), and the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. She has also published articles addressing topics ranging from new religions of Asia to Japanese gender-related subjects.

Stalker, who was born in Tokyo, began her career in the business field. Her interests changed after spending a year backpacking around Asia, and she decided to pursue her interests in Japan. After completing her M.A. and Ph.D. on the west coast, then moving east to New Haven, we are glad she has joined us here in the middle. Her knowledge and ability to relate topics ranging from religious aestheticism to doctrines and trends significantly contribute to our department’s Japanese Studies section. Future research interests include the role of ikebana in developing a middle class postwar identity and the oppositional role of other cultural movements, such as the unique and relatively unexplored music of Okinawa.

—Michael Roemer

Robert Oppenheim, Assistant Professor of Asian Studies, comes to us straight from the University of Chicago. An anthropologist by training, Oppenheim’s focus on Korea is an ongoing effort to understand “how ‘place’ fits together.”

His dissertation, The Place of Projects: Remaking Locality in Kyongju, South Korea, paints a portrait of the individuals, places and organizations involved in the dispute over whether to build a high-speed rail line over major archeological sites in Kyongju, the modern city built over the ancient capital of the Shilla kingdom.

He currently teaches “Introduction to Korean History and Culture” and “The Two Koreas and the US,” the latter course being a survey of US-Korean relations since 1945, laying the groundwork for an understanding of the contemporary US-South Korea relationship and the “opaque” nature of today’s North Korea.

Oppenheim’s interests also include the history of anthropology. He is in the process of investigating the life and career of Frederick Starr, an early 20th-century anthropologist-cum-adventurist who was for many years on the faculty of the University of Chicago.

Although Starr is often dismissed as a “circus anthropologist” with unfortunate (and hypocritical) Imperialist leanings, Oppenheim proposes to re-evaluate his career as a way to examine early anthropological investigations of Korea, and to trace phenomena and processes that linked colonial Korea outwards to the wider world.

—Jesse Field
Outreach Asia News

Outreach Asia and Hemispheres (the international area studies outreach consortium at the University of Texas at Austin) continued to expand its programming during the past year.

Hemispheres began offering one-day professional development workshops for local K-12 educators. In the first one-day workshop “Folklore and Mythology Around the World,” Karline McLain, a graduate student in the Center, presented an Indian comic book on Hindu goddesses and led a discussion on the place of comic books in contemporary Indian society.

In the Fall, Hemispheres was approached by Dr. Leslie Jarmon in the McCombs School of Business for assistance in finding area experts for her Academy “Business across Borders” as part of the Plus Program (intensive professional development training). Each Center sent a speaker or two to address the 80 MBA graduate students working on real-time projects in other countries.

In February, Hemispheres co-sponsored a national K-12 teacher conference. The International Studies Schools Association, a program run out of the University of Denver, held its second annual conference in Kerrville, Texas, and with the co-sponsorship of Hemispheres, the participants were given a warm Texas welcome. The five-day conference allowed teachers to learn and exchange ideas on incorporating international themes into their classrooms with 160 colleagues from all over the United States.

“Good Reads,” the international fiction book club, has proven to be a new and highly popular community outreach endeavor for Hemispheres. Each month a book from a region represented by one of the four Centers is presented by a graduate student or faculty member who not only gives a better understanding of the novel, but also leads the discussion groups and answers questions.

This spring, Outreach Asia was instrumental in helping a returned Fulbright-Hays educator run a Japanese Festival at her local High School. Hemispheres has been spotlighted more than once on the University homepage this past year, generating many requests for speakers for local classrooms and community groups.

This past year, the Center organized several outstanding post-secondary outreach programs. In November, the Center hosted “Pakistani Literature and National Integration: Revisiting the Language Question” for 100 participants over two days. Visiting scholars and writers were brought in from around the United States and abroad. In April, CAS faculty member Herman van Olphen, with Center support, hosted a Hindi-Urdu workshop for secondary and post-secondary language teachers.

Finally, the Center Director and the Outreach Coordinator decided to initiate a new outreach program, Research Mini-Grants, starting in the spring semester. Applications were solicited from K-12, community college and university faculty to conduct research on specific topics under the theme of “Politics, Religion, and Ethnic Conflict in South Asia.” Two researchers came to UT-Austin this summer under this program. An account of their experiences follows on the next page.
Independent filmmaker screens "MY MOTHER INDIA" at the Center for Asian Studies

Safina Uberoi, an independent film-maker, brought her documentary "My Mother India" to the Center for Asian Studies on April 10, 2003 as part of her world-wide tour. 25 students and faculty had the opportunity to view the documentary and participate in a lively discussion directly following the film. Ms. Uberoi wrote and directed this film which tells the story of Patricia, the filmmaker’s mother, an Australian who married an Indian professor in the 1960s and moved with him to live in India.

Ms. Uberoi has directed various documentaries. She studied film at the Australian Film Television and Radio School in Sydney and the Mass Communication Research Centre, New Delhi and is an Honorary Associate of the Media and Communications Department at the University of Macquarie, Sydney, Australia.

Outreach Asia awards summer 2003 Meyerson Research Mini-grants

I applied for a summer research and travel grant through the Center for Asian Studies to further my ongoing research project on Mirza Hakim, Akbar and the establishment of the Mughal Empire. Emperor Akbar (r. 1556-1605) has been rightfully accorded a central place in Mughal historiography. The broad outlines of his imperial vision survived for almost 150 years, well into the 1700s. My present project aims to re-examine the figure of Mirza Hakim, explain the historiographical silence surrounding his opposition to Akbar, and also point to the importance of writing connective histories between South and Central Asia.

As the recipient of a summer research and travel grant, I was able to spend an incredibly productive week ensconced in the Perry Castañeda Library (PCL). Besides wandering the stacks searching for new or previously overlooked materials relating to Akbar and the early Mughals, I also studied a large number of historical texts relating to Afghanistan, Khurasan and Mawara al-nahr. The diversity of these accounts is suggested by the fact that they ranged across Persian, Urdu, English, and Pashtu language sources; materials written as early as the first decade of the 1800s and as recently as the late 1990s; and, finally, encompassing a broad range of perspectives, from British imperialism to Pakhtun nationalism. The opportunity to work in the PCL undoubtedly went a long way in furthering and enriching my present research agenda.

—Munis Faruqui, University of Dayton

As a recipient of a Research Mini Grant from the Center for Asian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, I visited the University in the summer of 2003. The reason for this visit was to utilize the library and computational facilities to conduct an in-depth survey of literature on illegal migration between Bangladesh and India. Since the early 1990s, the issue of undocumented (Muslim) migrants from Bangladesh to India has become the focus of persistent political tension between these neighboring countries.

India unsuccessfully made several attempts to deport alleged illegal Bangladeshi immigrants to their homeland, attempts known as “Operation Push Back.” The latest episode of “Operation Push Back” started in January of this year and the threats of deportation have not completely disappeared. I intend to examine both the magnitude and the causes of illegal Bangladeshi migration to India.

—Munis Faruqui, University of Dayton
Center News

“Between the Empires” illuminates a ‘dark age’

Over the weekend of April 10-12 the Center for Asian Studies and the Department of Asian Studies, along with the College of Liberal Arts, hosted a significant and far-ranging conference on ancient South Asia titled “Between the Empires.” The convener, Department Chair Patrick Olivelle, organized the conference to help focus the scholarly community on an often neglected and misunderstood period of India’s past. This period stretches roughly from the end of the reign of Ashoka Maurya (late 3rd century BCE) to the founding of the Gupta dynasty over seven centuries later (early 4th century CE). Because this era is framed by two of ancient India’s most celebrated empires, it has often been viewed as something of a “dark age,” characterized by fragmentation, instability, and cultural decline.

The event brought together some of the world’s foremost authorities on ancient South Asian history, philology, numismatics, art, epigraphy, gender, law, epics, trade, grammar, and religion. Presenters included Harry Falk, Shailendra Bhandare, Frederick Asher, Michael Witzel, Aloka Parasher Sen, Gregory Schopen, Richard Salomon, Paul Dundas, Alf Hiltebeitel, James Fitzgerald, Ludo Rocher, Stephanie Jamison, Himanshu Ray, Madhav Deshpande, Johannes Bronkhorst, and Ashok Aklujkar. University of Texas at Austin faculty members Cynthia Talbot (History), Martha Selby (Asian Studies), Janice Leoshko (Art History), and Joel Brereton (Asian Studies) served as discussants for the conference panels. Patrick Olivelle introduced the conference and delivered concluding thoughts on the proceedings. The conference served not only to bring the international academic community together on the issues relevant to this period of South Asian history, but also generated a great deal of excitement and interest among UT faculty and students.

A spring seminar for graduate students and faculty organized by Dr. Olivelle studied the contributions of the various presenters in anticipation of the event. Additionally, a volume covering the proceedings of the conference is planned for publication. Although no simple summation can suffice to encapsulate the results of such a diverse undertaking, the proceedings confirmed that the period “Between the Empires” was as or more significant to the various processes that shaped South Asian
2002-2003 Seminar Series

China Seminar Series

Gordon Bennett organized the 2002-2003 China seminar series. Its focus was on questions of the state in Chinese culture. The featured speaker was Prasenjit Duara, Professor of History and East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago. Duara dealt broadly with the changing relationship between the state, elites and popular culture from late imperial times.

Complementing him was Sarah Schneewind, Assistant Professor of Chinese History, Southern Methodist University, who studies relations between state and society during the Ming era. Students of Government heard Ross Terrill, Visiting Professor from Harvard, discuss his just published book *The New Chinese Empire* (Basic Books, 2003).

April 7, 2003. Sarah Schneewind (Southern Methodist University). “Ming Community Schools in History and Historiography.”


Japan Seminar Series

John Traphagan organized the 2002-2003 Japan seminar series, the topics of which ranged from *animé* to forestry to a performance by a retired geisha.


South Asia Seminar Series

The 2002-2003 South Asia Seminar series addressed the important issue of South Asian identity, relevant to many scholarly disciplines and to the study of the subcontinent from the ancient past to the present. Drs. Janice Leoshko and Cynthia Talbot organized this series titled “Issues of South Asian Identity, Past and Present.” While several guest speakers discussed aspects of religious and ethnic identity, others dealt with language, gender, and material culture. The broad range of topics covered during the year thus illustrated the diverse bases of social identity in South Asia.


On October 18, 2002, 55 students and faculty members from the Center for Asian Studies attended a special performance by Ms. Iwasaki Mineko, a retired geisha. Born in 1949 to a family of eleven children, Ms. Iwasaki entered a geisha house at the age of five and later went on to become one of the country’s most sought-after entertainers. She subsequently became the model for Arthur Golden’s best-selling novel, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, and has written about her experiences in her autobiography, *The Geisha of Gion*.

Accompanied by Ms. Ito Yoshimi on the shamisen, a three-stringed instrument that developed from the classical Japanese stringed instrument, the *biwa*, Ms. Iwasaki demonstrated some of her dancing and singing skills. The audience was particularly delighted by her performance of a love song that she sang first in Japanese and then sung in English for the first time in its thousand-year history. Ms. Iwasaki answered a number of questions about her life as a geisha in Gion, the famous geisha district located in the heart of Kyoto. Following her performance, the audience was introduced to the artwork of her husband, Mr. Iwasaki Junichiro, who accompanied his wife on her tour of the United States and Europe. Dr. Watanabe Tomoko, a Japanese language lecturer at UT, and Miwa Gardener, an undergraduate student in Asian Studies served as interpreters for the event.

If you are interested in showing a video of Ms. Iwasaki’s performance in your classroom, taped by permission of Ms. Iwasaki for educational use, please contact Jordan Phillips in the Center for Asian Studies.

The following is an excerpt from Ms. Iwasaki’s book, *The Geisha of Gion*.

*I moved into the Iwasaki geisha house when I was five and began my artistic training when I was six. I adored the dance. It became my passion and object of greatest devotion. I was determined to become the best and I did.*

*The dance is what kept me going when the other requirements of the profession felt too heavy to bear. Literally. I weigh 90 pounds. A full kimono with hair ornaments can easily weigh 40 pounds. It was a lot to carry. I would have been happy just to dance, but the exigencies of the system forced me to debut as an adolescent geisha, a maiko, when I was fifteen.*

*The Iwasaki geisha house was located in the Gion Kobu district of Kyoto, the most famous and traditional karyukai of them all. This is the community in which I spent the entirety of my professional career.*
Faculty News

Kamran Ali published *Planning the Family in Egypt: New Bodies, New Selves* (Middle East Edition, American University in Cairo Press, 2003). Additionally, he received a Fulbright Fellowship for 2003-04 (Lecture and Research) 2003–2004, for Pakistan, but the program was suspended by the United States Department of State.

At the XII World Sanskrit Conference convened in Helsinki, Finland last July, the executive committee of the International Association of Sanskrit Studies appointed Joel Brereton as the North American representative to the IASS.

James Brow is stepping down from the chairmanship of the Anthropology Department after serving eight years in that capacity.

Sung-sheng Yvonne Chang was invited to give two lectures in Taiwan in November 2002. The first one was at National Taiwan University, Taipei, on the topic “Theoretical Approaches to the Study of Contemporary Taiwanese Literature.” The other talk was jointly sponsored by National Chung-hsing University and Providence University in the city of Taichung, on “Taiwanese Literary Studies in the US.” She recently received a University Cooperative Society Subvention Grant awarded by the Office of the Vice President for Research at The University of Texas at Austin, for her book *Martial Law to Market Law: Literary Culture in Taiwan*, which has been accepted for publication by Columbia University Press.

Ward Keeler is the new editor of the Bulletin of the Burma Studies Group, published by the Southeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies.

Rajesh Kumar was awarded a Ph.D. in Linguistics in May 2003 by The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His dissertation is titled *The Syntax of Negation and the Licensing of Negative Polarity Items (NPIs) in Hindi*.

A second edition of Richard Lariviere’s book *The Nāradeśvarī* which won the CES-MEO prize in 1989, was published by Motilal Banarsidass (Delhi, 2003).

Patricia Maclachlan was on leave in the spring of 2003 as an Abe Fellow and spent 6 months in Tokyo (affiliated with Rikkyo University) and three months at Oxford University (connected to the Nissan Institute at St. Antony’s College) researching the history and politics of the Japanese and British postal systems.

Susan Napier was interviewed by NPR about her research on anime subculture on “All Things Considered.”

Patrick Olivelle’s published “Food for Thought: Dietary Regulations and Social Organization in Ancient India” (2001 Gonda Lecture) was published in 2002 by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. He also published several other scholarly articles.

Sankaran Radhakrishnan was awarded a project for Multi-media Tamil materials preparation in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania and University of Michigan funded by the Department of Education.

Martha Selby’s *The Circle of Six Seasons: A Selection from Old Tamil, Prakrit and Sanskrit Poetry* was published by Penguin Classics (India) in June 2003. She presented a paper titled “Female Desire, Sexual Pleasure, and Bodily Comportment in the Caraka and Susruta-samhitas” at the 5th International Congress on Traditional Asian
Pakistan Symposium Examines Literature and National Integration

The Center for Asian Studies at The University of Texas at Austin held a two-day symposium titled “Pakistani Literature and National Integration: Revisiting the Language Question” on November 14 and 15, 2002. The symposium featured a unique combination of writers, activists and scholars from Pakistan, the United States and Europe, who came together to discuss their work in and on regional Pakistani languages and ethnic cultures such as Sindhi, Baluchi, Pashto, Bangla, and Punjabi.

Kathryn Hansen, Director of the Center for Asian Studies, and Kamran Asdar Ali, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, stated their motivations for organizing this symposium. They noted that too often in the Western academy the study of Pakistan is centered upon the study of Urdu literary culture. However, as the October 2002 elections demonstrated, ethnicity retains a pivotal role in Pakistani culture and politics. Therefore, a deeper understanding of Pakistani culture and society in all its complexity and layers is called for, and is perhaps more necessary now than ever before.

The symposium was well-attended and successful in bringing together a new generation of scholars and authors whose work sheds light on subjects underrepresented both in the academic world of Pakistani Studies and in mainstream Pakistani culture. But perhaps its greatest success was in creating an open space wherein such diverse people with such varying opinions could come together to learn, teach, debate, and think critically about the question of language and ethnicity in Pakistan.

There is a dire need to build a new political, social and cultural consensus that takes into account all sections of the Pakistani population. Perhaps this symposium was a step toward that goal.

—Karline McLain

Pakistan Symposium organizer Kamran Ali (L) with conference presenter Omar Qureshi (R).
Undergraduate News:

The Center for Asian Studies would like to congratulate the following undergraduate students:

Jessica Wang was named Outstanding Continuing First-year Japanese Language Student and received a Mitsubishi Scholarship.

Barbara Biehl, Heather Littlefield, Nicole Matsuyama, and Benjamin Martin Sanders were named Outstanding Japanese Language Students for 2002-2003; they received Mitsubishi Scholarships.

The following students received Bridging Scholarships for Study Abroad administered by the Association of Teachers of Japanese: Michael Baik and Anthony Mars for study at Sophia University; Aurlie Crytzer, at Oita University; Michael Jones, at IES Tokyo; and Nicholas Kampschroer, for study at University of Tohoku.

Graduate News:


Scott Harvey, Laura Brueck, Gardner Harris, Mark McClish and Kristen Rudisill all entered doctoral candidacy effective fall 2003.

Continued on page 15
Student News

My visit to UT-Austin provided uninterrupted time for researching this topic. I utilized the substantial resources available from the UT library system, which has more relevant journals, books, and other materials on Asia and South Asia than most libraries in the Great Plains region. The grant from the Center for Asian Studies provided an opportunity to explore the resources of one of the largest universities in the United States as well as investigate relevant literature sufficient for beginning my research. It also inspired a long-term commitment to further research on this important topic.

—Bimal Kanti Paul, Kansas State University