

## Board Nominees

The following three people have been nominated by the Board of Directors to fill positions on the Board of Directors for the term 2000-2003. Board elections will be held at the ASIANetwork business meeting Sunday morning, April 30.



Jim Leavell

Jim Leavell is the Herring Professor of Asian Studies at Furman University where he serves as the Asian Studies departmental chair ('95- ) and Furman's official representative to ASIANetwork ('94- ).

A native of West Texas, Jim attended Baylor University as an undergraduate (B.A., history and English, '63) later earning an M.A. there in Church-State relations ('65). He began his teaching career at Hong Kong Baptist College. He subsequently taught at LaVega High School, and Hardin-Simmons University before he and his wife became the first married couple to be appointed as Baptist Journeyman (2 year) missionaries. He taught history and English literature at Seinan Gakuin University (Fukuoka, Japan). The faculty later invited him to return as the first Director of Academic and Field Studies in Seinan's Japan studies program for foreign students. His two years as a Fulbright teacher (Kanagawa and Okayama) supported his dissertation research (Duke, '75) on the development of Japan's modern police system in early Meiji. The essence of this study was published as "The Policing of Society" in Hilary Conroy's *Japan in Transition*.

After joining the Furman history faculty ('74) Jim has returned to Japan as a Fulbright researcher, teacher at Kansai Gaidai, and director of a Fulbright group project. He has been active in the South Atlantic States Association for Asian and African Studies (SASASAAS), currently serving as chair of the Pedagogy Committee. For ten years he was Executive Director of the South Carolina Consortium for International Studies (SCCIS). He is a Past President of the

Southeast Regional Conference of the Association for Asian Studies and is an editor of the Southeast Review of Asian Studies. The recipient of three teaching awards, Jim teaches in three departments (history, Asian studies, and art), and has directed several study abroad courses, most recently leading a group to Shanghai for the fall '98 term. Further information about Jim's courses and interests can be accessed at [www.furman.edu/~jleav01](http://www.furman.edu/~jleav01). His most recent work on Japanese religion will appear as a chapter in *Understanding Contemporary Japan*, forthcoming from Lynne Rienner Press.

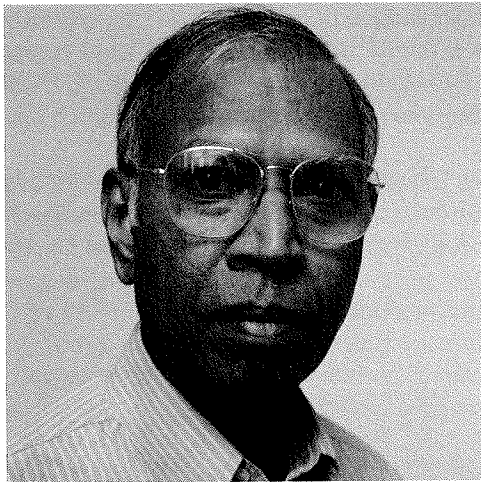
Jim has worked in the ASIANetwork's consultancy program and provided a presentation on the use of technology in teaching Japanese cultural history at the Florida meeting.



Yi Sun

Yi Sun is currently an assistant professor of East Asian history at the University of San Diego. After obtaining her Ph.D. degree at Washington State University in 1994, she taught Asian history at Albion College in Michigan for three years before joining the history faculty at USD in fall 1997. Her teaching areas include modern China, modern Japan, Women in East Asia and U.S.-East Asia relations. She has published articles on the changing experiences of Chinese women during the era of economic reforms and Sino-American relations during the Taiwan Straits crises in the

1950s. She has also co-authored articles on the making of "Ping-Pong diplomacy" and the political and economic developments in post-Deng Xiaoping China. Presently she is working on a manuscript, "Personal Voices: the Dynamics and Dilemmas of Chinese Women during the Reform Era." She serves as the Secretary for the Third World Studies Association and Treasurer for the Chinese Historians in the United States.



Job Thomas

Job Thomas, Professor of History at Davidson College, was born in Nazareth, a small village in Tamil Nadu, India. He received his undergraduate education at St. John's College, Palayankottai, his post-graduate education at Madras Christian College, Madras, and he received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

Prior to coming to the United States in 1972 he served as Assistant Curator of the National Art Gallery, Madras; Director of Public Relations, Madras Christian College; and Associate Director of Callison College, the University of the Pacific's overseas campus in Bangalore, India. He came to the U.S. as a Fulbright Scholar to teach at Davidson and Guilford Colleges. After he received his Ph.D. he joined Davidson College as the Director of the South Asian Studies Program.

Job's fields of specialization are Indian history and Asian art history, and he has published numerous articles and a book. He was the recipient of the 1987-88 National Endowment for the Humanities award for Superior Scholars/Indologists in the Humanities, and in 1996 he received the Rotary International award for teaching in developing

countries.

In addition to administering Davidson's South Asian Studies Program, Job oversees the Semester-in-India and Nepal Program and teaches courses in Asian Art, History of India and History of China.

Davidson College has been a member of ASIANetwork since its inception, and Job has attended all of its annual meetings as a representative of the College. He is currently the Director of ASIANetwork's Ford Foundation Faculty Curriculum Development Program for South Asia.

### Comments? Questions? Requests?

If you have a comment, question, or request in regard to anything you have read (or haven't read!) in the *ASIANetwork Exchange*, let us know! The editors can be contacted at [ANExchange@augustana.edu](mailto:ANExchange@augustana.edu), *ASIANetwork Exchange*, Augustana College, 639 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island, Illinois 61201, tel. (309) 794-7656 (Anne Prescott) or (309) 794-7269 (Ben Nefzger).

### Thank you...

to all of you who submitted articles by the deadline for this issue of the *ASIANetwork Exchange*. Timely submissions mean that you receive your issue of the newsletter sooner, so that you can take advantage of the helpful articles and information it contains. **The deadline for the Spring issue is FEBRUARY 1, 2000.** This will ensure that you receive it before the Annual Conference.