

From the Editors



Anne Prescott



Marsha Smith



Nirmala Salgado

Although we normally only include one letter from the editors each year, because we have had a staff change, we wished to take this opportunity to introduce our newest staff member. Please welcome Dr. Nirmala Salgado to the ASIANetwork EXCHANGE staff. While Ann Prescott and she work as Assistant editors, Marsha Smith serves as the main editor. A native of Sri Lanka, Nirmala received her B.A. and M.A. from the School of Oriental and African Studies (London) and her Ph.D. in the History and Literature of Religion from Northwestern University. Her research interests include Buddhist life-writing as well as gender and monasticism in contemporary Theravada Buddhism. Nirmala is an Associate Professor of Religion at Augustana College.

We have been fortunate to receive a number of complements during the past few weeks on the value and use of the newsletter. At the recent National Consortium for Teaching About Asia seminar held in Indianapolis, the Fall 2002 issue, especially the section on “Strategies for Learning About Korea: Making a Little Learning Go a Long Way” with articles by Linda Lewis, James Huffman, Stephen Smith and Jennifer Oldstone-Moore was highly praised. A number of participants hoping to use these pieces to help secondary teachers prepare to teach more about East Asia (Korea in particular), requested copies of this issue to use in the preparation of their own NCTA seminars.

We are happy that the essays written by many of you can serve not only members of ASIANetwork but provide relevant materials to a broader community through other organizations like NCTA. Last year, at Augustana’s

NCTA seminar, we were able to include the keynote address of Dr. Anthony Yu, one of our Council of Advisors from the University Chicago, as a required reading when Dr. Yu came to Augustana College as our Phi Beta Kappa Speaker. Dr. Yu’s article, titled “The Real Tripitaka Revisited: International Religion and National Politics” was published in our Winter 2000 issue of the EXCHANGE.

As we publish a new issue of our newsletter, the Table of Contents and the Executive Director’s column become immediately available on ASIANetwork’s website: <http://www.asianetwork.org> under the Teaching Resources link. Concurrently, we send the textual information of the previous year’s issue to our website to be published and available to all of you. So if you are interested in rereading an article from at least one year ago and can’t seem to find it on your bookshelves or in your files, you can still find it on the web!

Look for Susan Napier’s Key-note address: “*Inside the Labrynth: Anime Visions of Technology, Modernity and Apocalypse*” as well as papers from the panel titled: “*Japanese Film in the Classroom*” in the Spring issue of the EXCHANGE.