

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies, The Elliott School of International Affairs

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## Letter from the Directors

A very happy Lunar New Year. In an effort to stay connected with our friends and alumni, we are pleased to bring you *The Asian Connection*, the newsletter of the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, to be published regularly once a semester.

The Sigur Center reached new heights in 2006, winning the nationally competitive Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education. Last year, the Center also received a POSCO (Korean Steel Co.) TJ Park Fellowship to bring fellows from South Korea to the United States. Earlier, in 2003, the Center was selected as one of only seven Academic Centers of Excellence within George Washington University, a status we continue to enjoy.

The trend is clear: in academic year 2002-03, the Sigur Center disbursed nearly \$95,000 in research, language study and graduate assistantships; in 2006-07, this figure will rise to approximately \$250,000. During these five years, students (undergraduate and graduate) and faculty associated with the Sigur Center won nine Fulbright awards.

The scope of our program continues to expand, with

new faculty recruited in South Asian politics in 2005 and a current search for a political scientist in Korean studies. With this new recruit (thanks to the Korea Foundation), the number of chaired professors in Asian Studies will increase to four. While continuing to sustain our world-renowned East and Northeast Asian programs, we are taking steps to strengthen the areas of South and Southeast Asia, especially as India rises to new prominence in Asia and beyond.

As one of the most dynamic and rapidly changing regions of the world, Asia is continually showcased through the numerous and diverse activities run by the Sigur Center. A major strength has been our unique cross-Asia approach, allowing us to intellectually integrate the various sub-regions of Northeast Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia.

Of the 60 new international students that the Elliott School of International Affairs attracted this year from 29 countries, more than half (32) hailed from Asian countries: Korea, China, India, Pakistan, Japan, Philippines and Singapore. As the University's focal point for teaching, research and programming related to

Asia, and the institutional home of the Asian Studies program, we at the Sigur Center are constantly seeking new opportunities to provide a rich and vibrant environment for students and faculty.

*Shawn McHale, Director  
and Deepa Ollapally,  
Associate Director.*



## FLAS Update

GW is the only school in the Washington area to offer FLAS fellowships for the study of East Asian languages and area studies. FLAS are awarded to the best programs in area studies after a rigorous national competition.

With \$510,000 for a four-year period, the Sigur Center offers full graduate fellowships (tuition plus a living stipend) for intensive study of an East Asian language during the academic year and summer. This year, seven students received funding: four full academic year fellowships and three for summer study.



*The Sigur Center's staff (L-R): Ikuko Turner, Financial/Office Manager; Deepa Ollapally, Associate Director; Shawn McHale, Director; and Hideki Rose, Program Coordinator/Executive Assistant.*

## Major Events

In 2006, the Sigur Center sponsored **over 40 events, attracting 3,000-plus attendees.** Some highlights:

In February, Ambassador Salman Haidar, former Foreign Secretary of India, discussed **"The Presidential Trip to South Asia: What Does it Mean for U.S.-India Relations?"**

The annual Sigur Memorial Lecture held during spring featured Wang Gungwu, Director of the East Asian Institute and Professor, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore, who gave a talk on **"Empires and Their Shadows Over Asia"** in

March.

Following North Korea's nuclear test on Oct. 9, the Sigur Center and the Elliott School's M.A. International Affairs Program co-sponsored a timely panel discussion on **"Dealing with Nuclear North Korea: Views from Beijing, Seoul and Tokyo."** The panelists were Asian Studies Professors David Shambaugh, Kirk Larsen and Mike Mochizuki. Ambassador Karl F. Inderfurth moderated.

Also in October, the Annual Hahn Moo-Sook Colloquium on the Korean Humanities (co-sponsored with East Asian Languages and Literature) was held,

bringing together prominent scholars on the theme of **"Korean Food."**

In December, we hosted a major public conference on **"East Asian Security and Taiwan,"** which included a luncheon address by James Lilley, former U.S. Ambassador to the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea and former Director of the American Institute in Taiwan (and a GW alumnus with an M.A. in International Relations). Panels focused on **"China-Japan-U.S. Strategic Interaction"** and **"China-Taiwan Cross-Strait Relations."**



*Wang Gungwu from National University of Singapore speaks during the Sigur Memorial Lecture on March 30, 2006.*



*Associate Professor of Political Science & International Affairs Mike Mochizuki speaks during an October 2006 panel on North Korea, also featuring fellow Professors David Shambaugh, Kirk Larsen and Ambassador Karl F. Inderfurth.*

## New Lecture Series

In Fall 2006, we launched two new lecture series, *Transnational Asia* and *Subnational Asia*, adding to the ongoing *Flashpoints in Asia* series:

### Transnational Asia

"China's Blogging Revolution," Xiao Qiang, Director, China Internet Project, The Graduate School of Journalism, UC Berkeley

"Southeast Asia's Scorecard in Combating Terrorism," Bronson Percival, Senior Advisor, Center for Naval Analyses

"China & Iran: Ancient Partners in a Post-Imperial World," John Garver, Professor, Georgia Institute

of Technology

"Pakistan-Afghanistan Relations in the Post-9/11 Era," Frederic Grare, Visiting Scholar, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

"Collective Identity Formation in the U.S.-Japan Alliance," Isao Miyaoka, Visiting Scholar and Associate Professor, Osaka University of Foreign Studies

### Subnational Asia

"Governance & Growth: Challenges for Bangladesh," Dilip Roy, Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies

"How Japan's Social Crisis Will Affect the U.S.-Japan

Alliance," Michael Zielenziger, Author, *Shutting Out the Sun: How Japan Created Its Own Lost Generation*

"Reflections on Secularism in Contemporary India," Arvind Rajagopal, Associate Professor, NYU

"Economic Policy-making in Vietnam & Indonesia: Subnational Leadership, Identity & Development," Alasdair Bowie, Associate Professor of Political Science & International Affairs, GW

"Women, Land and Development in India," Smita Jassal, Adjunct Professor of South Asian Studies, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University

## Dean's Asia Visit

In January 2007, Michael Brown made his first trip to Asia as Dean of the Elliott School, visiting Taipei, Seoul and Tokyo. The Sigur Center's Ikuko Turner traveled to Tokyo to help coordinate alumni events.

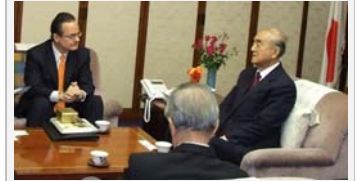
Dean Brown visited two partner institutions, Ewha Woman's University in Seoul and Waseda University in Tokyo, where he delivered

a lecture, "Grave New World: International Affairs in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

In Taipei, he held wide-ranging meetings at leading government and academic institutions. "This trip was especially meaningful," he noted, "because it was sponsored by the Taipei Economic & Cultural Representative Office, which has been a longstanding

supporter of the Sigur Center, the Elliott School and GW."

Brown met with senior leaders in all three cities, including former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Kyung-Tae Lee, President of the Korean Institute for International Economic Policy and head of GW's Korea Alumni Association.



*Elliott School Dean Michael Brown meets with former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone during a recent visit to Tokyo.*

*Dean Brown met over 140 GW alums at receptions he hosted in Seoul and Tokyo. "The response from our alumni was enthusiastic, warm and extremely gratifying. I will look forward to my next visit."*

## China Policy Program

The China Policy Program was created in 1998 as an affiliate of the Sigur Center. It is directed by David Shambaugh, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs and a leading international authority on contemporary China and Asian affairs.

During the run-up to the first East Asian Summit in December 2005, the

Program collaborated with the China Foreign Affairs University to convene a conference on "East Asia Cooperation & U.S.-China Relations." In this path-breaking meeting, American and Chinese experts gathered to discuss the growth of Asian multilateralism and its impact on Sino-U.S. relations.

In summer 2006, the Program

partnered with the German Council on Foreign Relations and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences to co-host a conference on "China & Europe: Integrating Continental Powers," held in Berlin. The papers presented will be published this year as *The China-Europe Relationship: Perceptions, Policies and Prospects*.

## Memory & Reconciliation Project

Memory and Reconciliation in the Asia-Pacific is a research and policy program created in 2003, currently focusing on China, Japan and Korea.

Established with a start-up grant from the U.S. Institute of Peace, the project has sponsored a number of public lectures and conferences, including a workshop in June 2005 that presented case studies of "the history issue" from the

perspective of these three countries.

In 2006, a panel discussion was held in cooperation with the Center for Strategic and International Studies that considered the importance of historical issues in East Asian security and assessed an innovative new publication: a book on modern East Asian history produced jointly by Chinese, Japanese and Korean historians, the first of

its kind for the region.

The co-directors of the project, Mike Mochizuki, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, and Daqing Yang, Associate Professor of History and International Affairs, are working on a *Handbook on Reconciliation in East Asia*, summarizing the East Asian experience of reconciliation for non-area specialists.



*The project web site can be found at [www.gwu.edu/~memory](http://www.gwu.edu/~memory) and [www.memoryandreconciliation.org](http://www.memoryandreconciliation.org).*

## Faculty Awards & Accomplishments

**Gregg Brazinsky, Assistant Professor of History and International Affairs**, received a Smith Richardson grant in October 2006 to conduct research on America's nation building in Asia.

**Elizabeth Chacko, Associate Professor of Geography and International Affairs**, was selected as the 2006 D.C. Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education from among 300 top professors in the U.S. Chacko's current research focuses on health tourism in India's southern state of

Kerala, increasingly a hot international tourist destination.

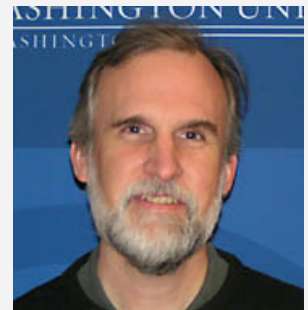
**Bruce Dickson, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs**, was awarded a 2006-2007 fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars to pursue a project on the political influence of Chinese entrepreneurs (see below).

**Harry Harding, former Dean of the Elliott School**, was conferred the title of University Professor of International Affairs, effective July 2005. GW created this post in 1979 to

bring renowned scholars to the University. Harding is one of only seven members of this elite group.

**Young-Key Kim-Renaud, Professor of Korean Language and Culture and International Affairs**, received a Republic of Korea Order of Cultural Merit on October 9, 2006, the Korean Alphabet Day.

**David Shambaugh, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs**, received a 2005-2006 Grant from the Smith Richardson Foundation for a book on *The Chinese Communist Party: Atrophy & Adaptation*.



*Bruce Dickson, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, received a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship for the 2006-2007 year. He is currently researching the relationship between private entrepreneurs in China and the Chinese Communist Party.*

## Professor Profile

Modernization theorists and democracy advocates have long held that the rise of private entrepreneurs inexorably leads to liberal democratic reform. Not so, says **Bruce Dickson, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs**, based on extensive research in China.

"There is no inevitability to this thesis," according to Dickson, who is currently examining the political consequences of economic transformations in China. His research on the relationship between private entrepreneurs and the Chinese Communist Party, in a project entitled "Turning Wealth into Power: The Evolving Political

Influence of China's 'Red Capitalists,'" seeks to explain this apparent anomaly.

Dickson notes that the corporatist relationship between the state and business sectors will give China a fairly high level of political stability.

Dickson's current research builds on his highly regarded earlier book, *Red Capitalists in China: the Party, Private Entrepreneurs and Prospects for Political Change* (Cambridge University Press, 2003).

He has won strong support for his work, gaining a Smith Richardson grant in 2004, a prestigious National Science Foundation Award

in 2006, and now a fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars for the 2006-2007 academic year. He conducted field work in China during 1997-1999 and 2004-2005, using carefully designed questionnaires to ascertain the attitudes and behaviors of the rapidly emerging class of Chinese private entrepreneurs.

Dickson holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Michigan. He is a frequent media commentator.

*The Communist Party has "done such good job of integrating the leaders of the largest and most important private firms that they don't pose the type of threats to the Party that Western theorists often posit."*

## Student Achievements

**Margaret Gnoinska**, a Ph.D. student in History and recipient of a Boren NSEP Fellowship, received travel support from the Sigur Center's Selective Excellence funds to conduct research on East Asia-Poland relations.

**Brian Harding**, a recent M.A. in Asian Studies graduate, received a 2006-2007 Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research in Indonesia.

### 2006-2007 FLAS Fellows:

**Amy Fenstermaker**, M.A. International Education

Policy, *Chinese*

**Jack Lambert**, M.A. Asian Studies, *Chinese*

**David Tarre**, M.A. Asian Studies, *Asian Studies*

**Emily Weaver**, M.A. International Affairs, *Chinese*



## Featured Alumnus & Visiting Scholar

**Michael Swaine (B.A. with distinction, 1973)**, internationally noted expert on Chinese security affairs, and currently Senior Associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, comments that "the Institute for Sino-Soviet Studies (the precursor to the Sigur Center) played a seminal role in the development of my career."

Dr. Swaine says he "acquired a passion for the study of Chinese history, Chinese communism and Chinese foreign and security relations" under the guidance of Institute professors. He went on to do his Ph.D. at Harvard University (where he was awarded the Edward M. Chase Prize for Dissertation Excellence).

A widely published scholar, Swaine also regularly advises senior government officials at the White House, Pentagon and State Department and members of Congress on U.S.-China

relations. His most recent publication is *Managing Sino-American Crises: Case Studies and Analysis* (Carnegie, 2006). His next book, *Taiwan's Management of Relations with the United States During the First Chen Shui-bian Administration*, is forthcoming. Before Carnegie, Swaine was at RAND for 12 years.

Swaine continues to have ties with the Sigur Center, most recently participating in a conference and book project on Okinawa and the U.S.-Japan Alliance, for which he wrote a chapter, "U.S.-China Relations and the Implications for Okinawa," published in 2005.

**Naoko Munakata, former Visiting Scholar at the Sigur Center (2002)**, is currently Director of the Textile and Clothing Division in Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Her current task is to develop a new policy package for Japan's textile industry, which she calls

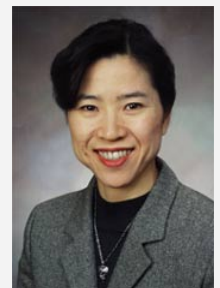
"challenging and interesting."

In 2006, Munakata published *Transforming East Asia: The Evolution of Regional Economic Integration* (Brookings), a book that she wrote during her time at Sigur. It argues that East Asian economic integration can serve U.S. interests, but that a regional community cannot be created without transformations within East Asia itself.

She notes that she is "heavily indebted" to Sigur Professor Mike Mochizuki for his "guidance and encouragement," including two study group meetings he organized on her book manuscript. Her research at Sigur continues to have relevance in her work: "It is interesting to see that wherever I go, I always see the impact of economic integration in the region as well as competition and complementarity between Japan and China."



*Michael Swaine  
Distinguished Alumnus (B.A., 1973)*



*Naoko Munakata  
Former Visiting Scholar (2002)*



**We're on the web!**

Visit us at:  
[www.gwu.edu/~sigur/](http://www.gwu.edu/~sigur/)

## Spring 2007 Events

This spring, the Sigur Center has scheduled **over 35 events**. For a full listing, visit our web site.

Lectures include:

\* **Feb. 14: "Civil Society & Democracy in Vietnam,"** Le Quoc Quan, Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellow, National Endowment for Democracy

\* **Feb. 21: "Engaging North Korea in a Post-Test World: Economic Perspectives,"** Bradley Babson, Asian Affairs Consultant

\* **Feb. 28: "The Making of the 'Rape of Nanking': History and Memory in Japan, China and the United States,"**

Takashi Yoshida, Jennings Randolph Senior Fellow, U.S. Institute of Peace

\* **Mar. 5: "Toward a Harmonious World: New Developments in China's Foreign Policy,"** Qin Yaqing, Vice President, China Foreign Affairs University

\* **Mar. 28: "China's Muslim Minority: Xinjiang Province in Historical Perspective,"** James Millward, Associate Professor of History, Georgetown University

\* **Mar. 28 (Sigur Memorial Lecture): "Korea Triangle: The Two Koreas between China and the United States,"** Han Sung-Joo, former Minister of

Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea, and Professor Emeritus, Korea University

\* **Apr. 4: "Indonesian News Post-Soeharto: Changing Ideals & Professional Practices,"** Janet Steele, Associate Professor of Media and Public Affairs, GWU

\* **Apr. 25: "Koizumi's Legacy & Abe's Security Policies: Challenges for U.S.-Japan Relations,"** Ellis Krauss, Professor of Japanese Politics and Policymaking, University of California, San Diego

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