

# *ASIANetwork Initiatives*

## *10th Anniversary ASIANetwork Conference*

### *Board Nominees*

## **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ASIANetwork Conference Hickory Ridge Conference Center, Lisle, Illinois April 19-21, 2002**

On April 19-21, 2002, ASIANetwork's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference will be held at Hickory Ridge Conference Center in Lisle, Illinois, near Chicago. The ASIANetwork annual conference is customarily rotated between Hickory Ridge and a site in some other part of the country. In 2002 we return to Hickory Ridge after alternate years in the Northwest (Tacoma, Washington), the Northeast (Manchester, Vermont), the Southeast (St. Petersburg, Florida), the Southwest (Santa Fe, New Mexico), and last year's conference in the Midwest (Cleveland, Ohio). The annual conference will move to Furman University in South Carolina for 2003.

#### **Invitation from Joel R. Smith, ASIANetwork Board Chair**

As ASIANetwork Board Chair, I cordially invite you to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference of ASIANetwork. Since its founding a decade ago, ASIANetwork has been extremely successful in promoting Asian studies at small colleges. We have grown from about 45 member colleges in 1992 to over 150 current members, have published a book, *Asia in the Undergraduate Curriculum*, and have received over \$3 million in grants awarded by the Ford, Luce, Japan, and Freeman Foundations. Most recently we received a \$300,000 program development grant over a five-year period from the Henry Luce Foundation.

The program follows the general pattern of previous ASIANetwork conferences in seeking to foster conversation among conference participants—whether sparked by the program's formal sessions, or arising from more informal opportunities during breaks and at mealtimes. Although conference participants represent many disciplines and work in many different regions of Asia, we are united by our common commitment to the liberal arts, and by our commitment to teach and learn about Asia. Our more difficult international and domestic situation since September 11<sup>th</sup> makes the study of Asia more important than ever. Small liberal arts colleges play

an essential and unique role in promoting the understanding of Asia, yet only 5.8% of all institutions of higher education in the United States are four-year liberal arts colleges. ASIANetwork's work in promoting the study of Asia and thereby strengthening liberal arts education is of the utmost significance. We have wonderful opportunities, and an awesome responsibility, to contribute to better global understanding.

#### **Keynote Speakers:**

**Eliot S. Deutsch** (University of Hawaii-Manoa), "Comparative Philosophy: Past, Present, and Future"

**Susan J. Napier** (University of Texas-Austin), "Inside the Labyrinth: Anime Visions of Technology, Modernity, and Apocalypse"

**Eliot S. Deutsch**, who will speak Saturday evening, is Professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He has served as editor (1967-1987) of the international journal *Philosophy East and West*, Director of the Sixth East-West Philosophers' Conference, and President of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy. He is the author of 15 books, including *On Truth: An Ontological Theory*, *Advaita Vedanta: A Philosophical Reconstruction*, *Studies in Comparative Aesthetics, Religion and Spirituality*, *Essays on the Nature of Art*, and *Persons and Valuable Worlds*, as well as approximately 85 articles and reviews in professional journals.

**Susan J. Napier**, who will speak Friday evening, is Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Professor of Japanese Studies in the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Her most recent book is *Anime from Akira to Princess Mononoke: Experiencing Japanese Animation*. She has also published *The Fantastic in Modern Japanese Literature: The Subversion of Modernity* and *Escape from the Wasteland* on Oe Kensaburo and Mishima Yukio.

#### **Conference Program**

In addition to our two keynote speakers, there will be two plenary sessions which will celebrate ASIANetwork's 10th anniversary by reflecting on the state of Asian studies in small liberal arts colleges. Saturday morning's plenary, "10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reflections," will consist of past ASIANetwork Board Chairs discussing issues about the future of ASIANetwork. Sunday morning's plenary, "The Future of

Asian Studies,” will discuss new models for the study of Asia.

The sixteen breakout panels in four blocks (each block will have four concurrent panels) on Saturday and Sunday will cover a wide range of topics in several regions of Asia addressed from a variety of disciplinary perspectives:

- “Strategies for Teaching about Korea: Making a Little Knowledge Go a Long Way”
- “Technology and Teaching: Beyond the Written Word”
- “Asia in Film and Fiction: Pedagogic Approaches”
- “2001 Freeman Student-Faculty Collaborative Projects”
- “The Freeman College-in-Asia Program”
- “Asian Economic Issues in China, Japan, and Inner City America”
- “Re-Imaging Asian Women”
- “Islam in Asia: Beyond Orientalism”
- “Dynamics and Dilemmas: Women and Modernization in China”
- “Asian Views of the United States”
- “Facilitating On-Site Student Research in Asia”
- “Orienting Students for Study Abroad”
- “Hiring Asianists for Liberal Arts Colleges”
- “The Asian Studies Learning Community at Saint Benedict/Saint John’s University”
- “Asian Studies Now Redux: Threats and Successes”
- “Current Issues in Asia”

Our performance event will be a recital of Chinese music by a pipa player from the Shi-ling Chinese Art Institute in Chicago.

#### **Pre-Conference Tour**

As in previous years, there will be a pre-conference tour on Friday to Asia-related sites in the Chicago area. The sites will be different from those visited two years ago, so sign up again if you went on the tour in 2000. Complete cost of the trip, including lunch, will be \$25 per person.

#### **Accommodations and Travel Information**

**Conference site:** Hickory Ridge Conference Center, Lisle, Illinois (west of Chicago)

**Reservation number:** 1-800-334-0344 or 800-228-9290 or 630-971-5000

**Reservation deadline:** Monday, April 1, 2002. Rooms will be guaranteed either with a first night advance deposit, or an accepted major credit card number. Mention ASIANetwork to receive our group discount. Reservations requested after April 1 may not be eligible for the group discount, and are subject to availability. Hickory Ridge is not a hotel, so it is important to make room reservations in a timely fashion, especially since ASIANetwork will incur penalties that we can ill afford if we do not fill the minimum number of rooms we have blocked by April 1.

**Conference package room and board rates:** Single room \$150 per night; double room \$245 per room per night (you are responsible for making your own room-sharing arrange-

ments). The complete package rate is a per night charge and includes guestroom, all meals, and use of the fitness center and recreation facilities. The rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes in effect at the time of check in.

**Ground transportation between Hickory ridge and Chicago O’Hare or Chicago Midway airports** (travel time varies, but allow at least an hour):

**Carrier:** American Limousine Company

**Reservation number:** 1-630-920-8888

**Cost:** \$18-\$25 one way but ask for current rates; discount if more than one ride together; cash or credit card payments only

**Timing:** arranged by advance reservation only

**By automobile:** If you are traveling by car, ask for directions when you make your Hickory Ridge Conference Center room reservation.

#### **Conference Registration Information**

**Registration deadline:** Friday, March 29, 2002

**Registration fee:** \$50 ASIANetwork members, \$60 non-members

**Late registration fee** (received after March 29, 2002): \$60 ASIANetwork Members, \$70 non-members

**Meals:** The following meals are included in the ASIANetwork Conference registration fee:

Friday, April 19—evening banquet

Saturday, April 20—breakfast, noon lunch, evening banquet, and two beverage breaks

Sunday, April 21—breakfast, noon lunch, and mid-morning beverage break

**Fees:** The ASIANetwork Conference registration fee is inclusive, and must be paid in full.

The ASIANetwork is not equipped to receive credit card payments.

Conference registration fees should be paid by check or money order to:

Dr. Van J. Symons, Executive Director

The ASIANetwork

639 38<sup>th</sup> St.,

Rock Island, IL 61201-2296.

Tel. 309-794-7413

If you have any questions, contact Joel Smith, Board Chair (jsmith@skidmore.edu) or Van Symons, Executive Director (hismsymons@augustana.edu).

**Please mark your calendar for the 2003 ASIANetwork Conference** (ideas for conference presentations are welcome and should be sent to the program chair below):

Dates: April 11-13, 2003

Venue: Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina

Program Chair: Jim Leavell, Board Vice-Chair

Department of History, Furman University

3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, South Carolina 29613-6298

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