Friday, March 13
8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  Pre-conference tour of Asia related sites in the Chicago area.
Led by Norm Moline, Augustana College

8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  ASIANetwork Board Meeting
Boardroom

4:00—9:00 p.m.  Book Exhibit
Library of Social Science

4:00—9:00 p.m.  Conference Registration

6:30—7:45 p.m.  Dinner
The Crossings

8:00 p.m.—9:15 p.m.  KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Woodlands
Welcome and Opening the Conference
Erin McCarthy, ASIANetwork Board Chair

Belief and Contestation in India: The Case of the Taj Mahal
Catherine Asher, University of Minnesota

Introduction by: Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker, Mills College

9:20 p.m.—10:30 p.m.  Orientation Session for
2009 ASIANetwork/Freeman
Student-Faculty Fellows Faculty Recipients
Conveners:
Van Symons, Augustana College
Teddy Amoloza, Illinois Wesleyan University

Saturday, March 14
7:00 a.m.—8:30 a.m.  Breakfast
The Crossings

Elective Roundtables
“Service Learning in Asia”
Facilitator: Jack Harris, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Will include conversations focused on the experiences of member colleges in
service learning programs in Asia, with a view toward generating an exchange of ideas
and awareness of practices to assist ASIANetwork’s Future Projects and Development
committees in preparing a grant proposal to help fund such efforts by member schools.
“Popular Literature and the Asian Studies Classroom”
Facilitator: Chuck Hayford, Northwestern University

Will feature conversation about how the public and students at AN member schools often turn to popular bestsellers rather than the works Asian Studies professionals would prefer them to read. Focus will be on the exchange of ideas about how academics can use such works for “teachable moments” and figure out how to get our students to read them critically. Participants are invited to share their experiences and ideas, and/or offer “defenses” of their favorite forbidden pleasures.

8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Book Exhibit Woodlands Foyer

8:30 a.m.—10:00 a.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS Woodlands

Asian Contemplatives and Western Science: Breaking Down the Barriers of the Non-Overlapping Magisteria

Harold Roth, Brown University

Introduction by: Ronnie Littlejohn, Belmont University
Vice-Chair, ASIANetwork Board of Directors

10:00 a.m.—10:15 a.m. Break

10:30—12:00 Noon Concurrent Panel Sessions

1. Fragile Spaces, Contested Places: Politics of Resource Use in South Asia
Chair: Mona Bhan, DePauw University
Panelists:
Mona Bhan and Nishita Trisal (research collaborator), DePauw University: “Water Has the Right of Way: The Cultural Politics of Conservation in Kashmir, India”
Debarati Sen, Rutgers University: “From Illegal to Organic: Spatial Politics of Fair Trade-Organic Tea Production in Darjeeling, India”
Sarasij Majumdar, Rutgers University: “Peasants against Globalization: Vehement Opposition or Measured Ambivalence”

This panel explores the shifting sensibilities around the use of natural resources, primarily land and water, within the context of neoliberal economic policies and discourses of conservation and sustainability. Emerging livelihood practices associated with global economic restructuring give rise to competing discourses on the appropriate use of natural resources. For local communities and state-institutions, such competing claims on resources entail a redefinition of cultural meanings as well as political economy of space. Within this context, our panel explores the following set of questions: how do local symbols and politics of resource use correspond to and conflict with state agendas that privilege economically-driven claims of appropriate and just resource use; how do the polyvalent discourses of economic modernity and conservation/sustainability play out in conjunction with people’s desires, aspirations, and subjectivities that are deeply enmeshed in particular ideologies and practices of resource-use; and, how do the changing perceptions of resource-use shape the ways people create new modes of belongingness to households, communities, and the nation-state? Finally, do these new discourses of belonging facilitate or constrain the political agency of the marginalized?

Individual papers in this panel will provide theoretical and ethnographic perspectives to delineate the vexed and emergent structures of feeling around land and water in people’s consciousness and praxis in contemporary South Asia.

2. The Impact of Asian Studies on the Practice and Teaching of the Humanities and the Social Sciences
Chair: Robert Y. Eng, University of Redlands
Panelists:
Robert Y. Eng, University of Redlands: “From ‘The West and the Rest’ to Global Interconnectedness: Chinese Historians and the Transformation of World History as a Discipline”
Marsha Smith, Augustana College: “From Chicago to Chongqing: How Asia has impacted American Sociology”
Michael J. Smitka, Washington and Lee University: “Area Studies and the Social Sciences”
Xiaowen Zhang, Augustana College: “The Study of International Relations Challenged by a Rising Asia”

This panel focuses on how Asian Studies has reshaped the conceptual frameworks, geographical and theoretical perspectives, and classroom teaching of the humanities and the social sciences. World history as a field was long dominated by an Eurocentric “The West and the Rest” paradigm privileging Western civilization. Robert Eng’s paper examines the significant contributions of historians of China to the recent reconceptualization of world history, with greater emphasis on global interconnectedness and the key roles of non-Western societies. Sociology, having its origins in Europe, first came to the U.S. at the University of Chicago in 1892. It, too, as a discipline, ignored Asia. Even as late as 1985, the American Sociological Association still had no section examining Asian issues. Marsha Smith’s paper explores the ways the study of Asia and Asian Americans in the U.S. is changing sociology in the U.S. and on the way sociology is developing in Asia. Similarly, the academic field of international relations was born in a Europe-centered world in the immediate aftermath of WWI and largely ignored experiences of the East. However, as Asian countries gained economic power after WWII, scholars of IR have increasingly explored the various challenges they posed. Xiaowen Zhang’s paper tells the story of how the experiences of a rising Asia have changed the scholarship of IR and changes teachers of IR may bring to the classroom as a response. Michael Smitka’s paper cautions against area studies all
too readily sliding into a perception of “uniqueness” that is diametric to systematic thinking in the social sciences: in the case of Japan, there is too much willingness to speak of unusual ills or institutions such as high rates of suicide, “hikikomori,” “lifetime employment” or “keiretsu” corporate groups, all of which are based on self-referential work and turn out to be not at all unusual or to have no empirical foundation if we apply careful comparative analysis.

3. Winds of Change in Asia
   Chair: Lisa Trivedi, Hamilton College
   Presentations:
   
   Holly Blumner, St. Mary's College of Maryland: “Super-kyogen: Updating the Fourteenth Century Kyogen Comedy to Present Day”
   Haesook Chae, Baldwin-Wallace College: “South Korean Attitudes toward the ROK-US Alliance: Group Analysis”

   Presenters in this panel give attention to the dynamics of change in a wide range of cultural practices and structures across Asia. Blumner’s paper focuses on how the fourteenth century form of Kyogen is shifting into recent trends in kyogen and shinsaku kyogen plays. Chae's paper analyzes survey data collected through Gallup Korea in 2007 with respondents answering questions about their attitudes on the ROK-US alliance. Madhok's paper is a philosophical exploration of the impact of globalization as experienced by young, college-going, urban Indian women in the city of Calcutta (Kolkata), India and how they negotiate traditional norms and expectations as they seek to redefine their autonomy and self-identity.

4. Writing “Home”: Asians in Migration
   Chair: Richard Bohr, St. John's University
   Panelists:
   
   Phyllis Larson, St. Olaf College: “Ambiguities of Arrival”
   Richard Bohr, St. John's University: “‘All Under Heaven are One Commonwealth’: The Hakka Chinese Make Themselves at Home in the World”
   James Kodera, Wellesley College: “Controversies over Prince Shotoku at the Dawn of Japan's History”

   This interdisciplinary panel examines the relationship between migration and identity of Asians who have left “home” for various reasons and arrived in new locations where they began the work of creating a new “home” place. The pasts they carry with them exert their influence in the new place, giving them a double perspective as they attempt to fashion a different kind of “home.” Words such as assimilation, alienation and hybridity that have been used to describe this experience do not adequately elucidate the complexities implicit in it.

12:00 Noon—1:30 p.m. Lunch The Crossings

Elective Roundtables

“The Experience of Asians at Liberal Arts Colleges”
Facilitator: Kathie Shiba, Maryville College
   Will include conversations about a variety of issues such as: Why Asian internationals should attend small liberal arts colleges; subtle and overt racism in U.S. venues; ways to support Asian internationals at our institutions; peer relationships of Asians with US students; classroom issues faced by Asian students.

“Geographic Perspectives on Asia”
Facilitator: Norman Moline, Augustana College
   Conversations about the role of geographic perspectives (in both natural and social sciences) and possible field experiences relevant to the Asian Studies programs of member institutions.

“The Using External Resources for Funding Study of Asia”
Facilitator: David Adams, Institute for International Education/Fulbright
   Will include conversations directed to the availability and use of external resources, including Fulbright and other possibilities. Individuals at institutions who have made use of Scholar-in-Residence, Visiting Specialists Program, Fulbright Exchange, and Direct Access to the Muslim World are encouraged to come and share with other roundtable participants.

1:45—3:15 p.m. Concurrent Panel Sessions

5. Asia Changing; the Asian Studies Curriculum Changing
   Chair: Gary DeCoker, Earlham College
   Panelists:
   
   Gary DeCoker, Earlham College: “Faculty Involvement in Introductory and Capstone Courses”
   Katherine Tegtmeyer Pak, St. Olaf College: “Embedding Study Abroad in the Home-campus Program”
   Joan E. Ericson, Colorado College: “Balancing Depth vs. Breadth in the Teaching of Asian Language(s)”
   Paul Watt, DePauw University and Waseda University: “Strengthening the East Asian Core While Reaching Out in New Directions”

   Recent changes in Asia itself, in scholarship about Asia, and in students who study about Asia have forced many ASIANetwork colleges to reconsider the curriculum in Asian Studies programs. This panel will include brief descriptions of Asian Studies programs at four liberal arts colleges, paying specific attention to the way students are introduced to the study of Asia at the undergraduate level. Topics will include early study abroad, creating coherency in interdisciplinary programs, defining Asia, balancing depth vs. breadth, teaching of language(s), drawing on student interests, and fostering faculty involvement. Audience members will be given the opportunity to relate their experience to the panel topics.
6. Global Change from Asia: Business, Economics and Trade from Asian Power Centers
Chair: Jack Harris, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Panelists:
  Ray W. Chandrasekara, Albany College of Pharmacy: “China in Southeast Asia: Expanding the Strategic Periphery”
  David J. Moser, Belmont University: “Asia: The Future of the Music Business?”
  Larry Ingraham, Organization of International Student Conferences: “Bringing Japanese Businesses to the U.S.”

The papers in this panel are gathered around the many staggering changes occurring in the global economic and business situation as a result of the rising influence of Asia. Chandrasekara’s paper discusses how Southeast Asia has become the most strategic region in global trade and security both for the United States and China and how Chinese corporations, business people and tourists have flooded Southeast Asian countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Cambodia. The paper examines the possible scenarios of China’s rapidly rising political stranglehold on Asia-Pacific countries and how this increased power might challenge the Asia-Pacific policies of Japan in general and the United States in particular. Moser’s paper documents how record sales have fallen drastically worldwide, especially in the United States and the European Union. Well-established music markets in Japan and South Korea combined with the nascent but potentially gigantic markets in China and India make Asia the region of the world with the best prospect for growth. The paper explores how Asia may play a leading role in the development of new digital music business models. Ingraham will talk about working with Japanese businesses coming to the U.S. since the early 80s, with special reference to Indiana.

7. Active Learning in International Affairs: Teaching Social Science Research in the Field
Chair: John W. Williams, Principia College
Panelists:
  John W. Williams, Principia College: “Teachable Moments with Deer Stones and Monasteries: Active Learning on the Run”
  Linda Bohaker, Principia College: “The Intersection of Business and History in Japan”
  Evan Clark, Principia College: “Chinese Acting: Creativity or Conformity?”
  Rachel Hansen, Principia College: “Chinese National Identity: Who Really is Zhongguoren?”

The panel begins with Williams’ exploration of and report on the pedagogy of active learning that examines three significant active learning experiences, two intentionally designed, the third seized on the moment, in the context of a nine week interdisciplinary (social sciences and geology) undergraduate field study program to Mongolia. Presentations drawn from the Spring term 2008 Principia China Abroad grounded in the concepts of active learning follow as examples of the concept of active learning in social science research.

8. Studying Asia and the Environment at College Campuses
Chair: Darrin Magee, Hobart and William Smith College
Panelists:
  Jodi Sedlock, Lawrence University
  Sangha Padhy, Davidson College
  Jon Schoer, Valparaiso University
  John Flower, University of Virginia
  Darrin Magee, Hobart and William Smith College

Panelists address their projects and campus initiatives regarding the study of Asia and the environment. Active participation is invited from those attending. One goal of the panel is to generate and share concrete examples/ideas on how to further promote the study of Asia and the environment on ASIANetwork campuses.
11. “What Changes Yet to Come in China?”

Chair: Larry D. Harwood, Viterbo University
Panelists:
Christopher W. Herrick, Muhlenberg College: “China Influence and
Responsibility: the Perils and Potentials of the Foreign Policy of an
Emerging Great Power”
Mark Dailey, Green Mountain College: “Rural China: Imagining the Future
at the ‘Headwaters of Globalization’”
Danke Li, Fairfield University: “Global Village of Beijing: ENGO and
China’s Environmental Future”

This panel will consider various facets about the future of China, given the issues
that beset any emerging global power. As China continues to grow at a phenomenal
rate, in terms of economic and political power, a multitude of questions may be
asked. This panel will consider topics as varied as the future of rural China as
millions continue an exodus to the cities, the environmental future of the country
given China’s spectacular economic growth, and the importance of China’s foreign
policy as it finds itself a global leader today and for the future.

12. Making Peace with Vietnam (Documentary film and conversation)

Moderator: Steven Emmanuel, Virginia Wesleyan College
Respondent and Commentator: Shu-Chin Wu, Agnes Scott College

This session features a documentary film that explores the theme of reconciliation
in the aftermath of war. As such, it is quite revealing of Vietnamese cultural attitudes
about reconciliation and forgiveness and the differences in our respective
approaches (American and Vietnamese) to dealing with past harms. The film also
document the profound effects of the war on the Vietnamese people and their
economy, and the way our countries have gradually begun to reestablish and
redefine our relationship—a process that has been shaped partly by unresolved
issues from the war, and partly by global economic forces. The film paints a picture
of a country that has undergone a dramatic transformation from utter ruin to
economic prosperity, while continuing to struggle with the lingering consequences of
decades of war.

13. Integrating the Liberal Arts in Curriculum-based, Short-term
International Travel to Asian Destinations

Chair: Kristin Larson, Monmouth College
Panelists:
Kristin Larson, Monmouth College: “Pedagogy for Integrating Asian
Studies and Scholarship into Short-term International Travel”
Corrine Lim-Kessler, Monmouth College: “Fostering the
Interdisciplinary Experience in Malaysia and Singapore”
Ian Moschenross, Monmouth College: “Along the Silk Road:
Interdisciplinary Preparation for Students in the Arts”

Curriculum-based short-term international travel (CSIT) provides a fertile socio-
cultural context to promote the aims of a liberal arts education. The members of this
panel will share their experiences traveling with students to Asian destinations and
their methods for facilitating in vivo learning and research. Kristin Larson will
provide a cross-disciplinary model for developing CSIT that includes pre-travel
preparation, context-based learning activities and post-travel assessment. Corrine
Lim-Kessler will describe the interdisciplinary approach she used with students in
psychology and business in divergent Asian cultures. Ian Moschenross will discuss
interdisciplinary pedagogical strategies he utilized in preparing music majors for a
curriculum-based short-term visit to China.

5:15—6:15 p.m. Business Meeting
Erin McCarthy,
Chair of the Board of Directors, ASIANetwork

6:30—8:00 p.m. Dinner

Elective Roundtables

“Japan Student Conference”
Facilitator: Larry Ingraham, Japan-American Student Conference (JASC)
Will include conversations about opportunities to participate in programs of the
International Student Conferences (ISC), a non-profit organization which supports
student-run educational and cultural exchange programs for university students from the
United States, Japan, and Korea. Founded in 1934, JASC brings American and Japanese
university students together each year for one month to live, travel and study together.
The delegates collaborate with leaders in business, academia and government on
contemporary social, economic and political issues that face the United States, Japan
and the world.

“Teaching Language and Culture at the Same Time”
Facilitator: Cathy Bao Bean, Independent Scholar, Board Member, Claremont
Graduate School of the Arts and Humanities and New Jersey Council for the
Humanities
Will include conversations about innovations such as those included in the new work
found to be successful by participants from across ASIANetwork.

“Teaching Oversees in Asia”
Facilitators: Dawn Yonally, Emporia State University and John Ahern, Aichi
Universtiy of Education, Kariya, Japan
Will feature conversations about teaching in Asia. Participants who have taught in
Asia and those considering a semester, year, or longer service in an Asian academic
venue are invited to come and share their experiences and practices.

8:00—8:45 p.m. Kyogen Plays
(detailed description in packet)
Woodlands

*Kyogen: “The comic interludes that are an integral part of Noh performance,
kyogen pokes fun at human frailties, as did the traditional Asian storytellers, jesting
at social pretensions, marital discord, quackery, and other issues.”
The Snail (Kagyu), translation by Julie A. Iezzi
Iroha (Learning the Alphabet), performed in Japanese, translation by Holly A. Blumner
Tsuchiguruma (a komai-short song and dance)
Saru Uta (Monkey Song)

Actors:
Kathryn Miller, Rachel Reckling, Judy Sellner

Director:
Holly A. Blumner, St. Mary's College of Maryland

9:00—10:30 Reception Woodlands
A Chance to “Network” with ASIANetwork Colleagues
Cheese and Crackers—Cash Bar

Sunday, March 15
7:30 a.m. ASIANetwork Board Meeting Boardroom
7:30—8:30 a.m. Breakfast The Crossings
8:30 a.m.—12 Noon Book Exhibit Woodlands Foyer

8:30—10:00 a.m. PLENARY SESSION Woodlands
HOT TOPICS IN ASIA

China's Governance and Its Discontents
Dali Yang, University of Chicago

Introduction by Ronnie Littlejohn, Belmont University
Vice-Chair, ASIANetwork Board of Directors

10:00—10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m.—12:00 Noon Concurrent Panel Sessions

14. India and Asia, East and West: Historical Ties and Contemporary Realities
Chair: Mary Hanneman, University of Washington, Tacoma
Panelists:
Mary Hanneman, University of Washington, Tacoma: “Aggression/Non-Aggression: East Asian and Indian Nationalism in the Early 20th Century”

This panel consists of two papers exploring the exchange of ideas between India and other Asian cultures. Cathy Benton’s “Islamic Missionaries in India: 14th c. Sufis and 21st c. Neo-fundamentalists” looks at the contrasting messages of Muslim missionaries, influenced by thinkers from regions of west Asia now known as Turkey, Afghanistan, and Iraq, as they affect the lives of contemporary Muslims in a village in Maharashtra. Mary Hanneman’s paper, "Aggression/Non-Aggression: East Asian and Indian Nationalism in the Early 20th Century" looks at the divergent development of East Asian nationalism (Japan's WWII military aggression, China's nationalist-fueled communist revolution) juxtaposing these against India's more pacifist approach to nationalism and the independence movement in the same era. This panel will provide a provocative look at the cross-fertilization of ideas between India and other regions of Asia from both historical and contemporary perspectives.

15. New Works in the Field: Japanese Visual Culture: Explorations in the World of Manga and Anime, ed. by Mark W. MacWilliams
Chair: Mark W. MacWilliams, St. Lawrence University
Panelists:
Mark MacWilliams, St. Lawrence University: “Overview of the Book Project”
Shiro Yoshioka, International Christian University, Tokyo: “Heart of Japaneseness: History and Nostalgia in Hayao Miyazaki’s Spirited Away”
Lee Makela, Cleveland State University: “From Metropolis to Metropolis: The Changing Role of the Robot in Japanese and Western Cinema”
Deborah Shamoon, University of Notre Dame: “Situating the Shôjo in Shôjo Manga: Teenage Girls, Romance Comics, and Contemporary Japanese Culture”
Mizuki Takahashi, Curator in Contemporary Art Center, Art Tower Mito, Japan: “Opening the Closed World of Shôjo Manga”

Born of Japan's cultural encounter with Western entertainment media, manga (comic books or graphic novels) and anime (animated films) are two of the most universally recognized forms of contemporary Japanese mass culture. Because they tell stories through visual imagery, they vault over language barriers. Well suited to electronic transmission and distributed by Japan's globalized culture industry, they have become a powerful force in both the mediascape and the marketplace.

This panel brings together some of the authors of our new book, Japanese Visual Culture: Explorations in the World of Manga and Anime, part of the international group of scholars from many specialties who probed the richness and subtleties of these deceptively simple cultural forms in this volume. In their work, the panelists explore the historical, cultural, sociological, and religious dimensions of manga and anime, and examine specific sub-genres, artists, and stylistics. Topics include visual culture and questions of identity, the robot in Japanese and Western anime/cinema, teenage girls and romance comics, shôjo manga, and much more.
Vietnam: Now that the Future Has Arrived

Chair: Jack Harris, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Panelists:

Jack Harris, Hobart and William Smith Colleges: “Vietnam: Now that the Future Has Arrived”
Nguyen Linh, Syracuse University: “Gender Relations in Vietnam”
Oliver Meeker, Hobart and William Smith Colleges: “Three Splits and Still One—Vietnam’s Assimilation and Accommodation of Pre and Post-Colonial Times”

Vietnam is a culture that has been obsessed with the future. Given its long history of invasion and occupation by outsiders, is it any wonder that the Vietnamese have developed the characteristics of endurance, ingenuity and hope? Harris’ paper considers what happens when the future arrives to a Vietnam that is now struggling with serious issues of growth, threats to cultural traditions, internal division, and foreign policy positioning, in its... the terms of family life, while men cling to the hegemonic and narrow definition of masculinity that privilege them.

Meeker’s paper considers the strains to the unity of Vietnamese culture in the face of historic economic prosperity and ethnic, class, and regional divisions.

The Afterlife of the AN/Luce Asian Arts Consultancy Project

Co-Conveners: Karil Kucera, St. Olaf College and Paul Nietupski, John Carroll University
Roundtable Discussion:

Karil Kucera, St. Olaf College
Paul Nietupski, John Carroll University
Sandy Kita, Chatham College
David Strand, Dickinson College
Sam Parker, Central Washington University

The consultancy project is complete, but new doors seem to be opening. Karil Kucera will discuss the pending expansion of the image database; Paul Nietupski will discuss the book project underway, with publication pending in late 2009-2010; Sandy Kita will discuss new initiatives involving circulating exhibitions of works brought to light in the collections of colleges involved in the consultancy project; and Sam Parker will discuss his experiences bringing one college’s collection to the point of an on-campus exhibition and accompanying catalogue.

12:00 Noon—1:00 p.m.  Lunch  The Crossings

Catherine Asher


Professor Asher is a committed teacher as well as a scholar. Her past and current graduate students have written masters’ papers and dissertations on a variety of topics ranging from the contemporary architecture of Morocco, Spain and Iran, Ottoman baths, Mughal painting, Patronage under the Bijapuri Sultans, the photography of Shirin Neshat, the art and architecture of the Ranas of Udaipur, to the impact of Gandhi’s thought on low cost housing in India, just to give a few examples. Classes she teaches include Art of Islam, Age of Empire: Ottomans, Safavids and Mughals, Art of Islamic Iran, Diversity of Traditions: Indian Art, 1200 to the Present among others including graduate level seminars.

She just completed a term as the College Art Association’s Vice President for Publications, as well as a ten-year term of service as the Chair of the Committee on Art and Archaeology of the American Institute of Indian Studies.

Harold D. Roth

Harold D. Roth is Professor of Religious Studies and East Asian Studies, and Director of Brown’s Contemplative Studies Initiative. Roth is a specialist in Early Chinese Religious Thought, Daoism, the History of East Asian Religions, and the Comparative Study of Mysticism. His publications include four books, The Textual History of the Huai-nan Tzu (Association for Asian Studies, 1992), Original Tao: Inward Training and the Foundations of Taoist Mysticism (Columbia University Press, 1999), Daoist Identity: Cosmology, Lineage, and Ritual (w/Livia Kohn) (University of Hawaii Press, 2002) and A Companion to Angus C. Graham’s Chuang Tzu: the Inner Chapters (Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy, 2003). He has written more than two dozen articles on the early history and religious
thought of the Daoist tradition and on the textual history and textual criticism of classical Chinese works.

The Contemplative Studies Initiative, which Roth heads, is a group of Brown faculty with diverse academic specializations who are united around a common interest in the study of contemplative states of mind, including the underlying philosophy, psychology, and phenomenology of human contemplative experience. As a group, they provide advice on students’ academic and personal study in this area and are working towards eventually receiving formal recognition as a Program, Concentration, or a Center to study and teach the underlying philosophy, psychology, and phenomenology of human contemplative experience. The goal of this initiative is to develop a coordinated program in this rapidly emerging field that focuses on many of the ways that human beings have found, across cultures and across time, to concentrate, broaden and deepen conscious awareness as the gateway to cultivating their full potential and to leading more meaningful and fulfilling lives.

Dali L. Yang

Dali L. Yang is a professor in the Department of Political Science and Director of The Center for East Asian Studies at The University of Chicago. He was previously the Director of the East Asian Institute in Singapore at the National University of Singapore and is a former Chairman of the Department of Political Science at The University of Chicago. His research interests are political institutions and political economy, with special reference to China. He is the author of numerous books and scholarly articles on the politics and political economy of China. Among his books are Remaking the Chinese Leviathan: Market Transition and the Politics of Governance in China (Stanford University Press, 2004); Beyond Beijing: Liberalization and the Regions in China (Routledge, 1997); and Calamity and Reform in China: State, Rural Society, and Institutional Change since the Great Leap Famine (Stanford University Press, 1996). He is also editor of Discontented Miracle: Growth, Conflict, and Institutional Adaptations in China (World Scientific, 2007) and co-editor and a contributor to Holding China Together: Diversity and National Integration in Post-Deng China (Cambridge University Press, 2004). He is a member of various committees and organizations and serves on the editorial boards of Asian Perspective, American Political Science Review, Journal of Contemporary China, and World Politics.

18th Annual ASIANetwork Conference
April 9-11, 2010
Hosted by Agnes Scott College
Emory University Conference Center
Atlanta, Georgia