

*Liberal Arts Colleges,
Asian Studies and the
Fulbright Scholar Program*

**David B. J. Adams
Senior Program Officer
Council for International
Exchange of Scholars**

The Fulbright scholar program offers a variety of rich resources to the faculty of liberal arts colleges and to the institutions themselves. Awards are offered in all of the countries of East, South, and Southeast Asia for individual faculty to lecture, conduct research, or for a combination of lecturing and research. A common misunderstanding about the program is that the grants are primarily for area specialists. You do not have to be an Asian specialist to compete. In fact, the majority of the awards in Asia are in the core disciplines of the social sciences and humanities and are for teaching.

INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

Contrary to a fairly widespread belief, Fulbright scholar grantees come from all types of institutions. The wide variety of institutions from which grantees come can be easily seen from a review of the institutional list in the CIES annual reports. The list for any given year shows that faculty at liberal arts colleges can and do compete successfully for Fulbright awards to teach, to conduct research, or to do a combination of the two. To cite just a very few examples from various parts of the country, three Allegheny College faculty received 1999/00 awards and another received a 1997/98 award. Faculty members at Albion College received grants in 1995/96 and 1996/97 and two Calvin College faculty members received grants in 1998/99. Six faculty members at Lewis and Clark College received grants between 1994/95 and 1999/00.

CIES review committees and selection committees abroad are interested in applicants' professional accomplishments and the quality of their proposals, not their home institutions.

Research—Despite the heavier teaching loads that are common at many liberal arts colleges, many faculty still find time to do research and publish. If you have a record of research and publication, you can compete for a Fulbright scholar research award. Research awards of varying lengths are offered in all fields of the social sciences and humanities in Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, India and Pakistan. The South Asia Regional Research Program provides the opportunity for a multi-country research project.

Lecturing—Since the quality of teaching skills is heavily emphasized in reviewing applicants for lecturing awards and

since liberal arts colleges stress good teaching, their faculty members are often at an advantage in competing for lecturing awards. The one caution is to make certain that the award is not solely for graduate level teaching unless you have had such experience. While there are relatively few opportunities for teaching Asian Studies, there are numerous teaching grants in the various disciplines of the social sciences and humanities. If you are not an area specialist, a Fulbright scholar lecturing grant is a good way to deepen your knowledge of and experience in Asian countries.

Lecturing and Research—Some countries provide the opportunity for combining teaching and research in about an 80/20 ratio. You may be able to teach courses in your discipline and do your research at the same time.

INSTITUTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

There are also several Fulbright scholar programs designed to assist U.S. institutions in providing more international content in their curriculum.

Scholar-in-Residence Program—These grants enable a U.S. institution to invite a scholar in the social sciences and humanities from abroad to teach on their campus for one semester or an academic year. It is not necessary to identify a specific scholar to be competitive. While host institutions have to provide tangible evidence of support such as a stipend supplement, campus housing, etc., the Fulbright program provides a monthly maintenance allowance based upon cost of living in the host city, round trip travel for the grantee and one dependent, and a professional allowance. We would like to see more ASIANetwork schools avail themselves of these grants.

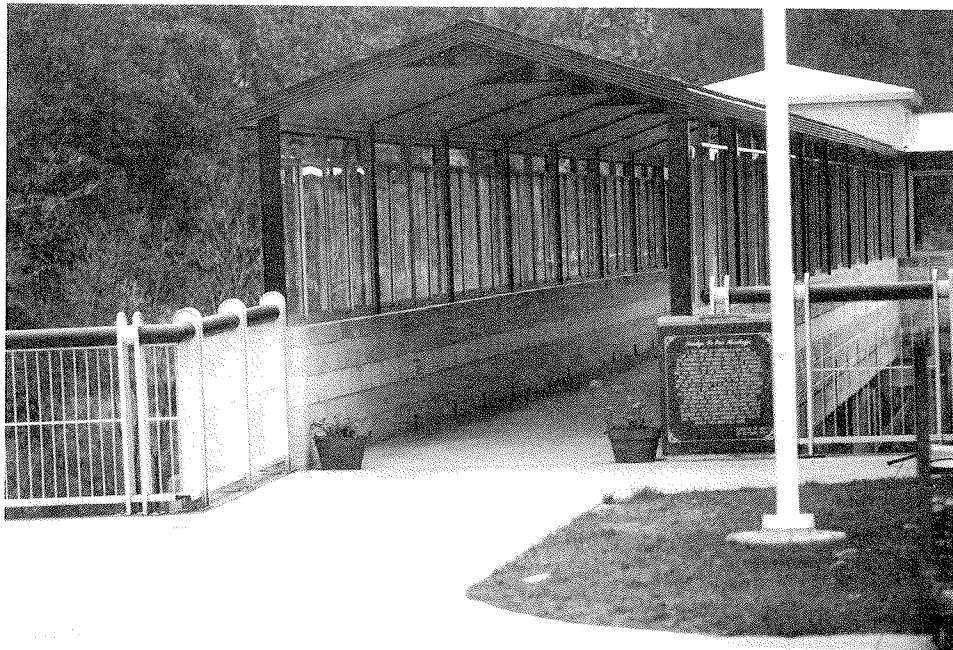
In the last five competitions, only eight institutions in ASIANetwork have received Scholar-in-Residence grants to bring scholars from East, South, and Southeast Asia to their campuses. The following institutions have been recipients: Bard College (Indonesia, 1996/97), Chatham College (Japan, 1997/98; India, 1999-00), Clark University (Vietnam, 1996/97), College of Notre Dame of Maryland (Australia, 1997/98), College of the Holy Cross (Indonesia, 1996/97), Elon College (Australia, 1999/00), Lewis and Clark College (Peoples' Republic of China, 1998/99), McKendree College (Japan, 1998/99).

Occasional Lecturer Program—This program enables institutions to invite a foreign Fulbright scholar currently in the U.S. whose expertise is of interest to come and make some presentations on campus. The Fulbright program will pay the travel costs from the scholar's host city to your city. You pick up the local costs. Information about the scholars who are in the United States can be found in the Visiting Scholar Directory published each fall. The Directory is also available on the CIES website. Even though this program is intended particularly to assist smaller institutions in enriching their international offerings, over the last two years only twelve ASIANetwork members have availed themselves of

this resource. We strongly encourage more ASIANetwork institutions to take advantage of these opportunities.

For more information, please visit the CIES web site: www.cies.org or contact the following CIES staff members: David Adams (202-686-4021, dadams@cies.iie.org) and Jean McPeck (202-686-4024, jmcpeek@cies.iie.org) regarding opportunities for Americans in East and Southeast Asia and Gary Garrison (202-686-4019, ggarrison@cies.iie.org) regarding opportunities for Americans in South Asia. Christine Djondo (202-686-4004, cdjondo_cies@iie.org) or her assistant Christopher Emanuel (202-686-6235, cemanuel@cies.iie.org) will be happy to provide information about the Scholar-in-Residence and Occasional Lecturer programs.

Due to space constraints, Chuck Hayford and Dan Meissner's presentations on *The Dangers and Pleasures of Teaching Orientalist Classic Books*, which were to be included in this issue of the *ASIANetwork Exchange*, will be published in the Spring issue.



**Pre-Conference Tour Sights/Sites
Shiva Vishnu Temple
Parma, Ohio**