

Newsletter

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Academic Award Named After Professor Peter Seybolt

To commemorate Professor Peter Seybolt's dedication and contribution to the Asian language education at UVM, the Department has decided to name the Department Academic Award, which is given out to our most academically accomplished senior students each year, after his name: Peter Seybolt Academic Award of Asian Languages and Literatures.

Professor Peter Seybolt passed away peacefully on August 6, 2012 at the age of 77. From 1969 through 2007, he was a professor of history, teaching courses on the histories of China and Japan and U.S. relations with Asia. He understood and spoke both Chinese and Japanese, and he was particularly fluent in Chinese. He traveled and conducted his research in China frequently. His publications include *Throwing the Emperor from His Horse*, *Portrait of a Village Leader in China*; *Revolutionary Education in China*; *Language Reform in China*; *The Rustication of Urban*



Youth in China; and *Through Chinese Eyes: Tradition, Revolution, and Transformation* as well as numerous journal articles, reviews and translations from Chinese.

While he was the Director of Asian Studies Program, he also administered the Chinese and Japanese language programs. As a result of his promotion and dedication to Asian language education for more than 30

years at UVM and under his initiative, the Department of Asian Languages and Literatures was established in 2007. Professor Peter Seybolt's academic achievement and contribution to education of Asia at UVM are inspirational and will be fondly remembered through the award named after him. □

Photo: Prof. Peter Seybolt and his wife Cynthia in May 2007 in front of 479 Main Street, where Asian LL is located.

Former Students Happily Married



Brendan Mold has been a Chinese language teacher at St.

Johnsbury Academy in the past few years after he graduated from UVM. Last year, he was sent by his school to teach English in their sister school in China. He has played a key role in this exchange program with his fluent Chinese and his excellent understanding of the Chinese culture which he acquired through his studies at Asian Languages and Literatures

Department as well as through his participation in the seven month study abroad in China program at Yunnan Normal University under the directorship of Prof. John Yin. Brendan is happily married to Jinli Chen, who is also an ALL Department alumni. Jinli made good use of her Chinese language skills in her trip with Brendan in China. □



(From right) William Berrey, Sophie Higgins, Prof. Yin, Annalouise Stone, William Roman, and Ms. Sun after the Phi Beta Kappa induction ceremony on May 19, 2012.



Kimberly Niehaus (in the center) enjoys her teaching position at an English center in Korea thoroughly. She is holding a picture of herself drawn by the lovely students standing with her.



Annalouise Stone, a Japanese major, graduated in May 2012, and was the recipient of the Asian Language and Literature Academic Award of 2012.

Asian Language Senior Students Awarded

On May 18 in Ira Allen Chapel, William Roman, a Chinese major, and Annalouise Stone, a Japanese major, received the Asian Languages and Literatures Academic Award for their outstanding academic accomplishment during their undergraduate years at UVM. Professor Kyle Ikeda presented the award to them during the ceremony.

Chinese majors Sophie Higgins

and William Roman, Japanese majors Jonathan Boyle and Annalouise Stone, and Chinese minor William Berrey have been elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa. The spring induction ceremony took place on Saturday, May 19 in the Royall Tyler Theatre.

Membership in Phi Beta Kappa is by invitation only, and one cannot apply. Students elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa are seniors who have

demonstrated academic excellence in challenging courses across a wide range of fields in the liberal arts, including mathematics, humanities, natural sciences, social sciences, fine arts, foreign language, and literature. Professor John Yin and Ms. Diana Sun attended the induction ceremony and congratulated these students on being elected to membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

A Former Student's Letter from Korea

Hello to you Sun Laoshi and Suzuki Sensei!

It has been a long time since we last spoke I think, but for a while now, I have been meaning to write to the two of you to show you what you have helped me achieve. I have never been happier than now. Korea and I get along very well. I have made plenty of friends and I absolutely adore the children that I have

had the pleasure and privilege of meeting and teaching.

I work at an English center here in Okcheon. Okcheon is in the middle part of the country in Chungcheongbuk-do. The people are extremely friendly, which I am told is often the case for rural folks. Being at an English center means that every week I see new students. Kids come here

and sleep over at the center for a 1 week English program. Sometimes it's saddening, especially when they leave to go back to their towns on Friday, but it is completely worth it since I get to meet and touch the lives of so many.

I hope that you are both well!

-- Kimberly Niehaus

My Experience Learning Japanese

When I first decided to study Japanese as a high school senior, I never dreamed of all the wonderful experiences it would lead to. At the time, my only thought was that if I knew Japanese, I could play Japanese video games without waiting for an English translation. Once I started however, I found learning a new language to be great fun. I transferred to UVM in 2008 specifically so I could major in Japanese. It was wonderful to study together with other students interested in Japan. In fall 2010, I went to Tokyo for my junior year abroad at Sophia University. Through

the choir club, I made many new friends and was able to practice everyday conversation in Japanese. When the March 11th disasters struck northern Japan, I had to come home. Since I was supposed to be in Japan until August, I had no summer job lined up. So I ended up working at Mori no Ike, a Japanese language overnight camp for children, run by Concordia College in Minnesota. Not only was I able to maintain my Japanese skills, I learned about how to teach language to children in an immersion environment. After graduating from UVM in

2012 and working at Mori no Ike again, I came to Toyama Japan to be a children's English teacher. There are a lot of things that helped me get this far, but I think that one of the most important is my education at UVM. Another important thing is that I chose to study something I love. If you find something you are interested in but aren't sure exactly where it will take you, don't give up. You should do your research of course, but don't be afraid to follow your dreams.

--Annalouise Stone

Faculty Members' Activities

Mutsumi Corson has been developing new Japanese reading materials for beginner and intermediate level students to emphasize learning kanji characters. She has also introduced Japanese Graded Readers called "Yomu Yomu Bunko" for extensive reading in her Intermediate Japanese course and that has been very successful. She is planning to present how to

use these reading materials at a study session of The Vermont Association of Teachers of Japanese-VATJ, to be held at St. Michael's College in November 2012.

Kazuko Carlson was on sabbatical leave and completed her study in the Graduate Program of Linguistic Science at Nanzan University in Japan. Her study

focused on the theory of proficiency-oriented instruction, and she continues to work on her textbook project that is based on the theory. She is geared up and excited to return to UVM from Spring 2013 to teach her students with new knowledge, inspiration, and passion gained from her sabbatical opportunity.

Kyle Ikeda's article "Geographically-Proximate Postmemory: Sites of War and the Enabling of Vicarious Narration in Medoruma Shun's Fiction" is under review at the International Journal of Okinawan Studies, and he is scheduled to present research on translating Okinawan literature for the Association for Japanese Literary Studies annual conference, "Rhetoric and Region: The Local Determinants of Literary Expression" at the Ohio State University Campus in Columbus, Ohio, Oct 12-14, 2012. He is also working on

revisions for his book manuscript on transgenerational war memory in Okinawa. Professor Ikeda was elected to serve on the College of Arts and Sciences Admissions Committee for a full regular term starting Fall 2012.

Natsumi Ueno is teaching 1st and 3rd year Japanese courses as well as a 4th year Japanese conversation course this semester. In addition, she is also serving as an adviser for the newly started Anime club. As a part of her continuing professional development, she completed a graduate level course on assessment and technology over the summer and designed

online assessment tools for her courses. She also participated in a computer assisted learning workshop offered by the university to keep current in the latest technological innovations that support learning in the classroom.

Darius Jonathan continues to develop the Arabic curriculum by selecting and adapting Arabic language teaching materials to suit the students' needs at UVM. He set up an Arabic Table, which provides Arabic language student more opportunities to interact in Arabic after class. He is now also working on setting up the 3rd year Arabic language courses.

Diana Sun attended the 10th International Conference of Chinese Pedagogy, held in Zhejiang University in China on June 28-30, 2012 and presented a paper entitled "Adapting Third Year Textbook to Further Enhance Students' Conversational Skill." She accompanied the UVM Study in Yunnan University student group in the summer of 2012 and helped to train local teachers in language pedagogy.

Ying Hu joined the Chinese faculty this semester. This semester, she is teaching the 1st and 2nd year Chinese courses and a course on Chinese characters. She has established a Chinese language exchange program for Chinese language students and students from China to meet and help each other.

John Yin served as associate chair for the 10th International Conference on Chinese Language Pedagogy held in on June 28-30, 2012 at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China. His paper

entitled "Selection of Characters and Words for Elementary Teaching Materials of Chinese as Foreign Language" was presented at the 10th Conference and published in the Conference Proceedings. He has continued to serve on the CLTA Steering Committee and has successfully fulfilled his obligations as the head of the Nominating Committee for CLTA. He has been promoted to full professorship this year. □



Students of Asian Languages and Literatures were at the 2012 Commencement on May 20, 2012 with Ms. Sun.



While Ms. Cao Chunjing (1st from right) continues to be teaching Chinese and in charge of the Chinese Tea Hour, Ms. Bi Yanhua (2nd from right), another visiting Chinese instructor sponsored by the Chinese Language Council International, came to UVM to help with Chinese teaching.



Ms. Ying Hu came to teach Chinese at UVM as a result of a national search in AY 2011-2012. She graduated with a BA from Zhejiang University in China and had a MA in SLA from University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Department of Asian
Languages and Literatures
479 Main Street
Burlington, Vermont 05405

Phone: 802 656 5764
Fax: 802 656 8472
E-mail: all@uvm.edu

قسم اللغات الآسيوية وآدابها

亚洲语言文学系

アジア言語文学科

<http://www.uvm.edu/~all>

Japanese Program Events & News

Japanese Cultural Events

The Japanese House, a residential program in the



Global Village, hosted a Japanese Cultural Event at the Fireplace Lounge on April 14th. The Japanese House members presented tea ceremony, calligraphy and origami.



Many students from Japanese classes and the L/L residents got together and

enjoyed Japanese cultural activities. After this event, some students went to see cherry blossoms on campus and enjoyed a beautiful spring day.



Life in Japan Discussion

The Japanese Program and the Japanese House hosted an event, Life in Japan Discussion. Five students, Pedro Teixeira (Aoyama Gakuin University), Molly Thurlow (Toyo University), Chandler Meyers (Meiji Gakuin University), Lilly Gonsalves (Chukyo University) and Grace Stanford (Nihon University, Mishima) who studied abroad in Japan were invited.

The event was scheduled 6:00-7:30 on Thursday, September 27th. More than 30 students came and truly enjoyed the presentations. Pamela Gardner, study abroad advisor for the Office of International Education, also attended this event and provided the information for those students.

Japanese House 2012-2013

Japanese House members 2012-2013 and the faculty program directors had a luncheon at Koto, a Japanese



restaurant, on September 16th. They also invited Japanese exchange students. They had a productive discussion on their annual activity planning over authentic Japanese cuisine. □

Chinese Program Events & Student News

Chinese House

At the beginning of the fall semester, the Chinese House



Chinese House members are about to start to eat the cooked dumplings.

had its first meeting to plan for the whole semester. When the meeting was over, dumplings were also cooked.

Three cooking parties have been planned for the Chinese House this semester.

More News from Former Students

1) Michael Neumayer, Peter Sorrell, and Stacy Walsh, who graduated in May, 2012, have been hired to teach English in Shenzhen, a city next to Hong Kong, in the academic year 2012-2013.

2) Andrea Salgado was hired by Stowe School District this fall as a Chinese language teacher at Stowe High School and at Stowe Middle School.

Study Abroad in China

Last summer, 14 students participated in the Study



Students studying abroad in China in 2012 are posing on the Great Wall.

Abroad Program in China at Yunnan University. 11 of them are still there and will be back to the U.S. before Christmas. □