

**Wittenberg University East Asian Studies (EAS)
Newsletter, October 12, 2019**

Toward Its 50th Anniversary



As Wittenberg's East Asian Studies approaches its 50th anniversary in 2020, **Prof. Shih-Ming Li Chang (李式敏)**, Associate Professor of Theatre and Dance, assumed EAS directorship. Prof. Chang earned her BA in Dance at the University of Chinese Culture, Taiwan, and an MFA in Dance at Smith College. Since 1986, Chang has taught at Wittenberg courses of dance history, dance ethnology and dance composition in addition to Chinese opera dance, Western technique and tai chi. Chang also directs Wittenberg's annual dance concerts, and has given lectures and demonstrations on Chinese dance and culture in numerous universities, festivals, and conferences in Asia, Europe and America. In addition to serving on the National Board of Directors of ACDFA, as vice president of OhioDance, and as executive director for Weaving Pine—a non-profit organization promoting Chinese culture and arts in Ohio, Chang has also published articles, multi-media products and a book in 2016: *Chinese Dance: In the Vast Land and Beyond* by Wesleyan University Press (co-authored with Lynn E. Frederiksen).

Message from EAS Director

Dear Friends, students, alums:

It is my honor to serve EAS at this historical juncture of its 50th anniversary. A series of activities will be held to celebrate EAS' half-century teaching excellence, scholarly success and global outreach. On Tuesday, October 22, Prof. Huffman will be back to Witt for a joint colloquium talk, "Down and Out in Meiji Japan: Lessons from the Urban Slums" at 4:30 pm in Bayley Auditorium. Other activities include EAS Tea (Thursday, October 17, 4-5 pm, HOLL329), Ghost Stories (Nov. 1 at 7 pm in Ness), EAS alum dinner with Prof. Huffman and Swanger (Thursday, October 24 at 6 pm), "20th Century Art and its Politics in China" by Yuling Huang (Spring 2020), East Asian Festival (Sat., Jan.25, 2020 at 2-7 pm), Chinese dancing by Emily Wilcox (University of Michigan, spring 2020), etc. We will keep you informed about these and other upcoming events.

The following also highlights and updates EAS faculty's high-quality teaching and research.

Teaching Excellence



Prof. Sunny Jeong was awarded with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Class of 2018.



Prof. Jennifer Oldstone-Moore was awarded with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Class of 2019.

Scholarly Success

EAS faculties continue to demonstrate their intellectual vigor. In the past academic year (2018-19), they published dozens of scholarly works, including books, articles, book chapters, reviews, media pieces and other analytical articles, plus four in press and one book proposed. Additionally, EAS members gave 17 conference presentations, taught 2 master classes, 13 invited lectures, and 5 performances. EAS members also organized 8 off-campus events, carried out substantial consulting work and community service, and held many positions of professional responsibility and leadership both on and off Wittenberg's campus.

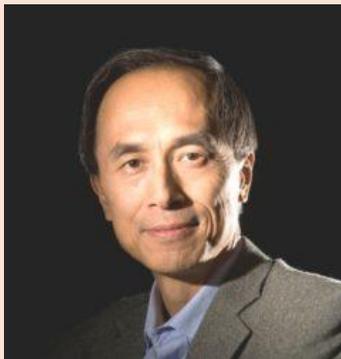
Looking forward, more substantive research works are taking shape:



Prof. Jennifer Oldstone-Moore of Religion Department is now editing the *Oxford Handbook of Confucianism*, which is a 37-chapter volume with contributions from specialists around the world on various aspects of the Confucian tradition. This three-year project lays the groundwork on key themes and topics in the tradition and is intended for graduate students and scholars in the field or for academics who are engaged in comparative studies.



Prof. Shelley Chan of Chinese language and culture, now taking her sabbatical, is in her overdrive for multiple projects, including a book chapter, an invited review of Mo Yan (2012 Nobel Literature Prize winner) from a top journal (MCLC) in her field of Chinese literature and culture, and papers for five conferences in Europe and Asia in the months ahead.



Prof. YU Bin of political science published an analytical piece, “Beautiful Relationship in a Brave/Grave New World,” in *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 21, No. 2 by Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington DC. Another article is forthcoming later this year in *China International & Strategic Review*, Vol. 2, 2019 (中国国际战略评论) by Beijing University. In late October, Yu will travel to Beijing and Shanghai for two conferences on Russia-China-US relations. He is now working on a book project, “Liberal International Order and Sino-Russian Relations,” an edited volume by eight scholars from Europe, Russia, China and America.



Perhaps the most productive EAS scholar is James Huffman, H. Orth Hirt Professor of History Emeritus. The author of nine books, he taught for more than 30 years at Wittenberg till his retirement in 2007. Since then, Prof. Huffman has published four books including, *Down and Out in Late Meiji Japan* (University of Hawaii, 2018) and *The Rise and Evolution of Meiji Japan*, forthcoming this fall by Renaissance Books in UK. In April this year, he was invited and gave a speech at the Japan International House in Tokyo, with which Wittenberg has been a member for decades.

Fall break is coming and campus is turning more colorful. To celebrate EAS' half a century scholarly achievements, a poem written for Prof. Huffman's retirement 12 years ago may be relevant:

夕阳红

A Beautiful Mind Never Fades Away

by YU Bin, April 9, 2007

夕阳无限好，
秋深谷更香。
书山疑无径，
满坡桃李芳。

Unmatched is the stunning beauty of the sunset,
How sweet-smelling the millet in autumn air.
Why never cease to climb to scholarly heights?
Just to keep his many pupils close to heart.

This time, this poem is, and perhaps should be, for all of us who have dedicated our hearts and minds to the EAS and to our students.

Newsletter Prepared by YU Bin