The University of Chicago and East Asia have been linked since the first years of the University’s existence. Indeed, the very first Ph.D. degree awarded at the University went to the Japanese scholar Asada Eiji 淺田榮次 (1865-1914; Ph.D. 1893); true, his dissertation was on the Hebrew Bible: “The Hebrew Text of Zechariah, 1-8 Compared with the Different Ancient Versions,” but he returned to Japan and an illustrious career at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. The first dissertation on a topic in East Asian Studies proper came twenty-five years after Dr. Asada received his degree. This was “The Chemistry of Chinese Preserved Duck Eggs and Chinese Edible Birds’ Nests” by Chi-che Wang 王季茝 (d. 1979; Ph.D. 1918). Dr. Wang was the first Chinese woman ever to receive a Ph.D. in chemistry.

* This draft history of the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago has been prepared for the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Department, 28 October 2016. It is very much a draft, and I would welcome corrections, additions and/or suggestions for its improvement.
The 1920s brought another pair of doctoral dissertations by scholars who would go on to be among the founders of the professional study of ancient China: “The Philosophy of Hsüntze, Ancient Confucianism (sic) as Developed in the Philosophy of Hsüntze” by Homer Hasenpflug Dubs (1892-1969; Ph.D. 1925), who would go on ultimately to hold the professorship in Chinese at Oxford University (1947-1959); and “Sinism: A Study of the Evolution of the Chinese World-View” by Herrlee Glessner Creel (1905-1994; Ph.B. 1926, M.A. 1927; B.D. 1928; Ph.D. 1929). Neither scholar was the beneficiary of much training in Chinese Studies at the University. Dubs was born and raised in China, where he learned Chinese. Creel was not so lucky. He was a student in the Divinity School in the Department of Christian Theology and Ethics, having earlier written an M.A. thesis on “Paul’s Doctrine of the Resurrection of Jesus.” Nevertheless, a fellow student, in the Department of English, Chen Shou-yi 陳受頤 (1899-1977; Ph.D. 1928), taught him enough Chinese so that he could refer to original texts in writing both his Bachelor of Divinity thesis, “Chinese Divination as Indicated by the Lun Heng,” and also his Ph.D. dissertation. Chen went on to a distinguished career at Pomona College, charting the influence of China on Western literature as well as that of the West on Chinese literature. As for Creel, there will be much more to say later in this history of EALC.

In 1928, the University made its first appointment in East Asian Studies: Harley Farnsworth MacNair (1891-1947) was appointed as a professor in the Department of History. MacNair went to Shanghai immediately after graduating from college (University of Redlands) in 1912 and taught history at St. John’s University. He stayed there until 1927, when he returned to the United States to teach, first at the University of Seattle for one year, before moving to
Chicago. Shortly after arriving at Chicago, MacNair authored *China in Revolution: An Analysis of Politics and Militarism under the Republic* (1931).\(^1\) However, doubtless his most influential book was published only one year before his death: it was titled simply *China* (1946).\(^2\)

MacNair was joined on the faculty very briefly by his wife Florence Ayscough MacNair (1878-1942), who served as a Lecturer in Chinese Literature in Oriental Languages for the Winter quarter of 1938. By all accounts, Florence Ayscough MacNair was a flamboyant personality. She was born in Shanghai, where she lived until age eleven. After completing college in America, she returned to Shanghai, becoming a translator of Chinese poetry. Her best known publication was done in conjunction with the American poet Amy Lowell (1874-1925): *Fir-Flower Tablets: Poems Translated from the Chinese* (1921).\(^3\) She married MacNair, who she had met in Shanghai, shortly after her first husband, Francis Ayscough, died in 1935. The MacNairs bought a house at 5533 S. Woodlawn and named it the House of the Wutung Trees. During their marriage, the House of the Wutung Trees was a gathering place for people at the University and in Chicago at large interested in China. During parties there, Florence would dress in Chinese imperial robes.

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\(^1\) Harley Farnsworth MacNair, *China in Revolution: An Analysis of Politics and Militarism under the Republic* (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1931).

\(^2\) Harley Farnsworth MacNair, *China* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1946).

MacNair (1878-1942)
Lecturer in Chinese Literature in Oriental Languages, 1937-1938

A painting of the Wutung tree for which Florence Ayscough and Harley Farnsworth MacNair’s house was named
It is worth noting that the Florence Ayscough MacNair Fellowship Fund was established at the University of Chicago, in 1942, for the purpose of aiding graduate students in the fields of Chinese literature and history. Unfortunately, it is not clear whether this fund has ever been used for this purpose.

After his graduation from the University in 1929, Herrlee Creel finally began the serious study of classical Chinese, spending two years (1930-32) at Harvard University, supported by a grant from the
American Council of Learned Societies. In 1932, the Harvard-Yenching Institute then provided Creel with a long-term grant to travel to China to continue his studies. Between 1932 and 1936, he resided in Peiping (Beijing), where he studied Chinese paleography with Liu Jie 劉節 (1901-1977), Director of Paleography of Peiping National Library. During his stay in China, he also made at least two trips to Anyang 安陽, Henan, where he observed the archaeological excavations being conducted there by Academia Sinica. In 1936, he published *The Birth of China: A Survey of the Formative Period of Chinese Civilization*, which provided the first account of these important discoveries. In that same year, Creel was appointed to a teaching position in the Department of Oriental Languages of the Oriental Institute. In many respects, this marked the beginnings of real East Asian Studies at the University of Chicago (which is to say studies that trained students in the languages of East Asia). Creel set about his responsibilities with a remarkable vigor. Not only did he publish yet another volume of his own detailed studies of early Chinese civilization, *Studies in Early Chinese Culture* (1937) in the year immediately after the publication of *The Birth of China*, but in the very next year, together with Chang Tsung-Ch’ien and Richard C. Rudolph (1909-2003), two newly appointed research associates in Chinese, he also published the first volume of *Literary Chinese by the Inductive Method* (1938); two more volumes would be published over the next decade and a half, as well as a volume of *Newspaper Chinese by the Inductive Method*, authored together with Teng Ssu-yü (1905-1988), published in 1943. Perhaps more important than all of these new

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5 After two years as research associate at Chicago, Rudolf moved on to teach at UCLA, where he has been described as “the father of Chinese studies at UCLA,” and where the East Asian library is named for him.
publications, Creel also moved quickly to establish a research library at the University. He estimated that when he arrived at the University there were about 800 Chinese volumes in the University library. To this he added 2,100 volumes from his own collection, and the University purchased another 20,000 volumes from the Newberry Library in Chicago. Creel then secured a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to establish a proper research library for Chinese studies. He returned to China in 1939 to oversee the acquisition of more than 75,000 volumes for the library.

Creel would continue to teach at the University for thirty-eight years, retiring in 1974 as Martin A. Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor of Chinese Thought. Over these years, he published a series of influential studies: *Confucius, the Man and the Myth* (1949), *Chinese Thought, From Confucius to Mao Tsê-tung* (1953), *The Origins of Statecraft in China* (1970), *What is Taoism? : And Other Stories in Chinese Cultural History* (1970), *Shen Pu-hai: A Chinese Political Philosopher of the Fourth Century B.C.* (1974), the last four works all published by the University of Chicago Press. Creel passed away in 1994. Professor David T. Roy, Creel’s colleague during his final years of teaching, wrote of Creel in the *Journal of Asian Studies*: “His passing marks the end of an era. He was a giant among specialists on early Chinese civilization, and has been described as the doyen of American sinologists. He established the University of Chicago as a leading center of East Asian

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6 Theodore N. Foss, “Chinese Studies at Chicago: A Brief History of Chinese Studies at the University of Chicago,” *Tableau* ??

Studies. It is not given to many men in any generation to have the impact on a significant area of scholarship that Herrlee Creel has had on our understanding of early Chinese civilization. … His arrival on the faculty of the University of Chicago in 1936 served to put it on the sinological map, where it has enjoyed a prominent place ever since; and that position could never have been achieved or sustained without his unrelenting efforts to build a research library and a viable program. He was a scholar of international stature whose work will endure for the foreseeable future. All in all, we shall not look upon his like again.”8

Creel’s contributions to the University did not cease with his death. Before he passed away, he donated his collection of ancient Chinese bronzes and oracle bones to the University’s Smart Gallery of Art (now the Smart Museum).9 And after he passed away, together with his wife Lorraine J. Creel (-1995), Creel bequeathed his entire estate to the University for the support of studies in early Chinese civilization. To mark the centennial of his birth, in 2005 the University established the Creel Center for Chinese Paleography.

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9 For these artifacts, see Harrie A. Vanderstappen SVD, Richard A. Born, and Sue Taylor, ed. Ritual and Reverence: Chinese Art at The University of Chicago (Chicago: The David and Alfred Smart Gallery, the University of Chicago, 1989).
Herrlee Glessner Creel (1905-1994)
Martin A. Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor of Chinese Thought (1936-1974)

Lorraine J. Creel, Herrlee G. Creel and Liang Siyong 梁思永 (1904-1954),
in Tomb M1004 at Anyang, c. 1936
Creel’s co-author of *Newspaper Chinese by the Inductive Method* was Teng Ssu-yü 鄧嗣禹 (1905-1988), who had come to the University in 1942, appointed as Assistant Professor of Chinese in the Department of Oriental Languages and Literature and Acting Director of the Far Eastern Library. Têng, born in Changning 長寧 County of Hunan province, had studied history at Yenching University in Peiping. While serving as an instructor at Yenching University, together with Knight Biggerstaff he edited *An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Chinese Reference Works*, which for many years was an indispensable guide to doing research in Chinese sources. In 1937 he came to the United States, first joining the staff of the Library of Congress in Washington as Assistant Compiler in the Orientalia Collection working with his former classmate Fang Chao-ying (房兆楹; 1908-1985) on the book *Eminent Chinese of the Ch’ing Period* (1943). In 1938, he entered the Harvard University Graduate School and received his Ph.D. in history in 1942. Teng remained at Chicago only seven years, returning to Harvard for academic year 1948-49, before moving on to Indiana University, where he remained for the rest of his life, authoring, in addition to numerous other works, *China’s Response to the West, A Documentary Survey, 1839-1923* (1954).

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10 Deng Siyu 鄧嗣禹 (Teng Ssu-yü) and Hua Naide 華乃德 (Knight Biggerstaff), ed. Peiping: The Harvard-Yenching Institute, Yenching University, 1936.


During World War II, the University campus was largely turned over to the United States military for the training of officers. Creel entered the Army Intelligence corps, eventually rising to the rank of colonel. It was then that the University made the first steps to incorporate the teaching of Japanese in its curriculum. In 1943-44, Abraham M. Halpern (1914-1985), who would go on to specialize in Native American languages, was appointed Instructor in Anthropology and Spoken Japanese, though he would remain at the University for only one year. He was succeeded the following year by Harry J. Harada, who apparently also remained on the staff for only that one academic year.

As for the Chinese program, the 1944-45 academic year also brought a remarkable pair of Chinese scholars to the department: Lucy Lo-jui Ch’en (趙蘿蕤 1912-1998), who taught conversational Chinese in the Department, and her husband Ch’en Meng-chia (陳夢家, 1911-1966), who taught classical Chinese and a course on Chinese paleography, his specialization. In addition to teaching Chinese, Lucy Ch’en was also a student in the English department, receiving first an M.A. degree in 1946 and then a Ph.D. in 1948 for a dissertation on the writings of Henry James. After returning to China in 1948, she taught first at Yenching University. From 1952 to 1966, and then again
beginning in 1983, she taught at Peking University. The crowning achievement of her scholarly career was a complete translation of Walt Whitman’s *Leaves of Grass* (1991). In 1991, she was finally able to return to Chicago for the University’s centennial celebration, at which time she received a distinguished alumni award.

Lucy Ch’en’s husband Ch’en Meng-chia or Chen Mengjia is one of the protean intellectual figures of mid-twentieth-century China, an accomplished poet in his youth and one of the greatest scholars of ancient China of all time. During his three years in Chicago, in addition to teaching in the Department of Oriental Languages and Literature, he was primarily involved in collecting materials for a book to be entitled *Chinese Bronzes in American Collections: A Catalogue and a Comprehensive Study of Chinese Bronzes*, which was to be published by the Harvard-Yenching Institute of Harvard University. Ch’en finished the book just before returning to China in June, 1947, and mailed the massive compendium to Cambridge. In one of the tragedies of twentieth century Chinese studies, the Harvard-Yenching Institute turned the manuscript over to a copy editor, who seems to have lost the only copy that remained in America.
Another prominent Chinese paleographer who served as a visiting professor in the immediate post-war years was Dong Zuobin 董作賓 (1895-1963), who was in residence in Chicago between 1947 and 1949. Dong had met Herrlee Creel when Creel was living in Peiping in the early 1930s, and hosted him on his visits to Anyang, where Dong was leading the archaeological excavations. Although Creel’s publication of the excavations while they were still on-going was controversial among many archaeologists in China, he and Dong became life-long friends.

Also in 1947, Edward A. Kracke, Jr. (1908-1976) was appointed as Assistant Professor of Chinese in Oriental Languages, replacing Teng Ssu-yü, who had just left the University. Kracke was born in New York City and received both B.A. (Fine Arts, 1932) and M.A. (History, 1935) degrees from Harvard University. In 1935, he went to Paris to study Chinese and Central Asian History with Étienne Balazs at the l’École Nationale des Langues Orientales Vivantes. While
working on his Ph.D., he also studied with William Hung (Hong Ye 洪業, 1893-1980) in Peiping. In 1942, Kracke joined the staff of the Far East Division, Research and Analysis Branch of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). In 1946, he was re-assigned to the Division of Far East Intelligence at the Department of State, but stayed in that position for less than a year before moving on to Chicago. He taught at the University for twenty-seven years, retiring in 1973 with the rank of Professor. Kracke published only one monograph, Civil Service in Early Sung China, but served the University in numerous administrative capacities. Among students that Kracke taught, perhaps the most important was Oscar O. Hucker (1919-1994), who completed his Ph.D. in 1950 with a dissertation entitled “The Chinese Censorate of the Ming Dynasty. Hucker would go on to an illustrious career, primarily at the University of Michigan, and to author such important works as *Chinese History: A Bibliographic Review* (1958), *China: A Critical Bibliography* (1962), *China’s Imperial Past: An Introduction to Chinese History and Culture* (1975), and *A Dictionary of Official Titles in Imperial China* (1985), in addition to specialized monographs in Ming history.\(^{13}\)

1947 was also the year that Tsien Tsuen-hsuin 錢存訓 (1909-2015; M.A. 1952, Ph.D. 1957), known to all as “T.H.”, arrived on campus. The legend of T.H. Tsien has only grown with time. After an eventful young adulthood, when he was a member of China’s Nationalist Army on the Northern Expedition that unified the country, he then entered Nanjing University, studying Chinese and Western history as well as library science. Upon graduation in 1932, he began to work in
the Nanjing branch of the National Library of China. In 1937, after the “Rape of Nanjing,” he moved to Shanghai, where he joined that city’s branch of the national library, helping to secure the rare book collection in the French and International concessions of the city. However, fearing that these concessions would not be secure in the event of a wider war between Japan and the Western powers, late in 1941 he arranged to have 30,000 volumes surreptitiously shipped out of China, destined for safe-keeping in the Library of Congress of the United States. The last of 102 cases sailed from Shanghai on December 5, 1941, two days before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor brought about the wider war that T.H. and colleagues had anticipated. All of the books arrived safely in America, and were kept at the Library of Congress throughout the war. In 1947, the National Library of China dispatched T.H. to Washington to arrange for the return of the books to China. However, just then civil war between the Nationalists and the communists had broken out in China, and it proved impossible to return the books.

T.H., himself all but stranded in Washington, reached out for assistance to Herrlee Creel, who he knew from Creel’s book-buying in China in the late 1930s. Creel invited T.H. to Chicago to take charge of the University’s Chinese library, paying his salary out of his own pocket for the first period of time. T.H. would remain in Chicago for the remainder of his very lengthy life. He was soon joined by his wife Wen-ching, who would occasionally teach modern Chinese for the Department in between taking care of their three daughters. In addition to directing the library, T.H. also studied in the University, earning a Master’s degree in Library Science in 1952, and then a Ph.D. in 1957 for a dissertation, supervised by Professor Creel, entitled “The Pre-Printing Records of China: A Study of the Development of Early Chinese Inscriptions and Books.” The dissertation was subsequently published by the
University of Chicago Press as *Written on Bamboo and Silk: The Beginnings of Chinese Books and Inscriptions* (1962), and is regarded as a classic in the field. After publishing *Written on Bamboo and Silk*, T.H. was invited by the famous historian of Chinese science Joseph Needham (1900-1995) to contribute to his monumental *Science and civilization in China*. T.H. visited Needham in Cambridge in 1968, and then set about his work. Originally envisioned as a single chapter to a volume to be entitled “War and Peace,” the contribution grew into a volume in its own right, finally published in 1985 as *Paper and Printing*, the first volume in *Science and civilization in China* to be published under the author’s own name. Even before the volume was published, T.H. Tsien was instrumental in having the University confer on Needham an honorary doctorate of Humane Letters, awarded in 1976.

Already in 1949, T.H. Tsien had begun teaching a research methods course required of all students in Chinese Studies. With the completion of his own Ph.D. in 1957, he joined the faculty, becoming a charter

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member of the newly established FELC in 1966, and remaining on the faculty until his retirement in 1978. Both in the Department and in the School of Library Science, he trained an entire generation of Chinese librarians in America. Some thirty different students received either M.A. or Ph.D. degrees under his supervision, including James K. Cheng (Ph.D. ??), who would go on first to be curator of the University’s East Asian Collection and then to become director of the Harvard-Yenching Library; Ming-sun Poon (Ph.D. 1979), of the Library of Congress; and Tai-loi Ma (Ph.D., 1987), who would succeed James Cheng as curator of the University’s East Asian Collection before moving on in his own turn to become director of the Gest Library at Princeton University. Over the course of his long life, T.H. received many awards; one of which he was particularly proud, was the University’s Distinguished Alumni Award, conferred on him at the 1996 commencement ceremony.

In 1952, the Program in Far Eastern Civilization was established, with Herrlee Glessner Creel, Chairman and Charles O. Hucker, Secretary. Joining them as charter members were: Edward Augustuc Ackerman
(1911-1973), Geography; Ludwig Bachhofer (1894-1974), Art; Robert Irwin Crane, Modern History; Frederick Eggan (1906-1991), Anthropology; Norton S. Ginsburg (1921-2007; B.A. 1941, M.A. 1947, Ph.D. 1949), Geography; Joseph Mitsuo Kitagawa (1915-1992; Ph.D. 1951), History of Religions; Edward A. Kracke, Jr., Chinese in Oriental Languages; Donald Frederick Lach (1917-2000; Ph.D. 1941), Modern History; Earl Hampton Pritchard (1907-), Far Eastern History; Tsuen-hsuin Tsiens, Chinese Literature; Ilza Veith (1912-2013), History of Medicine; Joachim Wach (1898-1955), History of Religions. Of these figures, Creel, Kitagawa, Kracke, and Tsiens would also go on to be charter members of the Department of Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations when it was established in 1966. Kitagawa had been a student at the Divinity School, with a dissertation entitled "Kōbō-Daishi and Shingon Buddhism" (1951), and would go on to be dean of the Divinity School (1970-1980). He the author of such noteworthy books as Religions of the East (1960), Religion in Japanese History (1966), On Understanding Japanese Religion (1987), and Buddhism and Asian History (Religion, History, and Culture) (1989).16

In 1959, the Program in Far Eastern Studies would be rechristened as the Center for Far Eastern Studies, the initial funding for which came from a grant from the United States Department of Education. In 1986, its name was changed to the Center for East Asian Studies. It now includes three committees: the Committee on Chinese Studies, the Committee on Japanese Studies, and the Committee on Korean Studies, and it works to enhance opportunities available to scholars both in the United States and

abroad, and to foster communication and interdisciplinary collaboration among the community of professors and students at the University and throughout the wider East Asian Studies community. Directors of the Center have included many of the most important faculty members at the University.17

There were few changes in the composition of the Program in Far Eastern Civilization through most of the decade of the 1950s. However, there was one very important change at the very end of the decade. In 1959, Edwin McClellan (1925-2009) was appointed as the first professor of Japanese literature. McClellan had been born in Kobe, Japan to a British father and a Japanese mother, and lived there until 1942, when he was repatriated to England. He taught Japanese at the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London for one year, and then upon turning eighteen joined the Royal Air Force. During the years 1944-1947, he was assigned to intelligence work in Washington, D.C. In 1950, he came to the University to do graduate work with Friedrich von Hayek (1899-1992) in the Committee on Social Thought. In order to persuade Hayek to allow him to write his doctoral dissertation on Natsume Sōseki (1867 –1916), he translated Sōseki’s novel Kokoro into English, the translation being published in 1957, the same year that McLellan was awarded his Ph.D. for a dissertation entitled “An Introduction to Sōseki, a Japanese

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Novelist.”¹⁸ He remained at the University, first teaching in the Department of English. However, in 1959, he was charged with creating a program in Japanese Studies. He became full professor and founding chair of the Department of Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations in 1966, and later was made the Carl Darling Buck Professor. He served two terms as chair of the new department (1966-72), but then left the University, moving to Yale, where he would eventually attain the rank of Sterling Professor, Yale’s highest professorial rank. In addition to his early translation of the novel Kokoro, McClellan also published Two Japanese Novelists: Sōseki and Tōson (1969) and Woman in the Crested Kimono: The Life of Shibue Io and Her Family (1985).¹⁹ Among his students at Chicago, one who would go on to make important contributions to the Department and who we will have occasion to mention below was William F. Sibley (1941-2009; Ph.D. 1971). Sibley’s dissertation, “The Shiga Hero,” won the Marc Perry Galler Prize for the Best Dissertation in the Humanities for that year.

Joining McClellan as charter members of the Department of Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations in 1966 were Marianne L. Carlson, Instructor in Chinese; Robert F. Dernberger (1929-2015), Assistant Professor of Economics; Robert Milton Hartwell (1932-1996; A.B. 1957, Ph.D. 1963), Assistant Professor of Chinese Social and Economic Thought and History; Ping-ti Ho (1917-2012), James Westfall Thompson Professor of History; Cornelius J. Kiley, Instructor in Medieval Japanese; Philip A. Kuhn (1933-2016), Assistant Professor of Chinese History; James J.Y. Liu (1926-1986), Associate Professor of Chinese Literature; James R. Morita (Ph.D. 1968), Lecturer in Japanese; Eugene Soviak (1927-2003), Assistant Professor of Japanese Language and History; Tang Tsou (1919-1999; Ph.D. 1951), Professor of Political Science; and Harrie A. Vanderstappen (1921-2007; Ph.D. 1957), Associate Professor of Art; in addition to Creel, Kitagawa, Kracke, and Tsien. Of these, several would move on to other universities, some sooner, some later. Already in 1966, Bob Dernberger moved on to the University of Michigan, where he would remain until his retirement in 1989. In 1968, Marianne Carlson and Bob Hartwell would move on to the University of Pennsylvania, where they would remain until his retirement in 1995. In the same year, James Liu would move on to Stanford, just two Chicago winters convincing him that he needed a warmer clime. In 1969, Gene Soviak moved to Washington University in St. Louis, and remained there until his retirement in 1993. Neil Kiley moved to Villanova. Phil Kuhn, who began teaching at Chicago in 1963, would go on to chair the Department (1972-1975), before leaving the University for Harvard in 1978. While at Chicago, he published *Rebellion and its Enemies in Late Imperial China: Militarization and Social*
Structure, 1796-1864 (1970). Ping-ti Ho, Tang Tsou and Harrie Vanderstappen would all remain at the University throughout their working careers, and all made numerous contributions to East Asian Studies on campus and at large. However, because their primary appointments were in departments other than Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations, an accounting of their work is perhaps best left to the history of those departments.

While several of the charter members of the Department left shortly after its establishment, new members arrived. Four of them would have outsized influences on the shape of the Department for decades to come. In 1967, David T. Roy (1933-2016) joined the faculty as Associate Professor of Chinese Literature. A year later, Tetsuo Najita joined the Department of History as Associate Professor of Japanese History, with a secondary appointment in FELC. In 1974, both

Ping-ti Ho and Herrlee G. Creel at the Quadrangle Club, c. 1970

21 For the University’s obituaries of Ping-ti Ho and Tang Tsou, see https://news.uchicago.edu/article/2012/08/21/ping-ti-ho-renowned-scholar-china-1917-2012, and uchicago.edu/990812/tsou.shtml. For a very moving tribute to Harrie A. Vanderstappen, or Father Harrie, as he was affectionately known on campus, see Roger Covey, “In Memorium: Harrie Vanderstappen, S.V.D.,” Monumenta Serica 56 (2008): 505-17.
Harry Harootunian and Anthony C. Yu (1938-2015; Ph.D. 1969) joined the Department. While the latter three of these figures were also associated with other departments, they were all primarily associated with East Asian Studies on campus. Roy, Harootunian and Yu all chaired FELC or EALC, while Najita chaired the Center for Far Eastern Studies and was instrumental in developing its endowment.

David Roy was born in Nanjing, China, where his parents were Presbyterian missionaries. He lived in China throughout China’s war with Japan, and then after a brief stint back in America during his early teenage years, again during and immediately after the Chinese civil war. He described himself as becoming obsessed with Chinese writing, which led to a lifetime engagement with Chinese literature. He arrived at the University in 1967, and remained there until his retirement in 1999, and indeed until his death in 2016. In a reminiscence in Tableau, the newsletter of the University’s Division of the Humanities, he recalled that when he came to the University he was allowed to teach a seminar on any topic he chose. He chose to teach on the Ming-dynasty novel Jin ping mei or The Plum in the Golden Vase. Even though only one student signed up for the course, he taught it for two years straight, reading one chapter a week. Indeed, he continued to teach Jin ping mei until his retirement, supervising several dissertations on Ming and Qing fiction, including at least two on the Jin ping mei itself: Katherine Carlitz (A.M. ’74, Ph.D. ’78), now at the University of Pittsburgh, who did a dissertation on the use of Chinese drama, and Indira Satyendra (Ph.D. 1989), on the chapter-opening poems of the text: “Towards a Poetics of the Chinese Novel: A Study of

23 Carlitz’s dissertation was eventually published as Katherine Carlitz, The Rhetoric of the Chin P’ing Mei (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1986).
the Prefatory Poems in the Chin P’ing Mei Tz’u-hua.” In 1982, Roy began to translate the text. His translation of the hundred-chapter novel stretched to five volumes, the first of which was published in 1993 and the last volume only in 2013, at which point he was already suffering from ALS, better known in America as Lou Gehrig’s Disease.

David Tod Roy (1933-2016)
Professor of Chinese Literature
Chair of Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 1975-1978

Anthony Yu is also best known for the translation of a Ming-dynasty novel, in his case Xi you ji
西遊記 or The Journey to the West. Like David Roy, Yu was born in China, and also like Roy spent the war years in western China. He often recalled that his own fascination with Chinese literature began at that time, as his grandfather would entertain him with adventures of the monkey Sun Wukong 孫悟空, who is the protagonist of this novel. Yu came to the University already in 1963 as a graduate student in the Divinity School, writing a dissertation entitled “The Fall: The Poetica and Theological Realism of Aeschylus, Milton, and Camus.” After his graduation, Yu remained on the faculty there. However, in 1974, at the urging of Joseph Kitagawa, then dean of the Divinity School, he joined the Department of Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Kitagawa and Herrlee Creel were also influential in persuading him to take up the task of a complete translation of The Journey to the West, which he completed very expeditiously in four volumes, published by the University of Chicago Press over the course of just six years.24 Yu was a true renaissance man, a voting member of six different units of the University: EALC, the Divinity School, English, Comparative Literature, the Committee on Social Thought, and the College. Although his office was always in the Divinity School’s Swift Hall, his home department was actually EALC, which he would go on to chair between 1994 and 1998.

Tetsuo Najita came to the University in 1969, with a primary appointment in the Department of History, but he was also very active in East Asian Studies, both in the Department and especially in the Center for Far Eastern Studies, of which he was director from 1974-1980. Educated at Grinnell College and Harvard University, Najita’s first book was *Hara Kei and the Politics of Compromise* (1967), which was awarded the John King Fairbank Prize in East Asian History. After stepping down as director of the Center in 1980, he devoted all of his efforts to his book *Visions of Virtue: The Kaitokudô Merchant Academy of Osaka* (1987), which was also a prize-winning book, winning the Yamagata Bantô Prize. Najita retired in 2002 as Robert S. Ingersoll Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in History.
Harry Harootunian studied at Wayne State University, where his roommate was Hayden White. The two men would become lifelong friends. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in Far Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan, and then to teach at the University of Rochester. In 1974, he came to the University as Max Palevsky Professor of History and Civilization in the College. His first book, published in 1970 before he came to the University, was entitled *Toward Restoration: The Growth of Political Consciousness in Tokugawa Japan* (1970). In it he argued that the Meiji Restoration in Japan was as thorough-going as the French Revolution had been, providing an analysis similar to that given by Hayden White for the French Revolution. After moving to the University, Harootunian focused on “nativist” movements in Japan prior to the time of the Meiji Restoration. This work resulted in his most important book: *Things Seen and Unseen: Discourse and Ideology in Tokugawa Nativism* (1988), published by the University of Chicago Press. *Things Seen and Unseen* applied to the Japanese case the sort of critical theory that had theretofore been associated with French social criticism. Toward the end of his time at the University, he joined together with
Masao Miyoshi (1928-2009), professor of Comparative Literature at the University of California at San Diego and a visiting professor in the Department in 1980-81, to edit a pair of volumes that made ever more explicit the use of postmodern theory to analyze Japanese history: Postmodernism in Japan and Japan in the World.  

During the 1980s and the early 1990s, Harootunian and Tetsuo Najita created what was sometimes called the “Chicago School of Japanese Studies,” and together trained a number of students in their theories. These students, often referred to as “Najitunians,” included such well known scholars as Naoki Sakai (Ph.D. 1983) and James A. Fujii (Ph.D. 1986), as well as James Ketelaar (Ph.D. 1987) and Susan L. Burns (Ph.D. 1994), the latter two of whom would go on to succeed Harootunian and Najita as professors in the History department, with appointments as well in EALC.

Harry Harootunian,  
Max Palevsky Professor of History and Civilization in the College,  
Chair of FELC 1978-1984

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Although Roy, Yu, Najita and Harootunian transformed the Department in many ways, the 1970s through the early 1980s were also a difficult period for it. In 1972, Edwin McClellan left for Yale, and shortly thereafter both Herrlee Creel and Edward Kracke retired. Over the next few, assistant professors were appointed to replace both of them and also to expand the offerings in Chinese literature. These new assistant professors were:

Edward T. Ch’ien, Assistant Professor of Chinese Intellectual History
Michael T. Dalby, Assistant Professor of Chinese History
Lois M. Fusek, Assistant Professor of Chinese Literature
Clifton W. Royston, Assistant Professor of Japanese

Unfortunately, not one of these appointments resulted in a successful tenure promotion, and at least a couple of them created such controversy within the Department that rumors spread that it was not a happy place to work. Later in the decade, T.H. Tsien retired from his curatorship of the Far Eastern Collection at the Regenstein Library. In 1980, Tsien was succeeded as curator of the Far Eastern Collection by Luc Kwanten. Kwanten, a specialist in the Tangut language, was also appointed to a tenured associate professorship in FELC. This appointment was destined to create even more turbulence within the Department. Shortly after arriving at Chicago, Kwanten became embroiled in a personnel dispute at the library, resulting in dismissal from his curatorial position. However, because he had been given tenure upon his appointment, it was several years before his relationship with the University was finally severed. After leaving the University, he moved to Taiwan and China, where he currently heads what is described as the largest literary agency in the People’s Republic of China.
Developments were not entirely negative. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, several scholars who had been students at the University, some for longer periods, some more briefly, accepted appointments as tenured professors within the Department. First, in 1978, William F. Sibley (Ph.D. 1971) was appointed as Associate Professor of Japanese Literature. Sibley had been a student of Edwin McClellan. Even before completing his degree (in 1971), he taught first for one year at the University of Rochester, where he first made the acquaintance of Harry Harootunian, and then from 1969 until 1978 at the University of Michigan. His doctoral dissertation, “The Shiga Hero,” was published by the University of Chicago Press in 1979; it was also entitled *The Shiga Hero.* Sibley would remain at Chicago for the rest of his life, retiring in 2000. He was a gifted translator, producing numerous translations of modern Japanese literature, especially several important selections of Japanese gay literature and correspondence. His translation of “On Farting,” a piece of mock erudition by physician, inventor, and writer Hiraga Gengai 平賀源外 (1728-80), has helped make Vol. 9 of *Select Papers from the Center of East Asian Studies* of the University a best seller. Although Sibley would not publish another book, he was probably more responsible than anyone else to ensure that the numerous students who passed through the Department doing dissertations on topics in Japanese Studies were properly trained to read Japanese literature.

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Two years after Sibley returned to the University, the Department of History appointed Guy S. Alitto as Associate Professor of Chinese History, replacing Philip Kuhn, who had moved to Harvard in 1978. For Alitto, this too was a return of sorts to the University. He had begun his graduate studies at the University in 1966-67, but then moved to Harvard, where he completed his studies. Although his primary appointment has always been in History, he has been active in FELC and then EALC over the years. His doctoral dissertation, at Harvard, was an intellectual biography of the prominent Confucian scholar and activist Liang Shuming 夏夏夏 (1893-1988); it was published as *The Last Confucian: Liang Shu-ming and the Chinese Dilemma of Modernity* (1979). Alitto says of himself that over the last twenty years his research has focused on modern intellectual history, local histories at the village, county, and regional levels (Zouping 夏夏夏).
county in Shandong, the Wanxi苑西 area of southwestern Henan), family history (the Liangs梁 of Guilin桂林), and social history (Chinese banditry 1880–1950). He is especially interested in the connections between the political-social and the intellectual-cultural realms, as manifest in specific individuals and local cultures. He continues to participate in the ongoing Chinese discussion on culture and modernization through publications and lectures in the Chinese language. Indeed, many of his publications have been in Chinese and directed primarily at a Chinese readership.

Guy S. Alitto
Associate Professor of Chinese History

At about the same time that Alitto joined the History department, the Department of Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations made its first ever appointment in modern Chinese literature, appointing Leo Ou-fan Lee as a full professor. Lee had first come to the University, as a graduate student in 1963, at the same time as Anthony Yu. Lee recounts how working in the library under T.H. Tsien was a formative influence on him. However, he then moved on to Harvard University for his Ph.D. degree, working there under Benjamin I. Schwartz (1916-1999) and John K. Fairbank (1907-1991). After completing his degree at
Harvard (1970), he taught at several different universities before coming to Chicago: the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Princeton University, and Indiana University. Although his Harvard degree was in Chinese history, his major interest was in modern Chinese literature. Indeed, he pioneered the study of modern Chinese literature at Chicago, during his brief tenure at the University (1981-1991) completing two major studies of the important modern Chinese writer of Lu Xun 魯迅 (1881-1936): *Lu Xun and His Legacy* (1985) and *Voices from the Iron House: A Study of Lu Xun* (1987).28 After leaving Chicago, he first went to UCLA before returning to Harvard, and then returning to Hong Kong, where he has become a celebrated public intellectual.

Despite Leo Lee’s departure, modern Chinese literature has continued to be recognized as an essential field within the Department. The position was first filled with yet another Professor Lee, this time Gregory Lee, who remained with the Department just three years (1991-94). He was followed first by Xiaobing Tang, who would remain at the University for ten years (1995-2005), and then by Paola Iovene, who came to the Department in 2007.

In 1983 and 1984, the Department made two appointments of assistant professors who would break the string of unsuccessful tenure cases and both of whom would go on to make important contributions to the Department. In 1983, Norma M. Field was appointed as Assistant Professor of Japanese Literature. Like Edwin McClellan, Field’s first foray into the study of Japanese literature was with a translation of a novel by Natsume Sōseki, in her case it was of the novel

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And then, in her graduate studies at Princeton, she turned her attention to the great classic of traditional Japanese literature the *Tale of Genji* それから, which she translated as *And Then*. And then, in her graduate studies at Princeton, she turned her attention to the great classic of traditional Japanese literature the *Tale of Genji* それから, which she translated as *And Then*.\(^2^9\)

Her dissertation was published in 1987 as *The Splendor of Longing in the Tale of Genji*.\(^3^0\) However, after arriving at Chicago, Field’s concerns shifted to contemporary social issues. A sabbatical spent in Japan during the year that Emperor Hirohito died led to her book *In the Realm of a Dying Emperor* (1992), and then another year spent with her dying grandmother led to a contemplation of the society and politics of post-bubble Japan: *From My Grandmother’s Bedside* (1997).\(^3^1\) She was chair of the Department from 1997 until 2000, and then retired in 2012 as Robert S. Ingersoll Distinguished Service Professor in Japanese Studies.

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The year after Field’s appointment, Edward L. Shaughnessy was appointed as Assistant Professor of Chinese History, the position that had been held for many years by Edward Kracke. Shaughnessy has not shown the same breadth of vision as Norma Field, resolutely maintaining his specialization in the cultural history of early China. He has worked with both the traditional literary heritage of the period and also with archaeologically excavated sources, such as oracle-bone and bronze inscriptions, and in more recent decades with manuscripts written on bamboo and silk. He says on his profile on the Department web-site that he finds “it most rewarding when it proves possible to use these two types of texts to explicate each other.” Like Field, he too has served as chair of the Department, in his case twice (1990-1993, 2008-2012). In 1996 he was named the inaugural holder of the Lorraine J. and Herrlee G. Creel Professorship of Early China, a professorship made possible through a bequest of Professor and Mrs. Creel, and in 2005, on the centennial of Creel’s birth, he oversaw the establishment of the Creel Center for Chinese Paleography, which he continues to direct.
Edward L. Shaughnessy  
Lorraine J. and Herrlee G. Creel Distinguished Service Professor of Early China, Chair of EALC 1990-1993, 2008-2012

There were also important developments about this time in the Department’s language teaching programs. The teaching of modern Chinese and Japanese had long been a secondary emphasis of the Department faculty, concerned as they were with the traditional literary heritage. In the case of Chinese, this focus began to change with the appointment in 197? of George Chih-ch’ao Chao as director of the Chinese Language program. Insisting that all students could learn to speak Chinese properly, Chao became a legend in the Chinese-language teaching community, and was rewarded for this by both the Department and the University. In 1980, the Department faculty voted to promote him to Associate Professor with indefinite tenure, even though he held only a Master of Science degree. The next year, 1981, he was a recipient of the University’s Llewellyn John and Harriet Manchester Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, to this day the only time that a member of the Department has been so honored.

The Department’s Chinese-language program has changed a great deal since the time that George Chao was first hired. In those days, there were perhaps thirty or forty students of first-year modern Chinese, perhaps a dozen or so students of second-year Chinese, and just a few students who went beyond that level, with Chao and Cheng Borchert (Lecturer in Chinese, 1972-200?) handling the teaching responsibilities for almost two decades. Since the time of Chao’s retirement in 2002, the program has grown exponentially, both in terms of numbers of students, numbers of teaching staff, and also in terms of expectations of the students. There are currently six fulltime professional language
teachers teaching some 300 students from first-year through fifth-year Chinese.

Chinese-Language Teaching Instructors, 2016

Fang-pei Cai

Yi-lu Kuo

Meng Li

Youqin Wang

Xiang Shan

Jun Yang

In 1984, the Japanese-language program began a similar transformation. In that year, Hiroyoshi Noto was appointed Director of the Japanese-Language program, and quickly set about establishing
professional standards for the teaching of the language. During the remainder of the 1980s, when the Japanese economy was the envy of the world, the Department’s Japanese-language courses saw surging enrollments. Noto and his team of associates developed a series of textbooks to train the students in both speaking and reading and writing. Since then, these textbooks have been adopted at numerous universities throughout the Western world, and have remained the backbone of the Japanese program at Chicago. Together with his long-time colleagues Yoko Katagiri, Harumi Lory and Misa Miyachi, Noto-san has taught the Japanese language to over thirty years of Chicago students.

Japanese-Language Teaching Instructors, 2016

Yoko Katagiri
Harumi Lory

Misa Miyachi
Hiroyoshi Noto

In 1985, the Department also established for the first time the teaching of the Korean language. In that year, Su-Kin Chang, one of the co-authors of *Korean Grammar for International Learners*, published by Yonsei University, was hired as the first Director of the Korean Language Program. The program developed incrementally, with just one year of the language offered in the 1985-86 academic year, but then second and third years added in the following two years. In 1990, Chang was succeeded by Jae-Okh Cho, who had a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in Linguistics. Dr. Cho remained in the Department until 1997, after which time the Korean-language program struggled through several years of interim directors, despite booming enrollments in what had by then grown to a full four-year program. Finally, in 2008, Hi-Sun Kim was appointed director of the Korean-language program, which she remained until 2016.33

In the early 1990s, under the direction of Norma Field, the University raised nearly five million dollars to endow a program in Korean Studies, with the goal of establishing three separate professorial positions by the turn of the new millennium. Unfortunately, only one of these positions was ever realized, with the appointment of Kyeong-Hee Choi in 1998. Choi had studied at Indiana University, completing a Ph.D. degree in Comparative Literature in 1997. She threw herself into the dual task of becoming a scholar devoted to Korean Studies, on the one hand, and also developing a program in Korean Studies at the University, on the other. Her research focuses on the relationship between the culture of publication and the historical experiences of modern Koreans, especially the experiences of the Korean people during Japanese colonial rule.

33 Hi-Sun Kim has written a very informative history of the “Korean Language Program at the University of Chicago” (n.d., c. 2010), upon which I gratefully draw for this information about the language program.
producing a study entitled *Beneath the Vermilion Ink: Japanese Colonial Censorship and the Making of Modern Korean Literature* that explored ways that writers can defy censorship—and even turn it to their own uses. In almost twenty years of teaching at the University, she has trained a generation of young scholars of Korean literature, including Jun Yoo (Ph.D. 2002), professor of Korean literature at the University of Hawai‘i, Heekyoung Cho (Ph.D. 2010), professor of Korean literature at the University of Washington, and Hyun-Ho Joo (Ph.D. 2010), professor of Korean studies and associate dean of Yonsei University.³⁴

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³⁴ Yoo, Cho and Joo all produced dissertations under the direction of Kyeong-Hee Choi: Jun Yoo, “Sun Rising Over the Sea: The Emergence of Korean Women Under Dual Colonialism” (2002); Heekyoung Cho, “Literary Translation and Appropriation: Korean Intellectuals’ Reception of Nineteenth-Century Russian” (2010); and Hyun-Ho Joo, Between Culturalism and Nationalism: Late Qing China’s Representation of Chosan Korea (2010)
Department until 2005, after which he was succeeded in turn by Paola Iovene.

In 1991, Harrie H. Vanderstappen (1921-2007, Ph.D. 1955, Professor Emeritus of Chinese Art), a professor in the Department of Art History since 1959 and a charter member of the Department of Far Eastern Languages and Civilization, retired. Fr. Harrie’s retirement led to the establishment, in 1993, of the Harrie H. Vanderstappen Professorship in Chinese Art, with the appointment of Wu Hung, who until that time had been teaching at Harvard University. Since coming to the University, Wu has developed the Department of Art’s program in East Asian Art History into the most important program in the country. He is now the Harrie H. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor of Chinese Art. Although like Vanderstappen, Wu is primarily associated with the Department of Art History, like Vanderstappen too, he has always had an appointment in EALC and has played an important role in training students from the Department.

Judith Zeitlin also came to the University in 1993, also coming from teaching at Harvard. A specialist in Ming-Qing literature and cultural history, she joined David Roy and Anthony Yu to make Chicago the Western world’s foremost program in traditional Chinese fiction. In that year she published her first book: Historian of the Strange: Pu Songling and the Chinese Classical Tale. Since then, her interests have become increasingly broader, stretching from fiction to such other disciplines as theater, music, visual and material culture, medicine, gender studies, and film, in all of which she has found evidence of ghosts. Her second book, The Phantom Heroine: Ghosts and Gender in Seventeenth-Century Chinese Literature (2007), surveyed

the representation of ghosts throughout these different genres, exploring the theatricality of the split between body and soul. From 2004-2007, she was chair of EALC, and in 2010 was named William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Chinese Literature.

Judith Zeitlin
William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Chinese Literature,
Chair of EALC 2004-2007

In 1994, Harry Harootunian left the Department to become Dean of Humanities at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Although he quickly returned to the University after just one year in California, he then left again in 1996, this time for New York (New York University), and this time the departure would be definitive. Although Chicago’s program in Japanese Studies would continue to thrive, Harootunian’s departure brought an end to the theory-driven days of the Najitunians.

In 1999 and 2000, the Department lost three of its longest serving members: David Roy retired to work full time on his translation of the Jin ping mei, and James D. McCawley (1938-1999), the Andrew McLeish Distinguished Service Professor of Linguistics, passed away suddenly at the age of 61. McCawley’s primary appointment was in the Department of Linguistics, in which he made lasting contributions to the understanding of such general topics as syntax,
semantics and phonology. However, his doctoral dissertation, directed by Noam Chomsky at MIT, was entitled “The Accentual System of Modern Standard Japanese” (1965), and he remained passionately interested in East Asian languages thereafter. Perhaps his best known general interest book was entitled *The Eater’s Guide to Chinese Characters*, and generations of Chicago students and friends looked forward to his reviews of Chicago ethnic restaurants.

In the very next year, 2000, William Sibley unexpectedly announced his retirement, at the age of just 59. Although Sibley was immediately replaced, by Gregory Golley, Assistant Professor of Japanese Literature (1999-2006), Golley would not succeed in winning tenure, and indeed left the field. His departure would cause a crisis in the Department’s Japanese literature program that has still not been resolved.

These losses were mitigated somewhat by the appointment in 2000 of Donald Harper, as Professor of Early Chinese Intellectual History. Ever since Herrlee Creel’s retirement in 1974, the Department had had great trouble in filling its professorship in traditional Chinese intellectual history, with some appointments not resulting in successful tenure cases, some appointments understood to be just visiting, and several searches not leading to successful outcomes. Even the one search that had seemed to be successful, resulting in the appointment of Rudolf Wagner as Associate Professor in 1986, ultimately failed when Wagner accepted the professorship at Heidelberg University during the first quarter of his contract with Chicago. One of the visiting appointments was to Donald Harper (1987-88). He subsequently taught at Bowdoin College and the University of Arizona, before finally returning to the University in 2000. Harper had been trained at the University of California, Berkeley under Edward Schafer (1913-1991), completing a doctoral dissertation entitled “The Wu-shi-erh ping-
fangled: Translation and Prolegomena,” a study of one of the Han-dynasty medical manuscripts unearthed in 1974 at Mawangdui 馬王堆, Hunan; an expanded version of this study was published in 1998: *Early Chinese Medical Literature: The Mawangdui Medical Manuscripts.*36 Harper’s expertise is by no means limited to traditional Chinese medicine: he ranges widely across all of the occult traditions of ancient and medieval China, with a particular interest in unearthed manuscripts, and has also contributed greatly to the direction of the University’s East Asian Studies program, chairing the Department on two occasions (2001-2004, 2007-2008), and also directing the Center for East Asian Studies on two occasions (2005-2008, 2010-present).

Donald Harper
Centennial Professor of Chinese Civilization
Chair of EALC, 2001-2004, 2007-2008

Just as the Department’s program in Chinese intellectual history was revitalized by the appointment of Donald Harper, the appointment of Michael Bourdaghs as professor of Japanese literature in 2007 began the process of restoring its program in Japanese literature, especially after the retirement of William

Sibley in 2000. Like Edwin McClellan and Norma Field before him, Bourdaghs is also interested in the literature of Natsume Sōseki. He says that, like Sōseki, he also “think[s] the realm of the literary extends beyond fiction, poetry, and drama,” and he has ongoing interests in philosophy, critical theory, social history, popular culture, and film and media studies. In 2012, he authored *Sayonara Amerika, Sayonara Nippon: A Geopolitical Pre-History of J-Pop*, which, as the title suggests, is a study of J-Pop music. Bourdaghs also uses the title “Sayonara Amerika, Sayonara Nippon” for a blog (http://bourdaghs.com/blog/ ) that he has posted regularly since 2010, and about which he says:

> This blog tracks my interests in Japanese literature, popular and other kinds of music (from Japan and elsewhere), creative writing, film, politics, sumo, baseball, The Kinks, and whatever else strikes my fancy. More information about me is available at my homepage (www.bourdaghs.com). The title of the blog comes from a 1973 song recorded by the legendary Japanese rock band, Happy End. All opinions, rational conclusions, emotional outbursts, etc., are mine and mine alone. All errors are the fault of someone else.

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In just the time since Bourdaghs came to the University, there have been an even dozen more appointments within the Department (for a listing of all FELC / EALC faculty members, see Appendix 2). A full history of the Department, if ever it is written, will surely introduce all of these new members and explore how their research interests have expanded the opportunities for students within the Department. However, for the purposes of this brief history, it will have to suffice to mention just the current chair of EALC: Jacob Eyferth, Associate Professor of Modern Chinese History, who was newly appointed in 2016 (for a listing of all chairs of EALC, see Appendix 1). Eyferth joined the Department in 2007. He specializes in the craft industries of the Chinese countryside, his first book, Eating Rice from Bamboo Roots: The Social History of a Community of Handicraft Papermakers in Rural Sichuan, 1920-2000, having won the Joseph Levenson Book Prize in 2011 for “the greatest contribution to increasing understanding of the history, culture, society, politics, or economy of China” in the post-1900 period.

The Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago has now evolved through eighty years. As we have seen, the first thirty years were as a program within the Department of Oriental Languages and Civilizations and housed in the University’s Oriental Institute. The Department proper was established in 1966, then called Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations. In 1986, the name of the Department was changed to its current East Asian Languages and Civilizations. Over the years, more than 60 different faculty members have had appointments within the Department, and since the Department’s establishment in 1966 they have overseen 133 doctoral dissertations in every aspect of East Asian languages and civilizations (see Appendix 3 for a listing of these dissertations by year). It might be recalled that David Roy writing of Herrlee Creel, said: “He established the University of Chicago as a leading center of East Asian Studies.” While the Department has had some ups and downs over the eighty years since Creel’s initial appointment, the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations certainly continues to be a leading center of East Asian Studies.
Appendix 1

FELC / EALC Chairs

Edwin McLellan, 1966-1972
Philip A. Kuhn, 1972-1975
David T. Roy, 1975-1978
Harry Harootunian, 1978-1984
William F. Sibley, 1984-1990
Edward L. Shaughnessy, 1990-1993
Anthony C. Yu, 1994-1998
Norma Field, 1998-2001
Donald Harper, 2001-2004
Donald Harper, 2007-2008
Edward L. Shaughnessy, 2008-2012
Michael Bourdaghs, 2012-2016
Jacob Eyferth, 2016
Appendix 2

FELC / EALC Faculty Members, 1966-2016
(in order of year of appointment)

Herrlee Glessner Creel, Martin A. Ryerson Distinguished Service Professor of Chinese Thought, 1936-74
Tsuen-hsuin Tsien, Curator of the Far Eastern Library and Professorial Lecturer in Chinese Literature, 1950-1978
Edwin McLellan (1925-2009), Carl Darling Buck Professor of Japanese Literature, 1959-1972
Marianne L. Carlson, Assistant Professor of Chinese, 1966-
Robert F. Dernberger, Assistant Professor of Economics, 1966-
Robert Milton Hartwell, Assistant Professor of Chinese Social and Economic Thought and History, 1966-
Ping-ti Ho, James Westfall Thompson Professor of History, 1966-1986
Cornelius J. Kiley, Instructor in Medieval Japanese, 1966-
Philip A. Kuhn, Assistant Professor of Chinese History, 1966-1978
James J.Y. Liu, Associate Professor of Chinese Literature, 1966-1968
Eugene Soviak, Assistant Professor of Japanese Language and History, 1966-69
Tang Tsou, Professor of Political Science, 1966-1989
Harrie A. Vanderstappen, Professor of Art, 1966-1990
Joseph Mitsuo Kitagawa, Professor of History of Religions, 1966-1986
Edwin McClellan, Carl Darling Buck Professor of Japanese Literature, 1959-1972
David T. Roy, Professor of Chinese Literature, 1967-1999
James Morita, Professor of Linguistics, 1968-
James D. MacCawley, Andrew McLeish Distinguished Service Professor of Linguistics, 1969-1999
Tetsuo Najita, Robert S. Ingersoll Distinguished Service Professor in History, 1970-2002
Harry Harootunian, Max Palevsky Professor of History and Civilization, 1974-1996
Anthony C. Yu, Carl Darling Buck Distinguished Service Professor in the Humanities, 1974-2005
Akira Komai, Associate Professor of Japanese and Director of the Japanese Language Program, 1977-
Edward T. Ch’ien, Assistant Professor of Chinese Intellectual History, 1977-1985
Michael T. Dalby, Assistant Professor of Chinese History, 1977-1983
Lois M. Fusek, Assistant Professor of Chinese Literature, 1977-
Noriko A. MacCawley, Assistant Professor of Linguistics, 1977-
Clifton W. Royston, Assistant Professor of Japanese, 1977-
Akira Iriye, Professor of Diplomatic History, 1980-1989
Guy Alitto, Associate Professor of Modern Chinese History, 1980-
George Chao, Associate Professor of Chinese, 1980-2002
Luc Kwanten, Associate Professor, 1979-1987
William F. Sibley, Associate Professor of Japanese Literature, 1978-
Leo Lee, Professor of Modern Chinese Literature, 1981-1991
Norma Field, Robert S. Ingersoll Distinguished Service Professor in Japanese Studies, 1983-2012
Naoki Sakai, Assistant Professor of Japanese Intellectual History, 1985-1986
Edward Shaughnessy, Lorraine J. and Herrlee G. Creel Distinguished Service Professor in Early Chinese Studies, 1985-
Ikeda Koichi, Associate Professor of Japanese Literature, 1990-1993
Bruce Cumings, Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor in History, 1991-93
Prasenjit Duara, Professor of Modern Chinese History, 1991-2008
Gregory Lee, Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese Literature, 1991-1994
Eske Møllgaard, Assistant Professor of Chinese Intellectual History, 1993-1997
Judith Zeitlin, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Chinese Literature, 1994-
Xiaobing Tang, Associate Professor of Modern Chinese Literature, 1995-2005
Hung Wu, Harrie A. Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor in Art History, 1995-
James Ketelaar, Professor of Japanese History, 1996-
Kyeong-Hee Choi, Associate Professor of Korean Literature 1998-
Gregory Golley, Assistant Professor of Japanese Literature, 1999-2006
Susan Burns, Associate Professor of Japanese History, ?-
Donald J. Harper, Centennial Professor of Chinese Studies, 2000-
Michael Raine, Assistant Professor of Japanese Cinema, 2003-2010
Paul Copp, Associate Professor of Chinese Religions, 2005-
Yuming He, Associate Professor of Traditional Chinese Literature, 2006-2012
Paola Iovene, Associate Professor of Modern Chinese Literature, 2007-
Jacob Eyferth, Associate Professor of Modern Chinese History, 2007-
Michael Bourdaghs, Professor of Japanese Literature, 2007-
Reginald Jackson, Assistant Professor of Japanese Literature 2009-2015
Jongyon Hwang, Professor of Korean Literature, 2009
Yung-ti Li, Associate Professor of Chinese Archaeology, 2013-
Hoyt Long, Associate Professor of Japanese Literature, 2013-
Ariel Fox, Assistant Professor of Traditional Chinese Literature, 2014-
Haun Saussy, University Professor in Comparative Literature, 2014-
Kenneth Pomeranz, University Professor of Modern Chinese History, 2015-
Appendix 3

FELC / EALC Doctoral Dissertations, 1968-2016
(in order of year of degree)

1968

Buote, Edward L., *Chu-ko Liang and the Kingdom of Shu-han*

Morita, James R., *Ymada Bimyo as Novelist*

1970

Dietrich, Craig, *Cotton Manufacture and Trad in China (ca. 1500-1800)*

1971


Lyell, William A., *The Short Story Theatre of Lu Hsun*

Sibley, William F., *The Shiga Hero*

1972

Hsieh, Shan-yuan, *The Life and Thought of Li Kou (1009-1059)*

Li, Peter, *Tseng P’u: The Literary Journey of a Chinese Writer (1872-1935)*

1973


Ooms, Herman, *The Religious Motivation and Bureaucratic Leadership of Matsudaira Sadanobu (1758-1829)*

Rosen, Sydney H., *In Search of the Historical Kuan Chung*

1974

Kuller, Janet A., *Early Confucian resistance to Taoist Thought: A Study of Anti-Taoism in the Hsun Tzu*

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