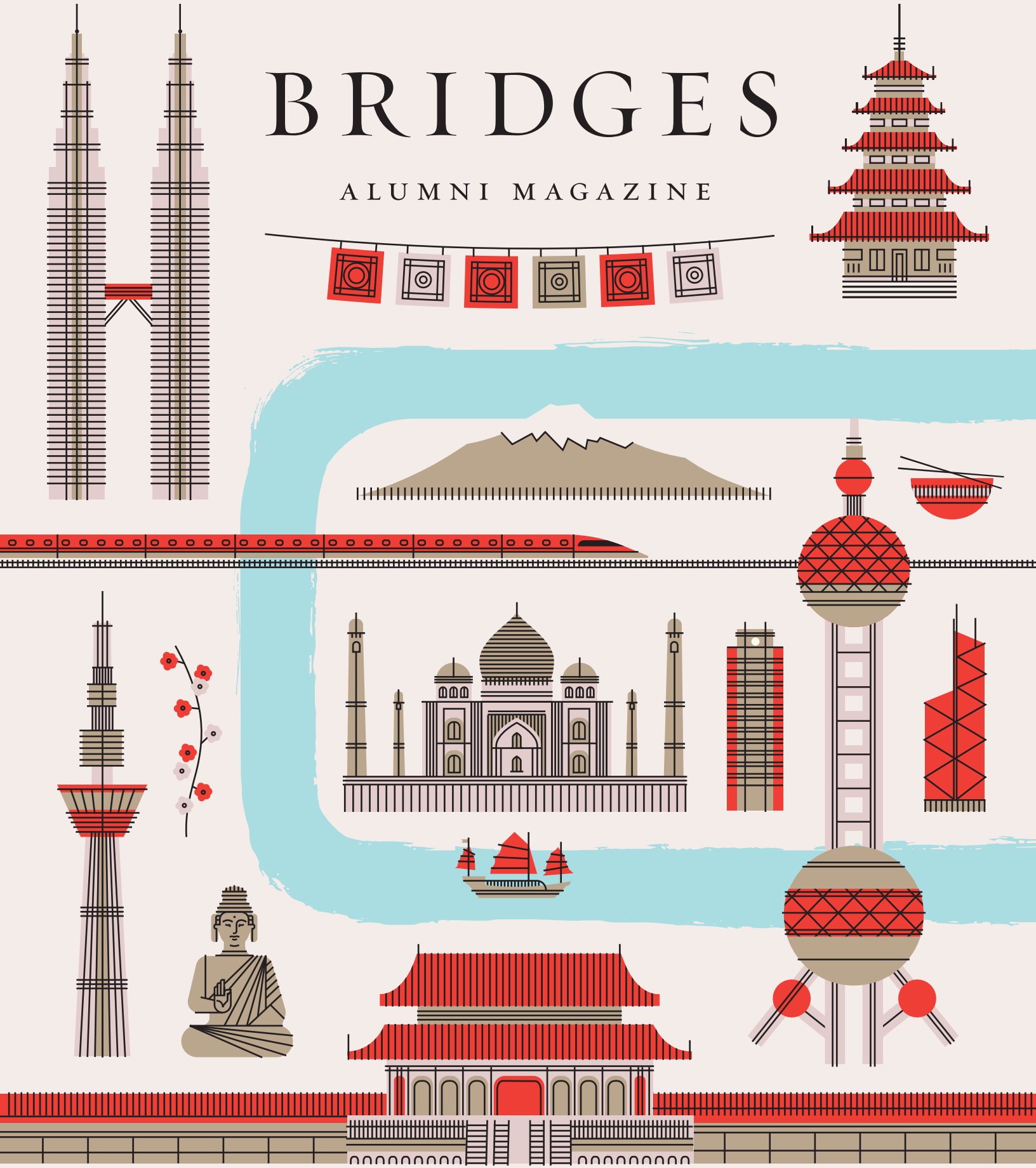
BRIDGES

ALUMNI MAGAZINE



A PUBLICATION OF THE BYU DAVID M. KENNEDY CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Letter from the Director

Five years ago the Obama administration announced a strategic rethinking of U.S. foreign policy, including at its center a "pivot" to Asia. No such pivot is necessary at the Kennedy Center or at Brigham Young University. Asia has long been a focus of faculty and student activity.

Following my return from a mission in Korea, I was a student on an Asia study abroad program in 1983 led by Spencer Palmer, Ray Hillam, and Kaze Watabe. It was my academic introduction to an area of the world that would become a prime focus of my professional life. I have since written graduate papers on Korean politics, taught courses on the politics of East Asia, and spent the last twenty-five years directing the China Teachers Program at BYU. None of that would have happened without BYU's long and deep association with Asia.

In this issue of *Bridges,* we highlight some aspects of that association—from alumni expat experiences to Kennedy Center events focusing on Asia-related books, films, and lectures to a report on our federally funded Asian Consortium with the University of Utah.

Asia really is a key area of focus at the Kennedy Center. We hope you will enjoy reading about our activities in Asia and look forward to future issues highlighting other regions of the world.

Jeff Ringer

Introducing Renata Forste
New Kennedy Center Director and BYU Associate International Vice President

More information to come in the next issue and online.

Features

2 **ASIAN PERSPECTIVES**
To get a more accurate view of the expat life, Bridges *chatted with eight alums who have lived and worked in Asia.*

12 **A Journey of a Thousand Miles**
Kennedy Center alum Su Ge shares his thoughts on BYU, the professional life, and the current and future state of China.

16 **AN ASIAN FRAME OF REFERENCE**
Thanks to an ongoing variety of events hosted by the Kennedy Center, Asia and BYU may not be so far away after all.

22 **ASIAN STUDIES ELEVATED**
The Intermountain Consortium for Asian and Pacific Studies is funded by a Title VI grant and run by both BYU and the U—turning so-called enemies into collaborators.

Departments

20 Infographic

24 Travel

26 Lecture Spotlights

30 Recommended Reads

News

32 Alumni Update

34 From the Kennedy Center

38 Featured Students

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An expression of research, opinions, and interests for the internationally involved.

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ASIAN PERSPECTIVES

Debunking Expatriate Experiences

By Sara Jarman

EXPATRIATE

MEMOIRS have glamorized international living since the days of sailing ships and far-flung empires. More recently, social media has brought a filter-tinted perspective that makes these lifestyles appear even more alluring. As with most truths, pictures only tell part of the story: expat life is quite different from the Rick Steves version of traveling like a local. Yes, becoming an expatriate is an exciting, eye-opening, and life-defining adventure, but the challenge is often in accomplishing the day-to-day tasks of life in cultural circumstances that vary dramatically from what is familiar and comfortable.

To get a more accurate view of the expat life, *Bridges Alumni Magazine* chatted with BYU and Kennedy Center alumni who have lived and worked in Asia. They offered valuable insights into the engaging and exotic aspects of international living as well as perspectives on being adaptable to new—and at times difficult—circumstances.

When in Tokyo

Name: Takuya Hirano
Country: Japan
Role: CEO, Microsoft, Tokyo, Japan
Grad Info: BA: international relations, 1995

Takuya Hirano is half Japanese and half American. Hirano spent three years abroad as an expatriate in Munich, Germany, before moving to Tokyo, Japan, with his family. Regardless of where they are living, all expatriates need to take important universal approaches if they want to be successful, he said.

First, having an open mindset is essential. "Understanding that the standards your native country has are not going to be the normal standard when you go abroad is key," noted Hirano. "Your point of reference eventually will be quite different from the one you started with. Be willing to explore and accept the differences. You will form your own opinion later on."

Expatriates who are willing to engage more with the local community and not be afraid to make mistakes also have more success personally and professionally in the long term. "When I see people who are more uptight and only interact with the expat community, they do fine, but they are not taking advantage of the full immersion experience," Hirano said. "Contrast this with the expats who try to enjoy native culture, and eventually the local employees feel much closer to them and become more productive. At the end of the day, it is all about people."

In observing expatriates in Japan and how they manage and adapt to their circumstances, Hirano related that communication style is one area in which Japanese and Americans vastly differ—and some Americans struggle to both understand and adapt. "English is a very explicit language, whereas Japanese is a highly contextual language," he said. "Each sentence or word has ten times or more meaning, but at the same time, you do not speak as much as an American would. This triggers a series of differences."

Hirano also noted that Japan is a very process- and quality-conscious country where customer satisfaction is very important; America is more of an impact-based society. This difference can make it difficult for Americans to adapt.

Dealing with Elephants

Name: Jeff D. Smith
Countries: Various
Role: Director of Digital and Corporate Development, Nu Skin, Provo, Utah
Grad Info: BA: international studies, 1999

On average, Jeff D. Smith spends two weeks out of each month in a different country. Smith became a frequent international traveler as his career progressed and his company expanded across the globe. He has always enjoyed traveling but didn't start traveling extensively until recently. Throughout his journeys he has had an assortment of misadventures: he has almost been blown up—more than once—been accused of being in the CIA, was stranded in Kuala Lumpur during 9/11, and has encountered various other dangerous scenarios.

"The primary thing to consider with any travel is to be prepared for anything and not to get fazed when you run into challenges—whether you are traveling or living there," Smith commented. "I think embracing the differences helps with the stress; not trying to force something into an American paradigm is essential."

Out of all the Asian countries he has visited, Smith said that India usually takes the longest for Americans to get used to, noting that elephants are regular staples in busy street traffic. For those planning to travel heavily in Asia, he recommended visiting Singapore first to ease into it. "I love Singapore, because a lot of the people there are English speaking," he said. "Some people find it sterile; however, if you are looking for a beginner's approach to Asia, Singapore is a safer place to start."

Smith also offered some time-earned traveling advice for the prospective globe-trotter:

- Keep everything you need in a backpack, and put your items in the same place so that you don't have to unpack and repack.
- Keep your things as grab and go as possible.
- Stick with one airline or hotel to get loyalty benefits.
- Get Global Entry or TSA Pre-Check—anything to minimize time at the airport.
- Reset as quickly as you can to a new time zone by waiting until nighttime to go to sleep once you arrive. If needed, take melatonin to help you adjust.
- Be sure to bring all your charging devices.

Embracing the differences helps with the stress; not trying to force something into an American paradigm is essential.

—JEFF D. SMITH

It is important for us that our kids are Americans first, even though they are having an overseas experience.

—CAMERON JONES

Connecting and Reconnecting

Name: Cameron Jones
Countries: South Korea and Japan
Role: Foreign Service Officer, Seoul, South Korea
Grad Info: BA: international studies, 2004

Cameron Jones (left) has spent half of his life abroad. Jones recently finished his second overseas tour in Tokyo, Japan, and will spend his next tour in Seoul, South Korea. He also grew up in Seoul—his father was a corporate attorney in the area—and served an LDS mission there.

Given his experience abroad, Jones has noticed some common stumbling blocks among most expatriates, such as the lack of conveniences in other countries. "Americans' expectations are usually set way too high, and they expect to have the same kind of lifestyle when they move abroad. When that does not happen, it is frustrating," he said.

Each expatriate experience varies tremendously though, and Jones recognizes that because he is a Foreign Service officer, many of his family's logistical needs are taken care of, which is not always the case for expats. "You do not have to find your own housing; the local embassy where you are assigned does that for you," he said. "The State Department contracts moving companies to come into your home and pack it up."

Because of his familiarity with Asia, Jones didn't experience as great of a culture shock as most Americans when they first relocate there, but he said that taking time to come back and reconnect with one's home country—especially for third-culture kids—is just as essential to the expatriate life as learning to live and adapt in a foreign place. "When I am on home leave, it is a chance to reconnect with family and America—for my kids too," Jones commented. "We reestablish connections and make sure they have an American identity. It is important for us that our kids are Americans first, even though they are having an overseas experience."

Destination Know-How

Name: Jonathan Beutler
Country/Territory: Japan and Hong Kong
Role: Founder and Principal, Pacific Rim Global Advisory, Los Angeles, California
Grad Info: BA: linguistics, 2007

Previous to starting Pacific Rim Global Advisory, Jonathan Beutler worked as a public diplomacy officer in Tokyo, Japan, for the U.S. Department of State. Beutler also externed as an industrial analyst at the U.S. Consulate General in Hong Kong.

He advised potential expatriates to learn about the relationship between their expat country and their home country before moving. "If you understand the dynamics between Hong Kong and the United States, for example, it paints a nice background picture for you to operate from," he explained. "Consume information about events, pop culture, and the history of the destination. This is all key to feeling prepared."

He also underscored the need for expatriates to understand the culture and values of the country, which is especially helpful when conducting a business, government, or any other type of meeting. It opens an engaging and honest dialogue between parties, leaving less room for confusion and potential conflict.

Besides understanding the culture, recognizing the full impact expatriate life will have on one's entire family is crucial. "In my experience overseas, the family moves to an overseas destination because of one spouse's work assignment," Beutler noted. "Often it becomes challenging for the other spouse to feel fulfilled and to contribute in a meaningful way. Sometimes the nonworking spouse can feel stuck in a foreign environment, and this creates a lot of strain in families. To mitigate this I would suggest that when [families] accept an overseas assignment, they tap into the expat community while engaging with the local host community."

Beutler said that most expatriates have a difficult time adjusting to the population density of most Asian countries. "There are so many people around all the time. With a handful of exceptions, living spaces are much smaller," Beutler commented. "For example, if you take a subway, you have to give up your personal space issue."

To Russia with Love

Name: Paul M. Cox
Country: Russia
Role: Executive Director and Private Wealth Advisor, Morgan Stanley Private Wealth Management, Dallas, Texas
Grad Info: BA: international politics, 2003

Paul M. Cox began studying Russian when he was twelve. Cox was a big fan of the Tom Clancy spy novels that depicted the Soviet Union and wanted to learn more about the novels' antagonists and the real Soviet Union. His first introduction to Russia came after being called to serve as an LDS missionary there in June 1997 and later spent many years working in Russia for the banking and finance industries.

He noted that learning the language of the country you are moving to is ideal, but developing other skills is essential. "Language skills are important, but most business around the world is conducted in English, including in Russia. Develop other skills in addition to linguistic proficiency," Cox urged. "For example, networking is critical: reach out to people who are currently living in Russia to learn about the best places to live, what is currently available in the country, and what you should bring."

He stressed that it is important to have up-to-date information from people who currently live in the expat country. "Things can change rapidly—Russia is in political influx constantly—so prepare for rapid and frequent change and be open-minded. This will make the expat transition easier," he said.

Cox also emphasized that other cultures do things differently than in America. "The Russian culture is deep and filled with tradition," he said, "and the language is a challenge. But initially some expats may assume Russia will be much more like the United States than it is." For example, it took Cox time to get used to some of Russia's edible "delicacies," such as *sala* (raw pig fat), which originates from Ukraine and is still something he doesn't enjoy.

Being away from family and dealing with difficult weather also called for adjustments, Cox said. "Our last winter [there] it never got above freezing for six months straight," he remembered. "But it was the darkness that comes from living so far north during the winter that we had to adjust to more than the cold."

A Dynamic Journey

Name: Patrick K. Belnap
Countries: Taiwan and Mainland China
Role: Program Manager, Greenpeace East Asia, Taipei, Taiwan
Grad Info: BA: Asian studies, 2009

Patrick K. Belnap has lived the majority of his time abroad in China—in Xi'an, Nanjing, Beijing, Shanghai, Qingdao, and various cities in the Henan, Shandong, Anhui, and Sichuan Provinces. But currently Belnap lives in Taipei, Taiwan.

Asia was never a place he thought about living or working in while growing up. In fact, he noted that the first Asian food he ate was on his LDS mission in Minnesota. However, serving among the Hmong people there ignited within him a desire to study Mandarin.

For expatriates moving to Mainland China, Belnap points out the need to have the energy and stamina to survive in such a varied and intense place. "The scale and speed of change that China is experiencing is unmatched in human history," he stated. "The sleeping giant that even Napoleon did not want to disturb is now waking, and we don't know what side of the bed it [is waking] up on. It is a country of stark contradictions and contrasts, and that also rings true for life as an expat in China; the ups and downs can be extreme. Luxurious expat packages aside, living in China takes a lot of energy, an agenda void of expectations, and an affinity toward adventure. If that sounds like you, then make the move, because the potential rewards are unbeatable."

Pollution, healthcare, and sanitation became problems for Belnap after he had children, and he and his family still struggle to get used to these conditions. "These problems were major factors in our decision to relocate away from Mainland China for a time," he said. "I think it's important to remember that life evolves and changes, and the reasons for living in a certain location are also subject to change."

Belnap moved his family back to Utah for a while and then found a happy medium in Taipei. "Being an expat is not a destination," he said."It's a dynamic journey, and the definition of what it means to be an expat is really up to the individual and family."

But if you are at all considering becoming an expatriate, he advised, "just do it," and explained, "Living abroad offers a broadened perspective, foreign language-acquisition, and multicultural sensitivities; the chance to meet and grow close to unique people, experience new and creative ideas and solutions, and simplify, which naturally occurs when moving all your worldly goods to a new country; exposure to new and delicious foods; and, of course, adventures and experience unobtainable in any other way."

Embracing the Unexpected

Name: N. Kaitlyn Pieper
Countries: Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Turkey
Role: Interfaith Coordinator, BYU International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Provo, Utah
Grad Info: BA: comparative literature, 2009

N. Kaitlyn Pieper has spent much of her life abroad, primarily within Central Asia and Turkey: she grew up in Kazakhstan, participated in a study abroad to Tajikistan, and was a research scholar with the British Institute at Ankara in Turkey. Pieper speaks Russian, Turkish, and Persian. In her current role, she works across time zones participating in worldwide conferences while also hosting a wide range of law and religion experts in Provo.

Pieper enjoyed living abroad and intends to return to that lifestyle someday, but she explained that it was lonelier than expected. "Expatriates at first go into it thinking that it is going to be a huge adventure, and they are going to save the world," she said. "In general, though, life takes a lot more effort, and it is overall harder than expected." Pieper spent most of her days haggling in a foreign language, buying items at the market, or waiting for the city to turn the water back on.

A lot of foreigners are shocked at how different native culture is from their own, Pieper noted. "We are all human, but sometimes people operate on radically different assumptions about the way the world works and the way life works," she indicated. "There are some crucial differences and opposing belief systems and ideologies underneath the surface between each group of people."

In Tajikistan, for example, in order to be a respectful guest the visitor is supposed to decline a favor or offering before accepting it, as a matter of courtesy. If a visitor answers too fast and says, "Yes, I'd love some," without going through the appropriate colloquial dance, the visitor is seen as being grabby.

But the people Pieper encountered in Central Asia and Turkey were extremely hospitable—something Pieper said really helped make her international experience much more enjoyable and countered some of the effort required for daily living.

When you are friends with a circle of expats, your friends become a lot more transient because everyone is moving around a lot.

—CHANNING HANCOCK

A Two-Edged Sword

Name: Channing H. Hancock
Country: Singapore
Role: Business Lead, Facebook, Asia Pacific, Singapore
Grad Info: BS: bioinformatics, 2012

Channing H. Hancock, who has lived in Singapore for the past three years, noted that while Singapore is a lot more Western than other parts of Asia, there are still adjustments that have to be made to live there.

"Being an expat is a double-edged sword," Hancock said. "Being far away from your family is hard, but it also means you are closer to people at church and have more opportunities to travel to exciting places. Here people shop more frequently and have smaller fridges, and if you adapt to that you are fine. If you approach it with American expectations, you will be disappointed."

The ability to adapt to local culture and to have a sense of independence is imperative, Hancock cautioned. Asian companies have a different work culture and sense of morality. "Even if you served a mission in an Asian country, it is a very different experience to work there," she noted. "For example, in China the concept of IP theft isn't really there. Your manager might ask you to do things that you consider wrong, but your manager won't see it that way. They just have different concepts of integrity and morality."

And as business becomes more international, there is less "padding," such as money provided by the company for housing and other expenses. "Expat packages are becoming increasingly less common. Gone are the days where you would expect to have an expat package, unless you are someone senior in the company," she said.

Establishing roots with other expats can also be difficult because the majority of them live in the country for only six-month to two-year stays, Hancock said. "When you are friends with a circle of expats, your friends become a lot more transient because everyone is moving around a lot." ■

IS RUSSIA PART OF ASIA?

Geographically Russia is part of both Asia and Europe—extending all the way to the Pacific Ocean. Paul Cox said, "I vividly remember being in Khabarovsk, Russia, for meetings way out in Siberia and looking across the border into China and thinking, 'Northern China is Southern Siberia and just as cold!'"

Demographically, almost 80 percent of the Russian population lives west of the Ural Mountains, which are sometimes used as a proxy between Europe and Asia. "There is definitely an Asian influence in Moscow," Cox said, "but the influence goes back at least to the days of Genghis Khan and the time when almost all of Russia was ruled by Mongolians and Tartars."

About the Author

Sara Jarman received a BA in political science and a minor in Russian in 2013 from BYU. Jarman also participated in BYU Model United Nations in 2009 and 2010. She is a contributor to KSL.com, a content marketer for several companies, and the author of Elephants on the Rampage: The Eclipse of Conservatism in America. *She is currently a student at BYU's J. Reuben Clark Law School.*

A Journey of a Thousand Miles

Photography by Brianna Vail

This past April, Su Ge, who received his MA in American studies from the Kennedy Center and PhD in American history with a minor in international relations from BYU in 1984 and 1987, respectively, returned to campus to receive a doctorate of international leadership, honoris causa. Ge stopped by the Kennedy Center, where Cory Leonard interviewed him for this special issue of Bridges Alumni Magazine. *He currently serves in an academic post as president of the China Institute of International Studies.*

Welcome back to Provo, a place you already know well.
Thank you very much. It is an honor to be back on campus—a place that reminds me of Qinghai Province, in China's northwest, where I grew up, due to its distinctive environment and beautiful natural setting. I have many fond memories of my time living and studying in Utah.

Your experiences in higher education, diplomacy, and policy have been notable. How have you approached thinking about your career path?
My aim has been to study first and then to render services to society, just like the BYU motto says: "Enter to learn; go forth to serve." Before anything else, however, it seems to me that one needs to be a good person, to be righteous and upright. In my case, I have tried to do every job with all my heart and with full dedication.

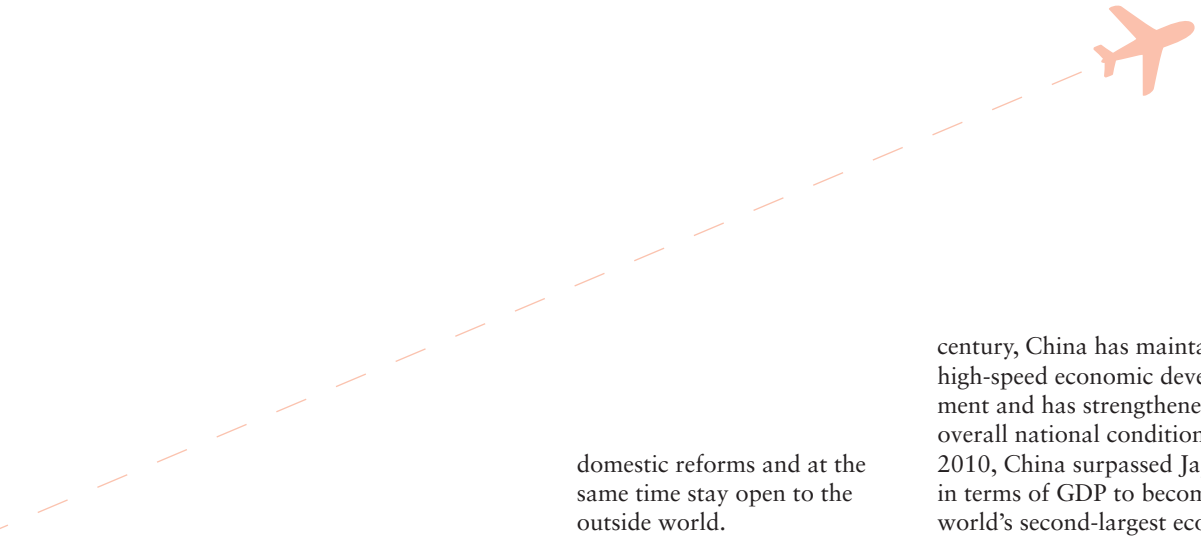
Why did you first come to Utah?
In 1982, I came to Brigham Young University as a visiting scholar. I taught Chinese at the College of Humanities. A year later, I wished to pursue graduate studies at the Kennedy Center and became one of the first students to receive a scholarship here from the People's Republic of China following the normalization of U.S.–China diplomatic relations. BYU is my alma mater, or what we call the "mother school" in Chinese.

Your daughter is also a Kennedy Center graduate?
Yes, my wife, Li Jing, and my daughter, Su Jin, joined me in Provo when I was studying for my degrees. After I had completed a postdoctoral appointment at Harvard University, the whole family returned to China in 1988. I taught as a professor at the Foreign Affairs College in Beijing. Later Su Jin grew up and wanted to study at BYU. She eventually graduated in 2002 from the Kennedy Center with a degree in international studies and an emphasis in global economy. So you can say that we are all proud Cougars and students of international affairs.

Who were some of your professors?
Coming to mind is a microcosm of BYU faculty, including Erlend Peterson, Todd Britsch, Frank Fox, and Paul Hyer. Also, I want to include Marshall Craig, Briant Jacobs, Ray Hillam, Spencer Palmer, and others who have passed away but will forever live in my heart. Last but not least is Neil York, the mentor for both my MA and PhD programs. All in all, my heartfelt appreciation goes to my alma mater.

What were some of your reasons for studying at the Kennedy Center?
There is a Chinese saying that "stones in other hills may serve to polish the jade of this one." I was interested in looking closely at the stages of U.S development and hopefully finding some reference points for China's modernization program and growth. I wanted to explore issues such as American

One should keep a moral bottom line in life and professional standards at work.



modernization, urbanization, and technological growth. I was very much interested in how the United States had surpassed various hurdles in different historical stages—for instance, how the United States addressed pollution in the Great Lakes region. The golden spike in the transcontinental railroad is located here in Utah, and that represented an important step in linking the country's east and west coasts. I also wanted to find out how education had contributed to the American development and so on by exploring lessons from the past of the United States. Not every experience was positive, but I learned a great deal and used this work in my master's thesis. My later PhD work was on diplomatic history and international relations.

How has your perspective on China's growth changed throughout your professional experience?
China owes a lot to the outside world. The country owes fast growth to its openness that came through the era of modernization of Deng Xiaoping. We have to keep working on domestic reforms and at the same time stay open to the outside world.

In doing so we must avoid two traps: The first is the middle-income trap. We are at roughly $8,000 per capita GDP right now, and the challenge is to maintain a balance in economic development and sustainable growth.

The other is the Thucydides Trap, which is based on the dangers that occur when a rising power rivals the status quo power. We see how this played out historically with Athens and Sparta in ancient Greece. In this new century, it is vitally important for the United States and China to build up a new type of relationship between major countries based on nonconfrontation, mutual respect, and win-win outcomes. The two important countries must enhance strategic trust and manage differences so as to broaden cooperation and avoid confrontation.

What else do you see as key to our understanding of China's rise?
China made a major historic choice to develop its economy, carry out reform, and open itself up in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Since the beginning of the twenty-first century, China has maintained high-speed economic development and has strengthened its overall national conditions. In 2010, China surpassed Japan in terms of GDP to become the world's second-largest economy. Nevertheless, China's per capita GDP still ranks roughly at eightieth in the world due to its huge population. Therefore, China is still a developing country. China does not shirk its duties and obligations corresponding with its international status as a major country, but it should act according to its ability and not overreach. Peace and development are the two main objectives for China.

In 2003 you entered diplomacy. What did you learn from that experience?
In 2003 I was appointed minister counselor at the Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC, and I afterward served as the ambassador of China to the Republic of Suriname and the Republic of Iceland until 2013. From then I served as an advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the People's Republic of China until 2015, when I took my current position.

My earlier graduate studies laid an academic foundation and provided me with basic knowledge of international relations. During actual diplomatic work, I learned the need for and realized the importance of constructing international relations

Personal righteousness, responsibility, discipline, and perserverance are requirements for the final success.

on the basis of a convergence of national interests. Diplomacy contains a set of hard-core principles, but at the same time it is an art to seek compromise. Following the world financial crisis in 2008, three undertakings cemented Iceland–China relations: currency swap, geothermal cooperation, and the free trade agreement. This shows that countries need in-depth understanding and inclusive cooperation. The individual diplomat must constantly broaden his or her horizons and adapt to constant change.

What advice do you have to other Chinese students thinking about their futures?
As the Chinese saying goes, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with one single step." High, lofty ideals need to be paralleled with down-to-earth actions. One should keep a moral bottom line in life and professional standards at work. Personal righteousness, responsibility, discipline, and perseverance are requirements for the final success. I firmly believe that BYU is a good place to pursue studies and lay a solid professional foundation for one's future undertaking. I commend it to them as a good choice. ■

More: Read or listen to Su Ge's BYU commencement address at speeches.byu.edu/talks/ge-su_go-forth-serve-5.

AN ASIAN FRAME OF REFERENCE

One thing is clear: we have frequent opportunities to better understand Asia from our perch in Provo. Consider this sampling of a few recent and notable Kennedy Center events that illustrates the intellectual, historical, visual, and programmatic offerings available to curious students, alumni, and scholars to explore and learn about Asia.

The China Dream

Frederick W. Crook

While working in China with the country's Charity Federation of the Ministry of Civil Affairs to implement charity projects, Frederick W. Crook noticed posters appearing in public places—on the sides of buses, on TV monitors, in government buildings—and residential neighborhoods. They ranged in size from 1 1/2 feet square to 30 by 40 feet. Crook began photographing them.

These posters were part of the efforts of Xi Jinping, president of the People's Republic of China, to propagate the Chinese dream. Crook visited BYU on September 9, 2015, to talk about the posters, as well as his photographs of them, and how they speak to the aspirational goals of Chinese leadership for the people.

Crook's collection—with 40,000-plus photos and 45,000 reports spanning sixty years of recent Chinese history (1955–2015)—will soon be housed in the L. Tom Perry Special Collections in the BYU Harold B. Lee Library.

About the Speaker

Crook is president of the China Group, a company that provides quality assessments of China's rural economy. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have worked and served in both the private and public sectors with expertise in Asia. He served as president over the Taiwan Taipei Mission from 1977 to 1979. Crook received a BA magna cum laude in political science and Asian studies from Brigham Young University in 1964 and a PhD from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in 1970.

Memorable Quotes

"America is not the only country with a dream. Understanding China starts with understanding the 'China Dream.'"

"The [dream] is not threatening but calling for a great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation."

The Rise of Modern India

Edward Luce

In his book *In Spite of the Gods: The Rise of Modern India*, Edward Luce provides an insightful view of the economic changes that are taking place in the world's second most-populated country while two-thirds of its populace continue to live in dire poverty. A noted journalist, Luce traveled through India gathering interviews, data, and observations in an investigation of India's struggle for balance between its rising modernity and its cultural traditions.

Intriguing and accessible, Luce's book was selected as the Kennedy Center's Book of the Semester for fall 2015. He lectured to BYU students in the Harold B. Lee Library on November 11, 2015, focusing his remarks on three areas in which India is rising: economically, geopolitically, and politically. Luce also met with students from Orem, Timpview, Mountain View, and Provo High Schools.

> "The richest ethnic group in the United States is Indian Americans, and that fact is not lost on India."

About the Speaker
Luce is the Washington bureau chief for the *Financial Times*. He was the paper's South Asia bureau chief, based in New Delhi, between 2001 and 2006. From 1999 to 2000 he worked under the Clinton administration as the speechwriter for Treasury secretary Larry Summers. Educated at Oxford, Luce now lives in Washington, DC, where he is a regular commentator on U.S. politics.

Memorable Quotes
"Let's talk about the rise of modern India as something other than a headache."

"India's test of its nuclear weapons was done to counterbalance China rather than to make a statement to Pakistan."

Choosing to Be Confucian

Eirik Lang Harris

How can a student correctly choose a sage to follow? Eirik Lang Harris expressed that the worry is not that students are unable to pick out a mentor but that they might not be able to differentiate between a real sage like Xunzi and a fanatic like Osama bin Laden. Grounded in Confucianism and Chinese philosophy, Harris's lecture on April 5, 2016, had broad implications and was widely accessible, leading students to consider the most important qualities of a sound leader.

About the Speaker
Harris is an assistant professor of philosophy at City University of Hong Kong and a member of the Center for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy. He works on political philosophy and ethics in the Chinese tradition as well as on how Chinese philosophy can inform issues of contemporary importance to Western political philosophers and ethicists. Harris has published more than a dozen journal articles, book chapters, and translations, and his recent book, *The Shenzi Fragments: A Philosophical Analysis and Translation*, examines the extant writings of Shen Dao, an early Chinese political thinker in the legalist tradition.

Memorable Quotes
"When choosing moral leaders, consider not only the way they go about achieving goals but the very goals themselves."

"A good sage invites argumentation and questions and allows for opposition."

A Comrade in North Korea

On November 9, 2015, BYU students settled in to watch *Comrade Kim Goes Flying*, a North Korean rom-com made inside the Stalinist state. At the Kennedy Center screening, Nick Bonner, the film's director and producer, answered questions on shooting in Pyongyang and editing the film outside the country, told the movie's backstory, and discussed the film's premise—girl power and following your dreams.

(2012, 81 min., Korean with English subtitles)

Discovering *Walden* in Persia

Alireza Taghdarreh

As early as Iranian Alireza Taghdarreh can remember, one of his grandfathers, a tailor, would recite to him the lines of the Persian poet Rumi. Taghdarreh's maternal grandfather recited for him the words of the Persian poet Saadi. By the time Taghdarreh was ready for higher education, the government of Iran had changed, universities were closed, and music schools were no more. In 1982—with the aid of a $1 pocket radio, *Voice of America*, and the BBC—Taghdarreh taught himself English, recording the broadcasts and listening to the quotations many times to memorize them.

About 150 years after Thoreau praised the great Persian poet Saadi in his masterpiece *Walden*, Taghdarreh read the book and developed a love for Thoreau and his writings. *Walden* became one of the most important books in his life.

Taghdarreh undertook the labor of translating *Walden* into his native Persian—a task others more educated had begun and given up on. Using the Internet, including a *Walden* "list" on Yahoo!, he sought help with English nuances and puns from the most prominent Thoreau scholars. With *Walden* translated into Persian and ready for publication in July 2015, the Thoreau Society and the Thoreau Institute brought Taghdarreh to the United States—his first trip outside of Iran—where he visited Concord, Massachusetts, and Walden Pond, the places where Thoreau and Emerson had read and admired the Persian poets who had always been part of Taghdarreh's life.

Taghdarreh came to BYU on February 10, 2016, and delivered a moving presentation on his experience with *Walden* that left an indelible impression on listeners.

Memorable Quotes

"Poets help encourage us to search for universal truths that can be found across cultures."

"His time in Walden Pond represents Thoreau's thirst for a fulfilled life."

"*Walden* is a difficult text to decipher. I could not have accomplished my studies without the help of other scholars."

Looking Back to 1965

Robert R. King

What is the direct line between the current Special Envoy for North Korea for Human Rights at the U.S. Department of State and a study abroad? It turns out that Ambassador Robert R. King, a graduate of BYU who has spent a career working on foreign policy and human rights issues, got his start on a study abroad to Austria more than fifty years ago. The film short *Origins: BYU Study Abroad 1965* was featured at the fall 2016 President's Leadership Council meetings and reveals one path to Asia that, for King, actually went through Europe.

Memorable Thought

"The experience in Salzburg probably changed my attitudes and ideas—and certainly the career path that I took—more than anything else that I have done.

"In 1965, thanks to my parents' support (and sacrifice), I was able to participate on the Salzburg Program, the first-ever study abroad offered at Brigham Young University. In looking back over my professional journey, I can see how this experience was an important springboard for later opportunities by shaping my decisions and providing me understanding that I never could have received by studying only in Provo.

"I worry that many students are missing out on these kinds of opportunities because they may not be able to afford them. As a result they may sell themselves short—and limit their opportunities to contribute academically, professionally, and even in their church and community service."

Watch the Film and Give Back

To hear more from Ambassador King and see the original hand-lettered photo album from BYU's first study abroad in Salzburg, Austria, visit vimeo.com/154755088. Please also consider giving to the Kennedy Center's new Global Opportunity Scholarship program to help more students study abroad in Asia and elsewhere.

The Word on Street Food

Jeffrey M. Pilcher

Although the field of food history is now well established, cultural analysis has tended to focus on the well-documented foods of the elite, such as court cuisines and fine dining. By contrast, the foods of the lower classes have more often been treated as mere calories, divorced from all consideration of taste or choice. Yet there is ample historical evidence that street foods were a focus of plebeian sociability and pleasure in cities such as Imperial Rome; Kaifeng, China; Tenochtitlan, Mexico; and Edo (Tokyo), Japan.

On February 25, 2016, BYU students got a sneak peak of Jeffrey Pilcher's research project that seeks to recover these popular cuisines of the past.

> "The 'modern omnivore' is someone who eats anything—not just the 'best' food—and is very proud of it."

About the Speaker
A professor of food history at the University of Toronto Scarborough, Pilcher has been a leading figure in the emerging scholarly field of food history. From an early research focus on Mexico and Latin America, he has expanded his scope to food in world history. He is the author of many articles and several books, including *Planet Taco: A Global History of Mexican Food* (2012), *The Sausage Rebellion: Public Health, Private Enterprise*, and *Meat in Mexico City* (2006), *Food in World History* (2006), and *¡Que vivan los tamales! Food and the Making of Mexican Identity* (1998).

Memorable Quotes
"China's Song Dynasty saw the publication of the world's first urban dining guide."

"Studying food can help us see how people make use of resources and bring pleasure to their lives in difficult times."

A Teacher in China

For more than twenty-five years the BYU Kennedy Center has prepared and sent more than 1,500 volunteers to live and teach English in China through the nonprofit outreach China Teachers Program. Firsthand reports from former China teachers reveal the disparate reactions individuals can have to a similar situation at universities from Beijing to Guangzhou. As a result, volunteers embark with an open mind, readiness to learn, and flexibility to deal with this vast, rapidly changing country.

> *"Our teachers have made meaningful engagements since we started in the 1980s."*
>
> *—Jeff Ringer, director*

> *"The Chinese students really want to learn—they're very engaged."*
>
> *— Kim Malan, program facilitator*

Retired educators and professionals under the age of sixty-five with college degrees may be eligible to participate. Contact Kim and Alan Malan, deputy directors, at **china_teachers@byu.edu** or **801-422-5321** for more details.

Big Impact

Asia ranks at the top when it comes to population, land mass, tall buildings, and natural disasters. Asia also ranks high at BYU, where related education and research is an expanding tradition.

Kennedy Center–Funded Asia Research

1. **Niwako Yamawaki, Psychology, Japan, 2015**
   Perceptions of Violence Against Women Among College Students in the U.S., Japan, India Vietnam, China

2. **Pamela R. Hallam, Education, China, 2016**
   The Impact of Various Demographic and Educational Attributes on International Students' Propensity to Trust School Officials

3. **Kristie Seawright, Business Management, Japan, China, Russia, 2012**
   Cross-Cultural Effect in Decision Making

4. **Brian Roberts, English, Indonesia, 2016**
   Indonesian Notebook: A Sourcebook on Robert Wright and the Bandung Conference

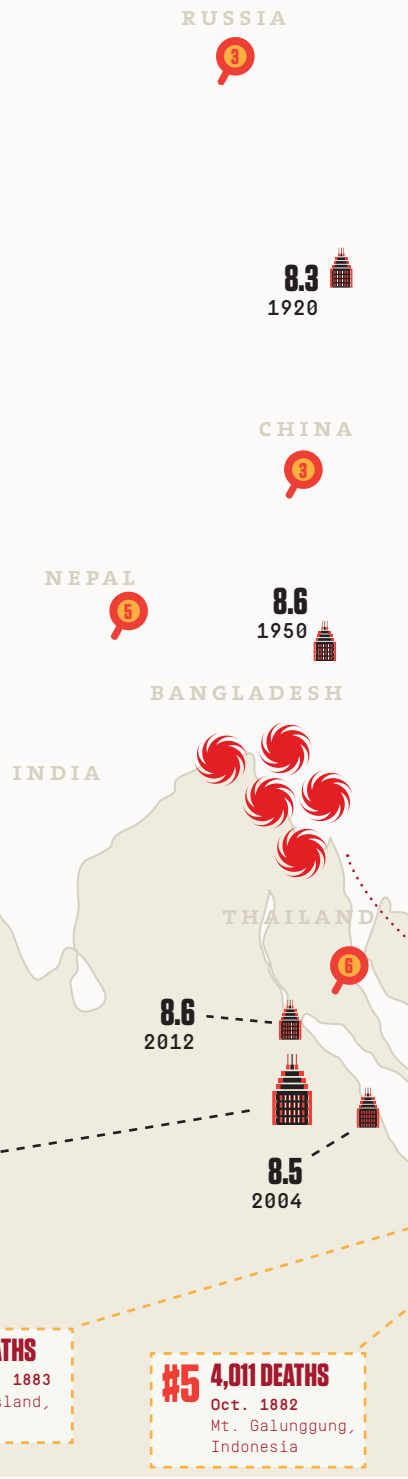
5. **Mark Graham, Visual Arts, Nepal, 2014**
   Buddhist Artistic and Religious Traditions in Nepal

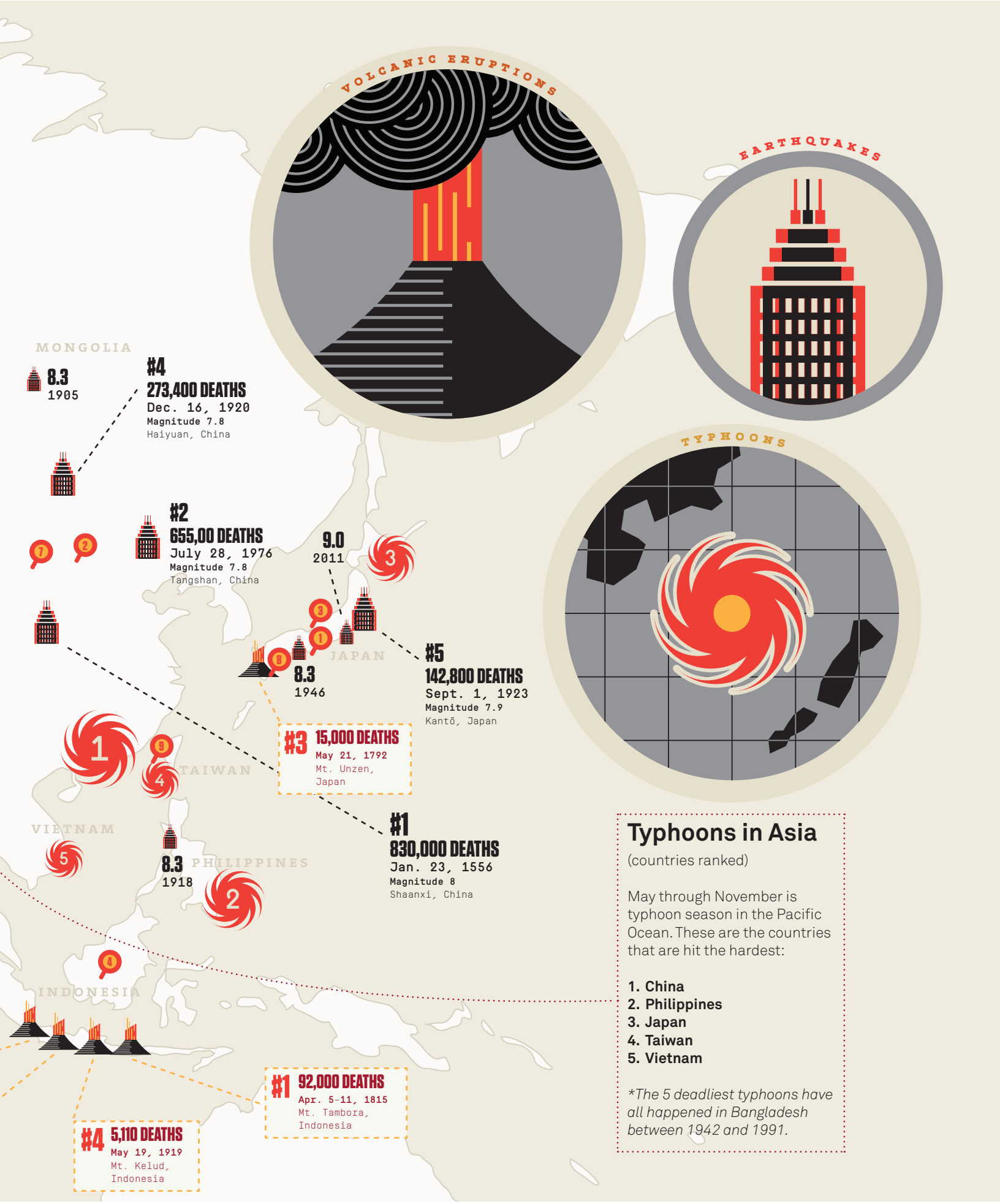
6. **Joel Selway, Political Science, Thailand, 2014**
   The Determinants and Dynamics of National and Ethnoregional Identity Salience

7. **Rick Miller, Family Life, China, 2014**
   The Importance of Strong Marriages and Family in China

8. **Erin Maughan, Nursing, Japan, 2016**
   Guest Binding by Amino Acid Containing Cavitand

9. **Steven Riep, Asian and Near Eastern Languages, Taiwan, 2014**
   Reading Disability in Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature and Visual Culture





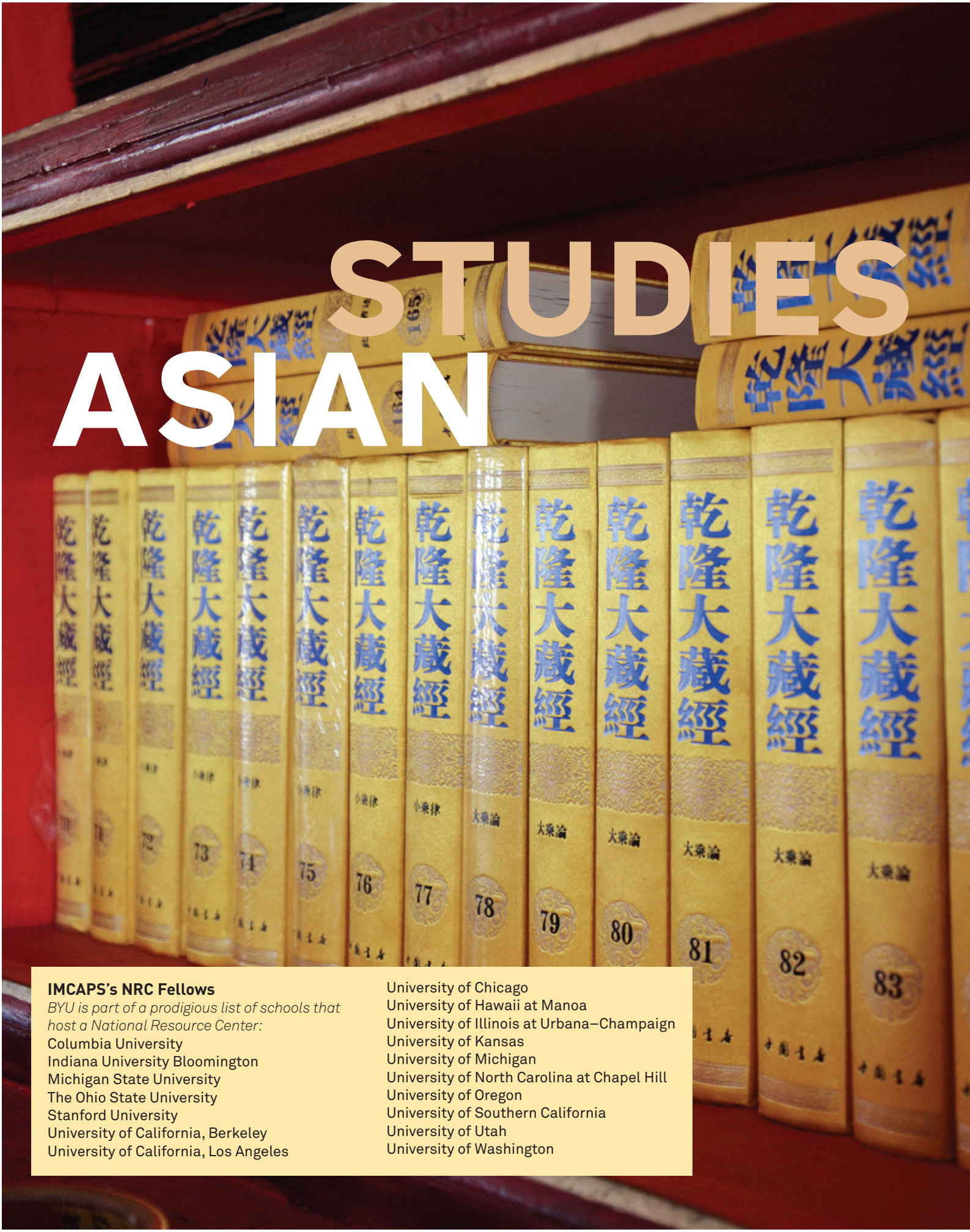
Typhoons in Asia

(countries ranked)

May through November is typhoon season in the Pacific Ocean. These are the countries that are hit the hardest:

1. **China**
2. **Philippines**
3. **Japan**
4. **Taiwan**
5. **Vietnam**

**The 5 deadliest typhoons have all happened in Bangladesh between 1942 and 1991.*



ASIAN STUDIES

IMCAPS's NRC Fellows

BYU is part of a prodigious list of schools that host a National Resource Center:

Columbia University
Indiana University Bloomington
Michigan State University
The Ohio State University
Stanford University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Chicago
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign
University of Kansas
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Southern California
University of Utah
University of Washington

ELEVATED

Eric HYER
Asian studies coordinator

The Asian studies coordinator at BYU's Kennedy Center, Professor Eric Hyer also has a shared responsibility with the university's greatest rival: the University of Utah. Hyer is one of two directors of the Intermountain Consortium for Asian and Pacific Studies (IMCAPS), which is funded by a Title VI grant as a National Resource Center (NRC) and is run by both BYU and the U—turning so-called enemies into collaborators.

Though this grant is usually awarded to a single university, Hyer joined forces with his counterpart at the U, Janet Theiss, to apply for the grant in 2010. It was renewed in 2014.

When IMCAPS originally secured the grant, Theiss stated, "This is the most exciting thing to happen to Asian Studies in this state ever."[1] Hyer appreciates that the U handles most of the administrative side of IMCAPS because it frees him to focus on his favorite part: disbursing funds for programs.

In addition to the Title VI grant, both universities receive Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) monies for student scholarships. BYU receives $234,500 each academic year for FLAS scholarships in addition to an annual 100K from the NRC grant. Hyer noted that since tuition is lower at BYU than at most other universities, he can award more scholarships than other schools can.

"Each year we fully fund about twenty-five students and give summer scholarships to six or seven students for intensive language study abroad," he said. "FLAS is the most gratifying grant since it feels so good to tell students we can give them a scholarship to cover tuition and a generous stipend."

The NRC grant also provides opportunities for students to study less-commonly taught languages (LCTLs) on campus. "The NRC grant is great to fund teachers for LCTLs like Indonesian, Hindi, Thai, etc.," Hyer stated. The grant allows the university to offer these classes consistently, even if few students register. This is a boon, since returned missionaries create a high demand for LCTLs at BYU. "BYU offers more of these LCTLs than most any other university in the United States," said Hyer.

Other benefits of the NRC grant include helping BYU expand its Asian library collection, teaching workshops in the community, and funding cultural performances.

Note

1. *Quoted in Brian Maffly, "Rival Schools Join Hands to Win Major Grant,"* Salt Lake Tribune, *7 September 2010.*

About the Coordinator

Hyer, an associate professor of political science at BYU, researches China's foreign relations with its neighbors. He has published many articles about China's arms sales, territorial disputes, and nationalities issues. His first book, *The Pragmatic Dragon: China's Grand Strategy and Boundary Settlements,* was published last year. He is also coproducer of two documentaries: *From the Masses to the Masses: An Artist in Mao's China* (2005) and *Helen Foster Snow: Witness to Revolution* (2000). ■

BYU's Asian Cultural Offerings

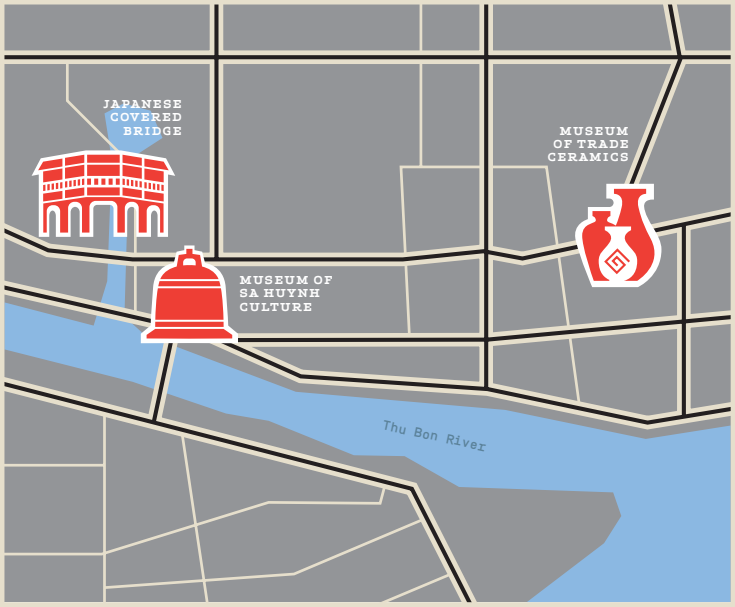
IMCAPS has enabled BYU to provide lectures, symposia, conferences, museum exhibits, film series, and fine arts performances focused on Asia: One exhibit at BYU's Museum of Art showcased Indian and Pakistani quilts while another combined with a BYU symposium to highlight the imagery and faith of Hindu worship. BYU hosted part of a lecture series called "Walk in U.S., Talk on Japan," which was coordinated by Jeanette Misaka of the Japanese American Citizens League in Salt Lake City. Chinese filmmaker Zhao Qi screened his documentary *The Chinese Mayor*—which details the destruction and reconstruction of the Chinese city Datong—at BYU while he was in the state for the Sundance Film Festival. The grant has also brought a variety of performances to campus, such as Shanghai acrobats, classical Chinese music, and Mongolian singers.

NRC Grant at Work

BYU's annual portion of the grant benefits the following BYU programs: the Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages, which teaches Chinese, Japanese, and Korean; the Center for Language Studies, which teaches Cebuano, Hindi, Indonesian, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese; the Kennedy Center; Asian library acquisitions; and the Asian studies program. In addition, the grant supports a series of workshops, such as topical workshops for faculty, a 2016 curriculum workshop on Islam in Asia, and pedagogy and curriculum workshops provided to Utah Valley University and local community colleges. The grant is also helping develop BYU courses on new religious movements, Southeast Asian music, and economic and social mobilization in Southeast Asia.

Travel: Uncovering Asia's Hidden Gems

With more to see and do in Asia than any one person ever could, planning a vacation to Asia can be daunting. Here are a few recommendations to help you have the best experience on your next voyage east.



HỘI AN, VIETNAM

Ten Must-See Cities

1. Hội An, Vietnam ▸

A major fifteenth-century trading port, Hội An maintains an easy-going provincial demeanor. The city is currently recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

2. Chiang Mai, Thailand

Chiang Mai is home to the famous Night Bazaar, which runs approximately 1 kilometer down the city's street Thanon Chang Khlan. The bazaar is open every day of the year, regardless of the weather, from dusk until midnight. Each February a flower festival, in which floral installations adorn streets and paths, also draws visitors.

Shenzhen, China

◂ 3. Shenzhen, China

With more than twenty free public parks and several theme parks, Shenzhen makes for a good day trip from Hong Kong. It is also known as one of China's wealthiest cities.

4. Chengdu, China

This city is home to the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, a popular destination for panda lovers. There are currently 120 giant pandas and 76 red pandas at the facility.

5. Lijiang and Shangri-La, China

Because these cities are so close to each other, travelers often take a day trip to one while lodging in the other. Shangri-La is known for its rich natural resources and untouched historical relics and is often depicted as mystical. Lijiang offers quaint walks through Old Town, where there is a bonfire every evening on the central plaza, Si Fang Jie.

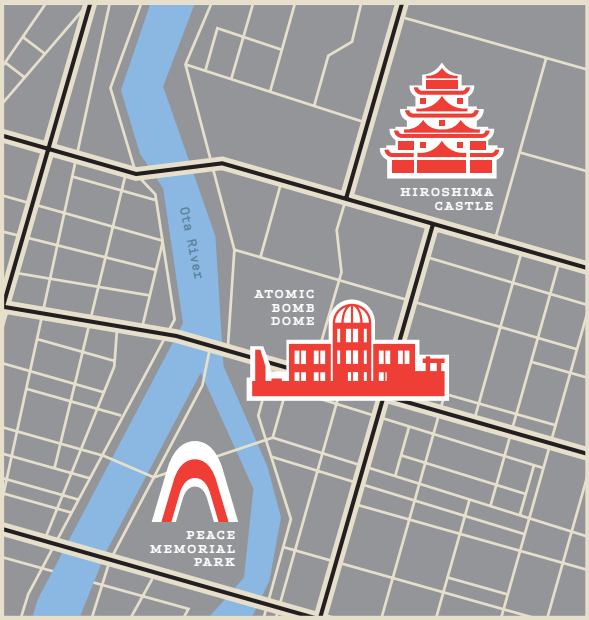
6. Sa Pa, Vietnam

A city that overlooks a plunging valley with towering mountains surrounding it, Sa Pa is known for its epic scenery—even though most of the landscape is constantly shrouded in mist. The city is recognized as the tourist capital of northwest Vietnam.

7. Kandy, Sri Lanka ▸

Kandy is set in rain-forested hills known for the Temple of the Tooth. There are several tea plantations nearby, as well as the famous Sigiriya, an ancient rock where a prominent king once built his palace.

Kandy, Sri Lanka



HIROSHIMA, JAPAN

8. Penang, Malaysia
Although it's off the beaten path and not as touristy as some other cities, Penang is known for being home to the best Malaysian food.

◀ 9. Hiroshima, Japan
There is so much to see in this city, such as the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and Museum, Hiroshima Castle, Shukkei-en garden, Hiroshima Gokoku Shrine, and Hondori shopping promenade. Miyajima, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, is also a short distance away, making Hiroshima a perfect day trip for visitors to Osaka and Kyoto (both about 90 minutes by bullet train).

10. Bali, Indonesia
A top destination, the island of Bali is lined with beautiful beaches and packed with rich culture. The villages of Kuta and Sanur are filled with affordable resort hotels, and Ubud is a vibrant, walkable town with tasty food, great shopping, and Balinese gamelan music and dancing every night at several nearby palaces and temples.

Note: Please check State Department Travel Advisories before you go. Travel to some of these locations are limited to BYU faculty and students.

Budget Asian Hotels
(price per night)

Days Inn Forbidden City, Beijing, China ($60+)
The Salisbury—YMCA, Hong Kong ($130+)
Besakih Beach Hotel, Sanur, Bali, Indonesia ($80+) ▼
Toyoko Inn, Japan: This chain of business hotels provides consistent standards and amenities. The hotels are usually always close to a major train station and provide a traditional Japanese breakfast. ($80+)

*Agoda.com, a Thai company, is the best site for finding economical accommodations in Asia.

Ritzy Asian Hotels
(price per night)

The Upper House, Hong Kong ($440+)
The Ritz-Carlton, Hong Kong ($440+)
The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra, India ($395+)
Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur, India ($425+)
The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, Mumbai, India ($180+) ▼
Taj Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur, India ($395+)
Park Hyatt, Tokyo, Japan ($500+)
Capella Singapore, Singapore ($470+)
Marina Bay Sands, Singapore ($345+)
Raffles Hotel, Singapore ($445+)
Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok, Thailand ($330+)
W Bangkok Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand ($135+)
InterContinental Da Nang Sun Peninsula Resort, Da Nang, Vietnam ($370+)

Lecture Spotlights

Studying Tambora

Gillen D'Arcy Wood did not know he would write the cross-disciplinary book *Tambora: The Eruption That Changed the World* when he walked into an undergraduate class about atmospheric science, but that experience sent him across the globe for stories of those affected by the eruption of the volcano in the summer of 1815.

In his September 23, 2015, lecture—two hundred years after the eruption—Wood shared several of the years-long global effects of the eruption on people and literature and the current narrow-mindedness in research and education that prevents valuable inter-disciplinary study.

Wood shared some of the weather anomalies that followed the eruption, such as melting arctic ice, storms in Western Europe, droughts in North America, and worldwide global cooling. Called "the year without a summer," 1816 is notable to Latter-day Saints because of the post-Tambora cold-induced crop failures in Vermont that caused Joseph Smith Sr. to move his family to New York.

Several literary and historical figures were also affected by the extreme weather, including Mary Shelley, author of *Frankenstein*. Shelley began writing the book due to a ghost story contest held when she and her companions were trapped inside by post-Tambora storms. Lord Byron was also inspired to write his apocalyptic poem "Darkness," which he wrote on a pitch-black day when the sun never appeared to rise due to thick clouds of volcanic ash.

Wood had wondered why no story of the worldwide effects of Tambora had ever been written, and he answered his own question: "The written archive is fragmented and distributed around the globe and often unrecognized. So you need to be the hammer looking for that nail; you need to be searching specifically in this time-period for words that are related [to the effects of Tambora]."

Books like *Tambora* are not usually written, because writing them not only requires knowing where to look but also interdisciplinary study—such as the study of historic weather patterns in conjunction with historic literature. Wood explained that our educational model is one of expertise, in which we specialize in only one subject. "I think in this century what's important is to alter that paradigm and [have] a model of . . . competence in a subject, rather than mastery," he said. "I forced myself out of my comfort zone and into working in other disciplines and walking into rooms where I knew much less than anyone else in that room. I think that's very important."

A Hip-Hop Tour of China

Andrew Hamilton Dougherty, China economist and Asia research director for Capital Strategy Research (who often travels to China to do his research on-site), gave his first "rapture" (rap lecture) to a BYU audience on February 3, 2016. Dougherty entitled this presentation "Hamilton in China"—a play on his middle name and the recent Broadway political rap-musical *Hamilton*. His raps gave a frank—and sometimes irreverent—look at China's greatest challenges in the wake of its rapid economic reform.

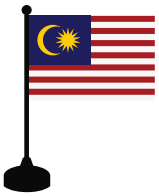
Dougherty rapped about China's politics using tunes of popular songs. Some examples include "We Love Our FAI" ("I Love the Way You Lie"), "Real Leader" ("Cheerleader"), and "Magic" ("I've Got the Magic in Me"). He entertained and informed the audience with lines such as "Old Chinese guys everywhere. They haven't lost one strand of their well-coiffed jet-black hair"; "They had their eyes single to the glory of keeping the CCP alive"; and "I've got the magic in me. Every time I issue debt it turns the GDP." Though the audience may have been learning about Chinese politics and macroeconomics, they weren't sitting through it: they stood and danced and clapped.

Following the rapture, Dougherty answered questions. When asked about the slowing Chinese economy, he opined that the global market often overreacts to China devaluing its currency. "The [economy's] fundamentals—although they're slowing—haven't fallen off a cliff," he said.

When asked "What kind of response [do] you get in China to some of this stuff, and are you worried about your visa?" Dougherty responded that he is not very worried, even with his videos available on YouTube all over the world. "The Chinese government has a lot to deal with. [The videos are] in English and can't be accessed onshore without a VPN. One I waited to post for three years, but then I thought, 'They don't really care about this stuff.' If I lose my visa, I'll be a teaching assistant or something," he joked.

The Malaysian Economy and the ASEAN Economic Community

September 2, 2015
His Excellency Awang Adek Hussin, Malaysian ambassador to the United States



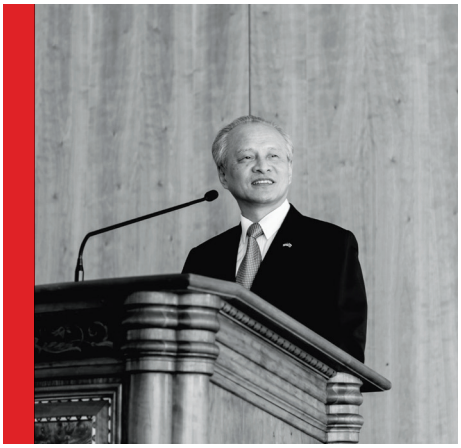
Vietnam–U.S. Relations: Two Decades of Robust Growth and the Way Forward

November 5, 2015
His Excellency Pham Quang Vinh, Vietnamese ambassador to the United States

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER



China–U.S. Relations

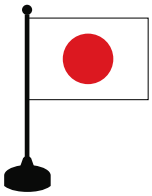
October 6, 2015
His Excellency Cui Tiankai, Chinese ambassador to the United States

The United States' Evolving Role in Asia

October 15, 2015
His Excellency Ashok Kumar Mirpuri, Singaporean ambassador to the United States

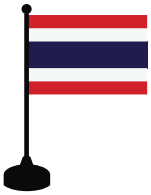
Walk in U.S., Talk on Japan

November 13, 2015
Delegation: Honorable Ken Shimanouchi, former Japanese ambassador to Spain and Brazil; Norimichi Hayashi, former employee, Itochu Corporation and Kurita Waters Industries; Akemi Takayama, former employee, Bank of Tokyo, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Deutsche Bank, and Kumon Leysin Academy of Switzerland; Michiko Iwanami, researcher, Sojitz Research Institute Ltd.; Kyoko Shibata, credit officer, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation



Thailand: Gateway to ASEAN

February 4, 2016
His Excellency Pisan Manawapat, Thai ambassador to the United States



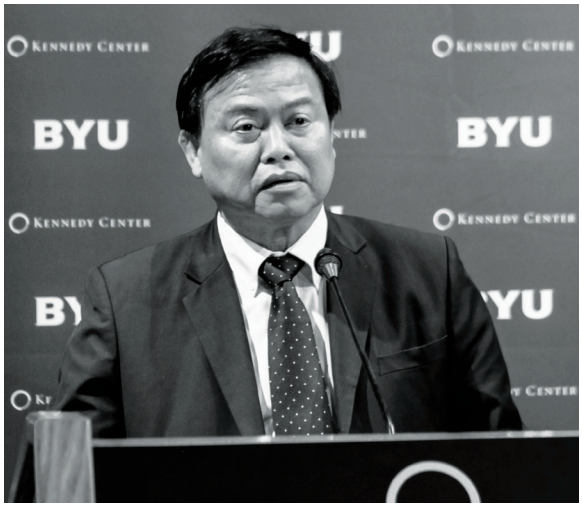
The Korean Peninsula and China's Balancing Act

March 30, 2016
Kirk Larsen, associate professor of history, BYU, and assistant director, Kennedy Center; Douglas H. Paal, vice president for studies, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL

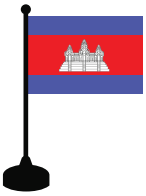
India–U.S. Partnership: Shared Effort—Progress for All

March 2, 2016
His Excellency Arun Kumar Singh, Indian ambassador to the United States



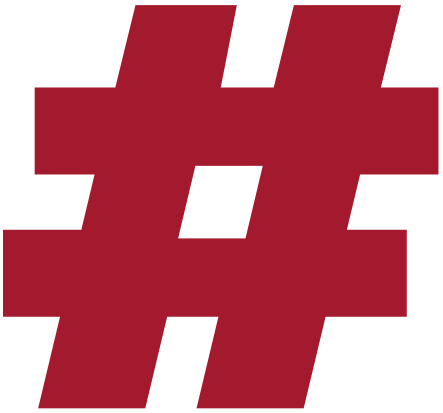
Current Cambodia–U.S. Relations

March 3, 2015
His Excellency Chum Bun Rong, Cambodian ambassador to the United States and Mexico



@johnhiltoniii
Attending what promises to be an interesting lecture on China. Surprising how few ppl know the name of China's current leader. #kennedylive

@rightcalf1
Listening to Alireza Tagdarreh talk about his translation of Thoreau and reciting Rumi in Persian. #kennedylive



@BYUKennedyCtr
For China and India, foreign aid should benefit both the recipient AND giver; in the West, aid is viewed as more humanitarian. #kennedylive

@corywleonard Luce: "I can't overstate how fast the change in world power is occurring." @MoisesNaim #townhall #kennedylive

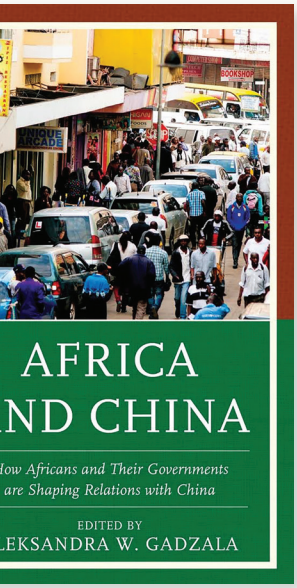
@BYUKennedyCtr
Awang Adek: Q: Will ASEAN mirror the EU in its political development as well as economic integration? A: Not likely. Politics are more complicated. #kennedylive

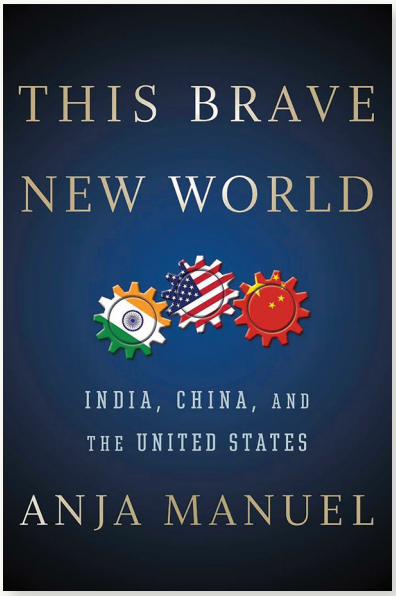
@corywleonard
Ed Luce: Doesn't worry about China overtaking the U.S. b/c of global alliances + a universal model of citizenship. #kennedylive #townhall

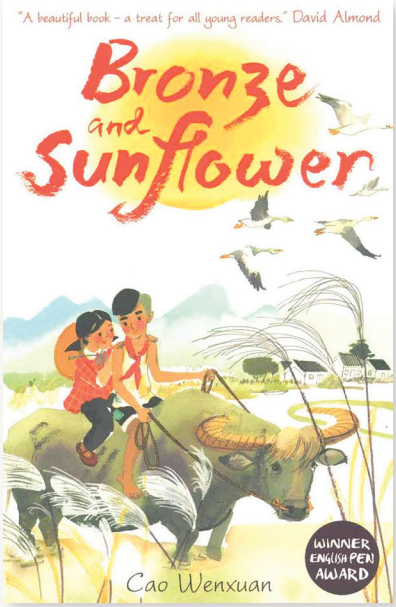
@BYUTop
Rapping economist (that's right!) Andrew Dougherty on #china #economy @BYUKennedyCtr byuradio.org/listen #kennedylive

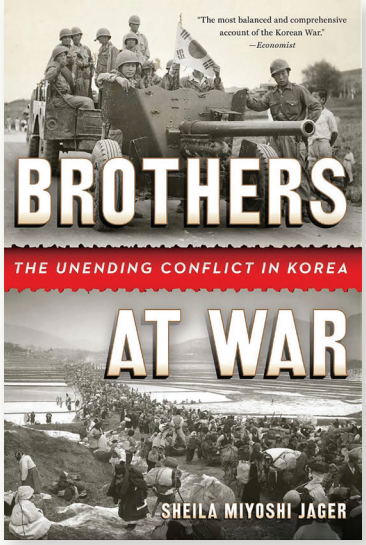
Recommended Reads

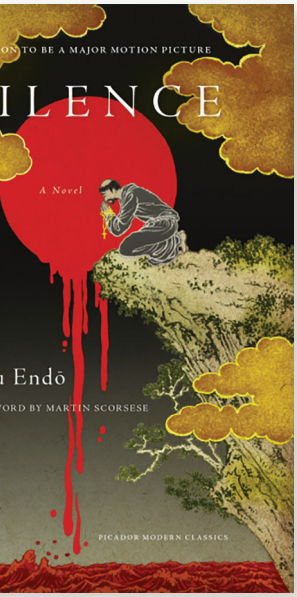
from the Asian Studies Faculty

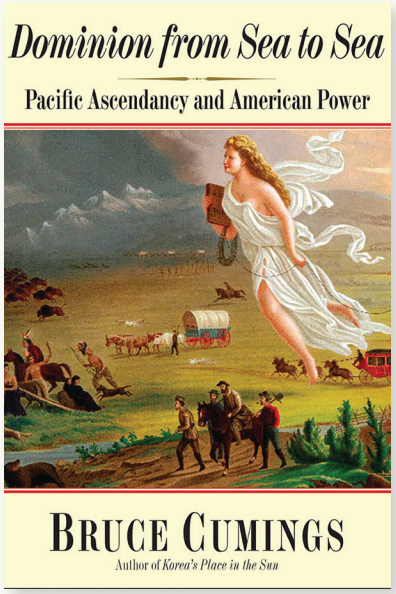


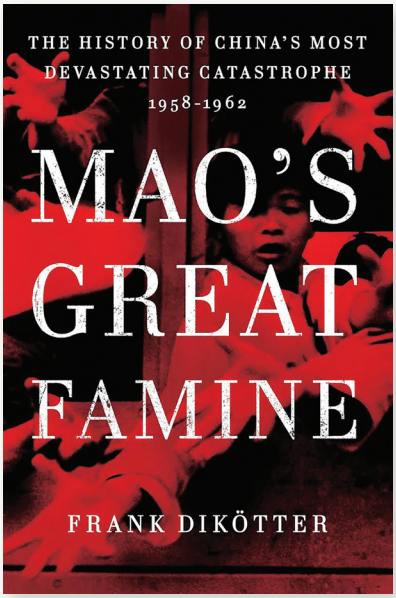


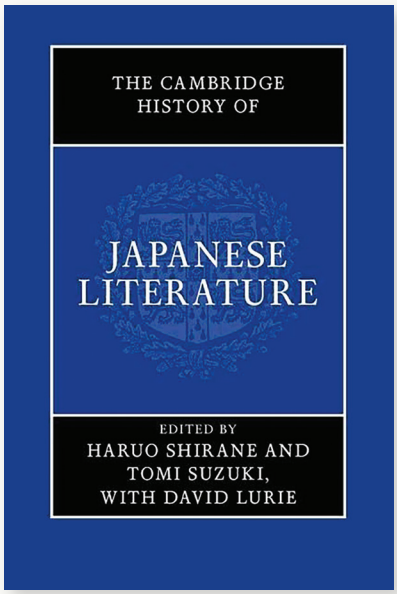


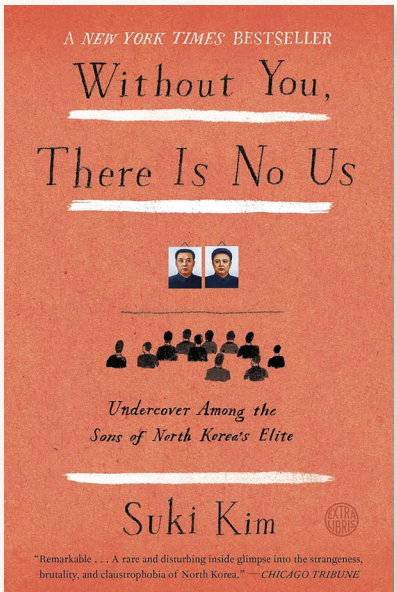












Africa and China: How Africans and Their Governments Are Shaping Relations with China
edited by Aleksandra W. Gadzala

The China–Africa relationship is one of the most dynamic international political-economic relationships in the world today. The West often depicts it as neocolonial, with China controlling the agenda, but African governments and entrepreneurs are learning to negotiate and leverage their comparative advantages.

Brothers at War: The Unending Conflict in Korea
by Sheila Miyoshi Jager

In this book Jager discusses the latest scholarship on the Korean War and skillfully covers the origins of the war, the events on the battlefield, and the decades-long legacies of the conflict, many of which we still grapple with today.

Dominion from Sea to Sea: Pacific Ascendancy and American Power
by Bruce Cumings

Accessible to a general audience, this wide-ranging academic book is full of fascinating stories of the American West and the Pacific. It challenges the Atlanticist emphasis of many treatments of U.S. history and shows how the United States gained great competitive advantage because of its position as an Indo-Pacific power.

Without You, There Is No Us: My Time with the Sons of North Korea's Elite
by Suki Kim

This is a haunting memoir by Kim, who taught English to the sons of North Korea's ruling class during the last six months of Kim Jong-il's reign. She ate three meals a day with her young charges and struggled to teach them at Pyongyang University of Science and Technology, an elite school mostly staffed by evangelical Christian missionaries working under the watchful eye of the regime.

This Brave New World: India, China, and the United States
by Anja Manuel

The India–United States–China triangle is becoming the fulcrum of world politics, but it is fraught with challenges. Written by someone with a view from inside the U.S. government, this book explores how these three powers have vastly different political cultures and national interests and asserts that cooperation is essential to a sustainable, prosperous, and peaceful world.

Silence
by Shūsaku Endō, translated by William Johnston

This 1966 historical fiction novel is regarded as the masterpiece of renowned Christian Japanese author Shūsaku Endō. It tells the story of a Portuguese Jesuit priest in seventeenth-century Japan during the persecution of the Japanese Christian community. It is a must-read for understanding Christianity in Japan and is a powerful examination of faith. BYU professor of Japanese literature Van Gessel worked as the literary consultant for Martin Scorsese's film adaptation, which will be released in January 2017.

Mao's Great Famine: The History of China's Most Devastating Catastrophe, 1958–1962
by Frank Dikötter

Utilizing previously inaccessible Chinese Communist Party archives, Frank Dikötter paints a horrifying portrait of the Great Leap Forward—Mao's effort to make China into a communist utopia—which resulted in the largest man-made famine in history. Though not pleasant reading, it is important for understanding China's tortured history.

Bronze and Sunflower
by Cao Wenxuan, translated by Helen Wang

Cao Wenxuan is China's preeminent author of children's literature and the first Chinese recipient of the Hans Christian Andersen Award, the highest international recognition for children's literature. This heartwarming and heartbreaking story for all ages tells of a young girl who is banished with her father to the Chinese countryside, where he dies and she is adopted by a peasant family. The book provides a valuable look at Chinese life and culture.

China's Hidden Children: Abandonment, Adoption, and the Human Costs of the One-Child Policy
by Kay Ann Johnson

Since China instituted the one-child policy in 1978, approximately 120,000 children, mostly girls, have been adopted around the world—including 85,000 in the United States. Johnson's research shows that most Chinese parents would have preferred to raise their daughters despite their cultural preference for a son. This book looks at the complex social and cultural implications of this devastating social experiment.

The Cambridge History of Japanese Literature
edited by Haruo Shirane, Tomi Suzuki, and David Lurie

This tome represents the best scholarship on a broad sweep of Japanese literature, covering dozens of topics, works, and authors.

Alumni Update

'85

DAVID A. MARSDEN is a representative at the U.S. Department of State, which manages the country's international relations. Marsden works closely within his original area of study. He currently lives in Saint Charles, Illinois. *BA: international relations, 1985*

'92

PAUL B. HYDE is the manager of international operations for inthinc Technology Solutions Inc., a Salt Lake City–based telematics company dedicated to safe driving that sells driver monitoring and coaching systems to fleets all over the world, including in North and South America and Europe. The company's systems are also installed in all NASCAR race cars. *BA: international relations, 1992; MBA: 1997*

'96

ADAM D. FORD is the general counsel at ZYTO Technologies, a biocommunication company that develops software and hardware to monitor personal health. Ford received a JD from Duke University School of Law in 2001 and completed an intensive course in Arabic at the Defense Language Institute in 1998. *BA: international relations, 1996*

'98

TREVOR L. MOULTON is the district manager for the greater San Diego area at Expeditors International of Washington Inc. A Fortune 500 company with a presence on six continents, Expeditors is an international trade logistics company that oversees international shipping. *BA: international studies, 1998*

'99

SHANE C. JACOBS is the strategic relationship manager at OpenWorks facility services, a cleaning and maintenance company based in Phoenix, Arizona. Jacobs previously worked as director of business development for Sodexo. He received an MBA in international business from the Thunderbird School of Global Management at Arizona State University in 2004. *BA: international relations; minor: French, 1999*

'03

MARIANNE S. ZAUGG is the customer service specialist for Allsop Inc., an international business that manufactures computer and garden accessories as well as bike racks. Zaugg previously worked for the Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services and the Utah Department of Workforce Services. *BA: international studies, 2003*

'04

SARAH M. STEVENS is a small business consultant and the U.S. representative for Optimal Workshop, a suite of usability tools to help designers make their websites user friendly. Stevens has worked with several small businesses and has been involved with online usability research tools since 2007. *BAs: international relations and linguistics; minor: Asian studies, 2004*

'06

BRADY MUGLESTON is the director of auxiliary services at Yakima Valley Community College in Washington. Mugleston has lived in Germany, Argentina, and Saudi Arabia. He received an MBA in commerce from Texas A&M University in 2015 and is fluent in Spanish. *BA: Latin American studies, 2006*

'09

DAVID JAYNES is an attorney in the West Valley City prosecutor's office. Previously Jaynes worked as a litigation law clerk for three firms. He received a JD in international and comparative law from the George Washington University Law School in 2014 and is proficient in Arabic. *BA: Middle Eastern studies/Arabic, 2009*

'11

JACOB M. ANDERSEN is the director of international sales for Rustica Hardware, a company based in Springville, Utah, that sells barn doors, hardware, and home décor. Andersen previously worked as an international sales manager for Goal Zero LLC. He speaks Swedish and Arabic. *BA: Middle East studies/Arabic; minor: business, 2011*

'13

JOSHUA R. DENNIS is a deputy sheriff in Franklin County, Washington. His jurisdiction covers the Richland, Kennewick, and Pasco areas. He previously served as a police officer for the Kennewick Police Department and as director of marketing for Saratoga Smiles. Dennis is fluent in Spanish. *BA: international relations; minor: Spanish, 2013*

'14

DAVID WESTLEY COVEY works in global licensing for SMCOV, a consulting, training, and coaching company he founded with Stephan Mardyks. Covey speaks—in order of highest fluency—Spanish, Portuguese, and French. *BA: international relations, 2014*

LUCAS C. MILLER is the founder, CEO, head copywriter, and managing content marketer at Echelon Copy LLC, a company based in Provo that focuses on copywriter collaboration in addition to writing promotional content. Miller previously worked as a branded-content writer at Fusion 360, an ad agency in Salt Lake City. *BAs: Latin American studies and Spanish, 2014*

JAIN E. WILLIS is an administrative assistant at the Refugee and Immigrant Center—part of the Asian Association of Utah. The center is a nonprofit organization that aims to help immigrants and refugees from all over the world become self-sufficient in the United States. Willis administers the center's database, manages its Facebook page, and assists in fundraising. *BA: Asian studies, 2014*

'15

EMMA WATKINS is an account manager for Arena Communications, a Salt Lake City–based company that specializes in campaign publicity for presidential, congressional, state, and local political candidates. Previously, Watkins worked as a staff intern for the U.S. House of Representatives. *BAs: political science and Latin American studies, 2015*

'16

ALEXANDRA RIEHLE MCDERMOTT is a program leader at the Boys and Girls Clubs of America in Cincinnati, Ohio. The national organization helps low-opportunity youth become productive citizens through mentoring and after-school programs. *BA: Middle Eastern studies/Arabic, 2016*

ABIGAIL CLARK is the human resources assistant for FFKR Architects in Salt Lake City, which has worked on the design of seven Latter-day Saint temples, the City Creek Center underground parking structure, several schools, BYU's Jerusalem Center, and other projects. Clark manages the company's website and payroll, schedules meetings, and updates company policies. She received a certificate in human resources management from the University of Utah in 2016. *BA: international relations; certificate: global management, 2016*

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Talk to us on Twitter via @BYUKennedyCtr and #kennedylive. Get quick takeaways from lectures or links to notable authors, politicians, and journalists who meet with us in Provo.

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To boost your commute, listen in to the latest Kennedy Center lectures by global diplomats, filmmakers, business leaders, social entrepreneurs, and policymakers. Simply subscribe to and download our podcasts via iTunes, or listen via BYU Radio's streaming app or SiriusXM channel 143.

New Global Initiative Recipients

What would it take to change the mindset of more than half of all BYU students who see international study programs as being financially out-of-reach? Thanks to the generosity of alumni, students, and the International Advisory Board, the Global Opportunity Initiative awarded five scholarships in 2015 and ten scholarships in 2016 to students majoring in biology, manufacturing engineering, environmental science, chemical engineering, dance, geology, communications, linguistics, international relations, European studies, and Ancient Near Eastern studies.

What's next? The goal is "Provo parity," in which a program anywhere in the world would cost approximately the same as a semester in Provo. Students will still compete and be selected by faculty, but this effort will make a difference for students who never thought global study could be possible. Just $5,000 funds one student, and even a small monthly amount can help.

Support a student today at **kennedy.byu.edu/donate**.

From the Kennedy Center

In the News

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMATS
Brigham Young University hosted its twenty-sixth annual Model United Nations conference for secondary schools from around the state in October 2015. Twenty-four high schools and two junior high schools participated. MUN students from BYU oversaw the seven committees: Julie Hyde (General Assembly Plenary), Kiersten Oberhansley (Human Rights Council), Spencer Stucki (General Assembly 3rd), Haley Peterson (UN Women), Rayanne Matlock (Security Council), Jason Rodrigues (UNICEF), and Daniel Jaramillo (Organization of American States). The Organization of American States was of particular interest because it was conducted in Spanish.

Organizing committee leaders Emily Thorn (executive director), Julie Hyde (secretary general), and Rayanne Matlock (director general) assigned countries for the high schools to represent on specific committees, mentored new schools, and prepared BYU student staff. The committees tackled timely issues, such as the future of cybersecurity, eliminating violence against women, eradicating poverty, weakening the influence of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), and protecting children's rights and access to food in developing countries.

PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
One BYU student received a Boren Scholarship for International Study for the 2016–17 academic year and four BYU students received Benjamin A. Gilman international scholarships for summer 2015. Both scholarships fund students seeking international experience and represent a significant uptick in successful applications from BYU.

Michael Swain, a sophomore from Las Vegas, Nevada, received the Boren Scholarship to study language in Japan at the ECC Kokusai College of Foreign Languages beginning in fall 2016. He is majoring in information systems with a focus on cybersecurity. "The urgent need for cybersecurity expertise in Japan and elsewhere presents an opportunity for my generation, who grew up with technology," Swain noted. He previously completed BYU's Chinese STARTALK during summer 2014.

Boren Scholarships are awarded by the National Security Education Program to promote the study of languages critical to U.S. security. In exchange for the investment in their education, Boren recipients agree to work for the federal government for at least one year after graduation.

The 2015 Gilman scholars were Angus Bennion, who studied in Brazil; Garret Nash, who studied in Tanzania; Phillip Ng, who studied in China; and Joshua Tanner, who studied in Russia.

The Gilman Scholarship is awarded to students with financial need and to other groups that are underrepresented in international study, such as students from community colleges and students studying science. The program encourages students to study in nontraditional locations.

EUROPEAN RESEARCH ON CAMPUS

At the fourteenth annual Claremont–UC Undergraduate Research Conference on the European Union, held in April 2016 at Scripps College, six students and one faculty member from BYU participated with thirty-nine other students from Baylor University, Claremont McKenna College, Duke University, Georgetown University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Grinnell College, Oakland University, Pitzer College, Pomona College, Scripps College, the University of Arizona, UC Berkeley, UC Los Angeles, UC Riverside, the University of Delhi, the University of Miami, and the University of Southern California.

BYU students presenting on the panel for gender and minority rights were Joseph Heath ("Minority Rights in the Eastern Partnership: How Slovakia's Rusyns Can Help Ukraine Toward European Integration") and McKinzie Davis and Lauren Vidler ("Sexual Violence in Europe: A Refugee Problem?"). The transatlantic relations and markets panel included BYU students Gabriel Davis and Alexis Cooper ("'Trumpian' Attitude in Central Europe: Causes for Hungary's and Germany's Attitude Toward Transatlantic Trade"). The panel on European security and foreign policy included BYU student Brian Preece ("Community-Based Counterterrorism: What French Security Forces Can Learn from the British CONTEST Model"). The latter two papers were selected for publication, and Preece received an additional prize: a trip to Brussels.

Elizabeta Jevtic-Somlai, a visiting professor in the BYU

Scholarship Recipients

GARRETT NASH

JOSHUA TANNER

"The urgent need for cybersecurity expertise in Japan and elsewhere presents an opportunity for my generation, who grew up with technology."

—Michael Swain

MICHAEL SWAIN

"A number of faculty commented to me that BYU papers and presentations are always top notch at the conference."

—Elizabeta Jevtic-Somlai

Political Science Department, was a discussant on the panel for the history and future of European integration. "The students had a great experience, represented BYU with great vigor, and left a positive impression on students and faculty alike," she said. "A number of faculty commented to me that BYU papers and presentations are always top-notch at the conference."

RESEARCH OF NOTE

Kennedy Center Communications publishes a variety of journals and conference proceedings each year, each within an area studies focus or theme. These journals offer students and faculty a place to showcase their academic work.

THE RICE PAPERS

A publication of Asian studies, *The Rice Papers* contains student papers, and the most recent issue included the following: "*Oro?*: Word Choice, Character, and Translation in Rurouni Kenshin," by Tasha Layton; "On the Fringe: China's Disability Laws Through the Lens of Traditional Culture," by Brandon Christensen; "Modified Motorcycles: Stories from Chiang Mai, Thailand," by Erin Meyers; and "China's Use of Economic Hard Power in the 21st Century," by Taylor Shippen.

SIGMA

SIGMA: Journal of Political and International Studies is a Sigma Iota Rho club and honor society publication. A sampling of papers from the last issue displays a wide range of interests among students: "Unpopular but Effective? The Drone Strike Dilemma," by Jake Berlin; "Do You Hear the People Sing? Populist Discourse in the French Revolution," by Rebecca Dudley; "Immigrants and Voting: How a Personal Relationship to Immigration Changes the Voting Behaviors of Americans," by Mandi Eatough and Jordan Johnston; and "'All Things Denote There Is a God': Platonic Metaphysics, Thomistic Analogy, and the Creation of a Christian Philosophy," by Neil Longo. The journal's faculty advisor is Scott Cooper of political science.

STUDIA ANTIQUA

Students of the Ancient Near East, a club associated with the Ancient Near East Studies major, publish the journal *Studia Antiqua*. The spring volume featured "On the Unified Authorship of the Oracle to Ariel (Isaiah 29:1–8)," by Wilson C. Parson; "Recovering Female Authors of the Bible," by Sarah Palmer; and "A Postexilic Reading of the Biblical Flood Narrative," by Kyla Beckstrand.

INQUIRY

Inquiry: Student Cross-Cultural Field Research includes a selection of papers representative of a student's research on an international topic. Some of the papers have been featured in the annual Inquiry Conference. The last issue featured the following articles: "Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto: The Composer's Original, Auer's Edition, and the Performer's Dilemma," by Caitlin R. Johnson; "Legacies of Colonialism in the Transnational Liminality of the (In)visible Brazuca: Emerging Identities in Latino/a America," by Gustavo Pinto; "Opportunism in Ugandan NGOs: A Randomized Field Experiment," by Abigail J. Christensen, Eric Reuben Smith,

and Professor Timothy B. Smith; and "Medical Pluralism and Its Role in the Future of U.S. Health Reform: A Comparative Study of Medical Systems of Vishakhapatnam (India)," by Taylor Otteson.

JIOS

The Journal of International Organizations Studies (JIOS) is the peer-reviewed journal of the United Nations Studies Association. Current editors-in-chief Professor Kendall W. Stiles of BYU and John Mathiason of Cornell University guided

publication of two articles and three reviews for the last issue, which was comprised of "The Paradox of Organizing States: A Meta-Organization Perspective on International Organizations," by Göran Ahrne, Nils Brunsson, and Dieter Kerwer; "Living in an Imperfect World? Incomplete Contracting and the Rational Design of International Organizations," by Diana Panke; Bob Reinalda on the collective volume *International 'Migration Management' in the Early Cold War: The Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration*; Sarah L. Henderson on Thomas Davies's *NGOs: A New History of Transnational Civil Society*; and Christian Leuprecht on Andrea C. Simonelli's *Governing Climate Induced Migration and Displacement*.

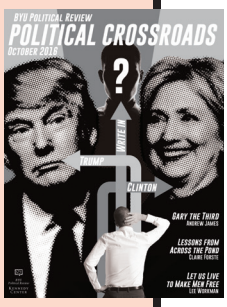
SPOTLIGHT ON CHINA

The inaugural BYU China Conference took place in September 2015 with an aim "to help BYU Chinese students and students interested in China develop leadership experience," said Peter Chan, an adjunct professor in the McKay School of Education.

This student-led event received positive feedback for organization and execution, which included an excellent assemblage of guests: keynote speaker Timothy Stratford, managing partner in the Beijing office of Covington & Burling LLP (an international law firm), presented on "Building Trust in U.S.–China Relations: A Personal Perspective"; John Chen, managing director of Babson Executive Education, addressed "What Are the Chinese Opportunities for Returned Missionaries?"; David Kasteler, owner of www.inWhat Language.com (a translation technology company), explored "The Micromanagement of Chinese Business"; and Joseph Hoskin, executive director of human resources for Lenovo (a Chinese multinational technology company with headquarters in Beijing, China, and Morrisville, North Carolina), spoke about "HR Management in China: Overcoming Challenges and Finding Success."

The second annual BYU China Conference took place September 26, 2016. BYU's Asian studies program provided organizational support in an effort to engage professionals from and with deep expertise on China.

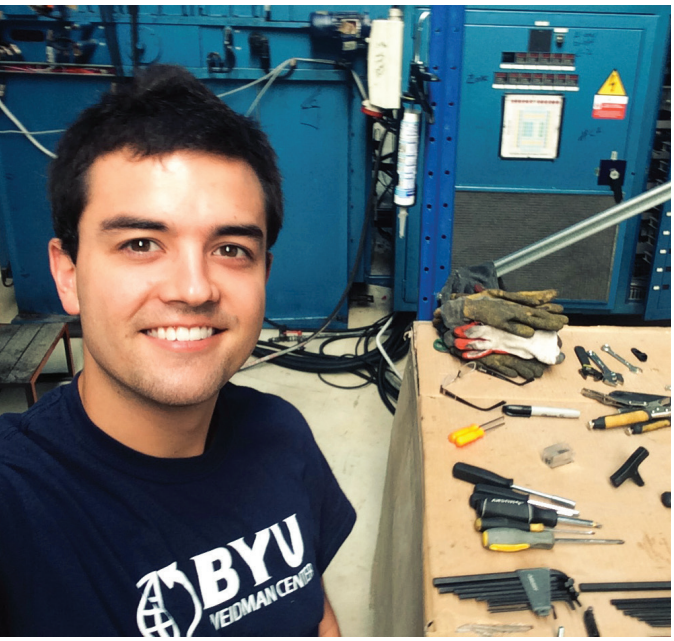
BYU Student POVs



The *BYU Political Review* (*BYUPR*) is a thriving student publication that began in 2006 to encourage political discussion and awareness on campus. *BYUPR* covers local, national, and international politics, with recent articles on the follwing diverse topics: "Mayor Moh's Hardness Scale of Civic Engagement," by Rachel Stone, which lists ways Provo citizens can become involved in their government and community; "The Not-So-Hateful Eight: What a Supreme Court Vacancy Means to You," by James Carter, which looks at previous and recent Supreme Court decisions and comes to an interesting conclusion about the final rulings; and "Why So Syria(s)? The Need for a Coherent U.S. Strategy," by Daniel Jaramillo, which explores the ramifications of policy and how not following through on a "red-line" threat has made the situation worse.

Spearheaded by students Sarah Martin, Brandon Wilmore, and John Thomson and faculty advisor Ryan Davis, *BYUPR* is sponsored by the Kennedy Center and the Political Science Department. The publication's tagline is "Your voice. Be heard." In addition to pieces from staff writers, unsolicited submissions that are well written and well thought-out are welcomed. *BYUPR* publishes three to four print issues per semester.

Featured Students



A Broader Horizon

"Your ability to empathize and communicate with other people deepens dramatically as you seek out foreign opportunities."

—Robert Swasey

In May 2016 Robert Swasey jumped at the chance to combine two loves: engineering and languages. An engineering student at BYU with a passion for foreign languages and cultures, he worked for the summer as a manufacturing engineering intern at a startup company in Lagos—sometimes called the San Diego of Portugal. The opportunity came when his Model United Nations instructor, Cory Leonard, approached him about the Global Opportunity program offered by Brigham Young University's Kennedy Center. "This internship is the perfect opportunity to improve both my technical and language skills simultaneously," he said.

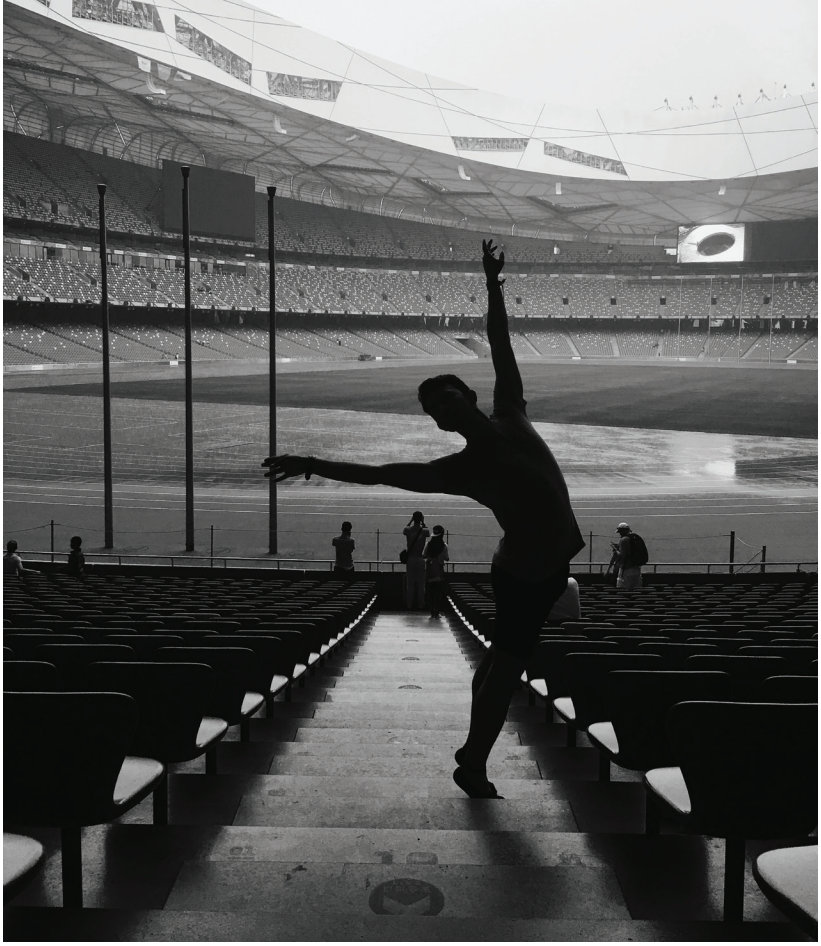
Swasey values the real-world technical experience he gained on the internship. "I [went] to help set up a factory and start a company," he remarked, "which means I [got] to wear lots of hats and try new things every day." Two weeks into his stay in Portugal, Swasey, a fellow intern, and their boss traveled to Turin, Italy, to pick up a thermoforming machine (see photo). While there, they learned to use it and then took it apart and loaded it on a truck before returning to Lagos two days later.

Thanks to this internship, Swasey has gained "a deeper insight into how new companies move good ideas into the production and marketing of actual products." He even thinks he might return to Portugal to work for the same company full-time.

The opportunity brought its share of stress though. "Because this [was] an internship that could lead to potential full-time employment," he said, "there [was] noticeable pressure to perform well and work effectively. I had a lot of responsibility and very little experience, which can be difficult but also very rewarding as I learned and grew."

Swasey graduated in April 2016 but took time to complete this internship. When he finished, he flew directly to China for another internship, which ended December 2016. "The reason I did these two internships after graduating instead of getting a full-time job immediately is because getting international experience is a very high priority for me," he explained. "Sacrificing my first eight months of full-time work for two international internships will definitely pay off later on because of the technical and language skills I am developing. These internships will also expand my professional network and allow me to find full-time work abroad much more easily."

The Global Opportunity Scholarship "made this chance feasible," and it relieved financial burdens. Swasey is quick to recommend an international experience to anyone: "Studying, working, and living in a foreign country are beyond necessary. Even if you have no desire to live abroad long-term, your ability to empathize and communicate with other people deepens dramatically as you seek out foreign opportunities."



Breathing China's Earth

Benjamin Cuque, a dance major at Brigham Young University, would not hesitate to say that his China dance study abroad in spring 2016 transformed him. Cuque (or "Benja," as he likes to be called) is a native of Guatemala with a passion for education, especially in the arts. He noted that arts education opportunities are limited in Guatemala, and it was because of his family's support that he has progressed in his dance education.

Likewise, a dance study abroad would have been impossible for Cuque without the Kennedy Center Global Opportunity Scholarship he received and without his dance teacher Marilyn Barrett, who approached him about the scholarship. "This study abroad was a dream come true. I did not expect to have one of the best experiences of my life like this one because of my financial situation," Cuque said. "I did not have the twenty-five dollars for the application, but with hard work and many other blessings, it was possible. No words can describe my feelings of thankfulness to the donors who allow students to experience unforgettable memories."

Cuque's unforgettable experience included taking and observing classes at dance academies in China and collaborating with Chinese students to choreograph dances, which turned out to be an experience that taught more than dance. "We were not fluent in Chinese; we barely knew a few words. The same was true for them with English," he explained. "It was challenging, but we ended up having really satisfying experiences."

Cuque hopes to become a diverse choreographer through "new experiences that only other cultures or countries can give." What he saw in China has inspired his choreography. "I remember walking back to our hotel after watching one of the performances in the Beijing Dance Academy Theater. My mind was blown, my heart was full, and my spirit was delighted," he recalled. "Suddenly all those feelings became a fuel for my motivational engine."

Chinese dance techniques were not all Cuque learned; he also connected with Chinese culture. In a poem he wrote about his experience in China, he expressed, "Let me breathe your earth, let me show you mine." He concluded that he had indeed learned to breathe China's earth.

And after seeing the importance the Chinese place on their children's education, Cuque has been inspired to consider starting a nonprofit organization for arts education in Guatemala, which would allow others from his country to experience what he has been so lucky to receive. "My deep debt is to go and serve others and, with the knowledge I gained, to light others' pathways," he resolved.

GLOBAL OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

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Biology
Chemical engineering
Dance
European studies
Environmental science
Geology
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"The region stretching from Japan through China and Southeast Asia to India can be seen as representing an 'arc of ascendance,' Asia's march on the future. American policy must heed this unrelenting feature of the future: that the lion's share of the history of the twenty-first century will be written in the Asia-Pacific region."

—*Kurt Campbell*
The Pivot: The Future of American Statecraft in Asia

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