Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies at Suffolk University Annual Report for 2010-2011

Rosenberg Institute

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Overview

The Rosenberg Institute completed another active and successful year during the 2010-2011 academic calendar. The most common comment that I and others hear when we visit other campuses is, “Suffolk seems to have a very successful Asian Studies program because of the Rosenberg Institute. It’s impressive what is going on.” The good response from students and faculty at other area schools, including Harvard, MIT, Boston University, UMASS Boston and many others who regularly attend our programs is an indication that this positive assessment of the Rosenberg Institute’s work is widely shared.

On the Suffolk campus, the Rosenberg Institute has likewise been accomplishing its mission of serving as the lead platform for all of Suffolk’s Asia-related activities. We have received endorsements and co-operation from our Acting President Barry Brown, the school deans, and many faculty. Enrollments in the courses about Asia continue to be good. At Suffolk, the Rosenberg Institute has worked to be involved as widely as possible with other Asia-related activities, including working with our Asian Studies Committee and Asian student groups.

We have an on-going relationship with a select group of Asia-related community groups, and with the diplomatic offices of Taiwan, Japan and Korea. Among the benefits of this involvement has been the wide coverage that Rosenberg Institute events have received in the New England area Chinese language press.
A. The section below lists the activities of the Rosenberg Institute conducted in conformance with the Terms of Agreement signed in July 2007, as modified by the Memorandum by Dean Greenberg agreed to in Fall 2008. These two documents call for a series of Distinguished Visitors and for the publication of academic papers.

Rosenberg Institute Scholar Series

Our core activities during the academic year were the series of nine outstanding scholars who were invited to lecture on the Suffolk campus as part of our Rosenberg Institute Scholar Series. Each lecture was widely advertised, was free and open to the general public. In addition to their main lecture, we asked that all scholars be available to faculty and students at another on-campus activity. At the lunches following the morning lectures, Suffolk faculty joined in a discussion with the visitor and often we invited especially interested students to join us as well.

Whenever possible, the Institute preferred to co-sponsor these events. This was both to demonstrate the support of other academic units at Suffolk for our activities, and to use the financial help and marketing prowess of other units to supplement the Institute’s resources. We continued to draw respectable numbers for all of our programs of forty to sixty people, even on a few severe weather days during the winter months, when attendance fell to about 30 persons.

Rosenberg Institute Scholar Series in 2010-2011

2010 Fall Semester

Sushi, Sushi 寿司寿司. Theodore Bestor, PhD. Harvard. Cultural anthropologist Bestor, a specialist on contemporary Japanese culture, spoke about the confluence of food and cultural values among the Japanese today, while the audience was able to sample from freshly-made sushi. This talk was sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies along with Dr. Micky Lee, Department of Communication and Journalism. October 2010. Later in the semester, Dr. Bestor
was elected vice-president of the prestigious Association for Asian Studies, meaning he will automatically succeed to become president for the 2012-2013 academic year.

**Chinese Paper Cutting 剪紙: Traditional and Not So Traditional.** Liang Changsheng 梁長勝, noted creative artist. His work is based on traditional forms, some of it very much folk art, but he is also avant garde. He produces creative line drawings and painting. He talked about and demonstrated Chinese paper cutting. Sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies and the New England School of Art and Design at Suffolk University (NESADSU). November 2010.

**“Burning Questions in Asian American Studies” 亞美研究熱辯.** Dr. Huping Ling 令狐萍, Truman State University. A highly published and widely respected scholar, Dr. Ling discussed how Americans look at the Chinese in their midst, and how Chinese-Americans react to being hyphenated Americans. Sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies. November 2010. A few weeks after her Suffolk visit. Dr. Ling’s book project *Asian American History and Culture, An Encyclopedia*, won the Booklist/Reference Books Bulletin Editor’s Choice Award.

**The Enigma of Japanese Business 不可解な日本ビジネス: The Aviation Industry as an Example.** Glen S. Fukushima, Chairman, Airbus Japan and Former President, American Chamber of Commerce in Japan. After receiving a law degree from Harvard, Glen Fukushima had a distinguished career in Washington DC in government service in the Office of the US Trade Representative, and in Japan, where he has held several high-level positions, including two terms as President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (1998 and 1999). He is both a leader in international business, and an informed commentator on Japan and its role in international trade. Sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies. November 2010.

**2011 Spring Semester**

**Korean Shijo Poetry 韓國時調 한국시조.** Dr. David McCann, Harvard. This was a workshop in which the outlines of Korea’s most popular form of traditional poetry were given, and participants were encouraged to write their own *shijo* in English!

Dr. McCann’s visit to Suffolk was sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies, the Creative Writing Program of the Department of English at Suffolk, and the College of Arts and Science Dean’s Office. January 2011.

Being Eastern in the West 東方人在西方. Maxine Hong Kingston. This award-winning author was in Boston to launch a new book. In this talk, she spoke about Chinese-Americans practicing the old customs in the new world and in the new age, i.e. Buddhism and Christian holidays, Asian religious views and Western psychoanalysis, magic and science. Sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies and the Creative Writing Program of the English Department of Suffolk University. February 2011.

Beijing! The City Renewed 北京! 復興的城市. Dr. Michael Chapman, Beijing University. Dr. Chapman is a Suffolk Graduate, receiving his BSc, *summa cum laude*, in 2002 and his PhD is from Boston College, 2006. Now living and teaching in Beijing, Dr. Chapman became fascinated with China’s most respected city. He leads tours and teaches a course about the city. In this highly-illustrated talk, he talked about how this most ancient city is being revitalized. February 2011.

Comedy and Drama on the Classical Japanese Stage. Katsumi Yanagimoto 柳本勝海, noted calligrapher and performer of classical Kyōgen 狂言. Two Master Classes, each including a lecture on forms of classical Japanese theater, were offered, both open to students with permission of the instructor. The master classes were held in the Studio Theater of the Theater Department. This was sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies and the Theater Department of Suffolk University. March 2011.

Zen Friends: Literary Friendships between Late Imperial Chinese Women Poets and Buddhist Nuns. Dr. Beatta Grant, Washington University in St. Louis. Educated women were often discouraged from visiting Buddhist temples
and making friends with Buddhist nuns, since this would mean breaking the rules of female propriety by leaving the inner quarters. Women did not, however, always follow the rules. Dr. Grant has published several major studies on the lives of educated women in premodern China. April 2011.

Special Public Event: The China Town Hall Meeting

China Town Hall: Issues in US-China Relations. 中美关系最近报告。Once again in 2010 the Rosenberg Institute was asked by the National Committee on United States-China Relations in New York to cooperate in presenting a public forum for all interested persons in the Boston area. Fifty-five other universities in North America and Asia also participated. US Ambassador to China Jon Huntsman, spoke via a live video feed from Beijing. The evening was labeled a China Town Hall Forum. The audience at Suffolk saw the live feed and was able to ask questions using the email computer Suffolk provided. Douglas Spelman, Deputy Director of the Kissinger Institute on China and the United States at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC visited Suffolk to address the audience in a short talk prior to the video feed. Co-sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies and the National Committee on US-China Relations. October 2010.

Rosenberg Institute’s First Occasional Paper

The first occasional paper of the Rosenberg Institute, titled Public Medicine in Wartime China: Biomedicine, State Medicine, and the Rise of China’s National Medical Colleges, 1931-1945, by Dr. John R. Watt is scheduled to be published by the end of 2011. We had planned to issue this publication earlier, but decided the preparation of a glossary, inclusion of photographs and a map would add to its usefulness. At this point, all of the text and related materials have been prepared, cover design and layout approved. We will get bids from printers and plan to actually print in the fall. Upon publication, we will launch the new title with a ceremony, perhaps including a lecture by Dr. Watt.
Rosenberg Institute’s First Visiting Scholar from Asia

In September 2011 the Rosenberg Institute will welcome our first Visiting Scholar. **Dr. Hae-Kwang Park** will join us to spend one year.

Dr. Park is from Chonnam National University in Korea. His PhD is from Yonsei University. He is the author of two books and a co-author of five other volumes published in Korean, several on the themes of the lives of Korean workers, on class, identity and culture.

His research project while at Suffolk will be on the evolving multi-culturalism in South Korea as men living in the countryside turn to China, Vietnam and the Philippines to find brides. Koreans have always felt themselves to be a unique, homogeneous society, composed of 100% Korean people. But these foreign brides living in Korean communities challenge the old views. How are they being welcomed into Korean society? What identities will their children carry? Can Korea accept itself as a multi-cultural society?

Dr. Park is completely self-funded for this visit. He will participate in the intellectual life of Suffolk during his time here.

B. Without drawing any money at all from the income of the endowed fund, Suffolk University has been careful to honor the specific terms listed in the original agreement with Barbara and Richard Rosenberg. The University has hired a full-time administrator (the Director) for the Institute (going well beyond the part-time position called for in the original agreement), provided professional and suitable office space for the Director, and has made available all of the necessary facilities and support services for Rosenberg Institute activities. It has also supported the marketing and communications activities of the Institute. We have
used University email lists, as well as the email lists developed by the Institute, to advertise all of its programs and activities.

During the 2010-2011 academic year the University did not draw upon the income from the funds generously contributed by the Rosenbergs, but instead used University funds to cover the salary and expenses of the Director and the Institute and funded all of the sponsored programs listed in this Annual Report.

This Report is submitted in accordance with the original Terms of Agreement.

C. Cooperation with the Asian Studies Program. As administrator of the Rosenberg Institute, the Director was asked by the University to cooperate with the new Asian Studies Program established in fall 2009. In some cases the Rosenberg Institute lent its name in support of these activities and used its email lists to help draw an audience, but in general the meetings were organized and advertised by the members of the faculty-led Asian Studies Committee, chaired by Professor Da Zheng. The activities of the Asian Studies Program were covered entirely by Suffolk University funds. We used these programs to promote an interest in Asia on the campus and to encourage interested students to select an Asian Studies major or minor. Some students from other campuses in the area attended these events, though the majority were Suffolk students. Many faculty members were also present at all of these events.

Asian Studies Program Events

Suffolk’s First Language Program in China

A group of ten Suffolk students and alumni were led by Professor Da Zheng, Chair of the Asian Studies Program at Suffolk, to study Chinese language and culture during June 2010 at the spacious campus of Shanghai Normal University. Their study activities included study visits to the nearby historical cities of Hangzhou
and Suzhou, as well as to the impressive Exposition being held in Shanghai. At the opening ceremony, the students and their teachers were joined by Dr. Ronald Suleski, Director of the Rosenberg Institute at Suffolk, and Professor James Cataldo, a specialist in accounting at the Sawyer Business School, who was in Shanghai delivering lectures at nearby Lixin University.

The Rosenberg Institute arranged a paid internship for a Suffolk student with a biomedical company in Nagoya Japan carried out in July and August 2010.

D. Every attempt was made to increase the visibility of the Rosenberg Institute and the Asian Studies Program at Suffolk. The section below indicates the major categories of these activities: Welcoming Visitors to the Institute; Promoting Suffolk’s Asia-Related Activities; Community Outreach Programs; Encouraging Faculty Research.

Visitors to the Rosenberg Institute in 2010-2011

As its programs become more widely known, the Institute is visited by scholars and others with a special interest in Asia. They come to learn about the Rosenberg Institute’s programs, and to talk about their own projects and research interests. During the 2010-2011 academic year, a number of such individuals arranged to stop by the Institute.

Gail Wang, who is supervising Chinese language programs for the Boston Public Schools, brought Professor Li Ming 李銘, who runs the language laboratories at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China, to visit the Suffolk campus and the Rosenberg Institute. Professor Li brought her son Wang Ruocun 王若存, a graduate student at Renmin University in Beijing, who is thinking of doing PhD-level work in the United States. They were also welcomed by Dean Kenneth Greenberg. August 2010.
John Chuan Tiong Lim 林泉忠, PhD. Dr. Lim teaches Asia-Pacific regional studies at the University of the Ryukuys in Okinawa. He has conducted major studies of attitudes on regional identification and perceptions of people in the Asia-Pacific rim. He was enroute home from a period of study in Taiwan. September 2010.

Lu Keli 路克利. Mr. Lu is a PhD candidate at Peking University. This year he is a Visiting Fellow at the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard. His research is on the documentary history of the Chinese Communist Party. September 2010.

Douglas Spelman. Dr. Spelman retired from a thirty year career with the State Department as US Consul-General in Shanghai (2002-2005) and the rank of Minister-Counselor. He is currently Deputy Director of the Kissinger Institute on China and the United States at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. He was on campus to participate in the China Town Hall meeting, co-sponsored jointly by the Rosenberg Institute and the National Committee on US-China Relations. He visited the Rosenberg Institute to learn about our programs and activities. October 2010.

Gao Jian 高健. Dr. Gao is a Lecturer at the Shanghai International Studies University 上海外国語大學. His current research interests are on the political and philosophical thought of Harvard scholar Samuel Huntington. Dr. Gao wanted to discuss student exchanges between Suffolk and his school, and creating formal agreements between both schools. October 2010.

Mei Yuguo 梅宇國. Mike Mei is a well-know calligrapher in the Boston area. He runs an art association based in Boston’s Chinatown, and he frequently gives lectures and demonstrations at area colleges and universities. We discussed his recent activities; a Suffolk student is in one of his classes and is working on a calligraphy project to write out the Thousand Character Classic 千字文. February 2011.

Victor Seow (Xiao Jianye 蕭建業). Victor is a PhD candidate at Harvard, working on the place of natural energy and geological resources in south
Manchuria from 1907 to 1957, and how they aided in forming national empires for the Japanese (Manchukuo) and for the Chinese (early People’s Republic). In particular, he is studying the Fushun 撫順 Colliery, which Imperial Japan made into one of the largest open-pit mining operations in the world. Victor shared talk of research about Manchuria, and discussed a conference that was later held in spring 2011 that he is planning. Dr. Suleski acted as a panel moderator at that conference. February 2011.

Degawa Tetsuro 出川智朗. Mr. Degawa is Director of the Museum of Oriental Ceramics in Osaka, Japan. The museum is operated by the City of Osaka for the benefit of the public and for specialists who are interested in this topic. Mr. Degawa was in Boston to visit the MFA and the Sackler Museum at Harvard. We discussed the possibility of having a Suffolk student as an intern at a museum in the Osaka area. March 2011.

Kitamura Masako 北村雅子. Mrs. Kitamura is a clinical psychologist and counselor who was in Boston for a week of training at The Trauma Center. She is working with children in Japan who have issues of separation, ADD, etc. Our meeting took place just as news of the major earthquake and tsunami in Japan was reaching us, so the topic dominated our conversation. March 2011.

Yanagimoto Katsumi 柳本勝海 from Kyoto and Dr. Matthew Fraleigh from Brandeis University. They gave two master classes at the Suffolk Theater Department, and also visited the Rosenberg Institute to learn about our programs. Mr. Yanagimoto is from Kyoto and is well-respected in noh 能, kyōgen 狂言 and artistic (calligraphy) circles in southeast Japan. March 2011.

Zhang Qi 張騏. Dr. Zhang is a professor at the Peking University Law School and is currently a Fulbright Scholar at Harvard Law School. He visited the Rosenberg Institute, met with Dean Greenberg; Professor Zheng, Chair of our Asian Studies Committee; and Dan Wu, Director at the Center for International Education at Suffolk. We discussed student and faculty exchanges with Peking University and enjoyed lunch together.
Delegation from Hangzhou University. The delegation signed an agreement for mutual cooperation and exchange of students and faculty between the two schools. The delegation, which had been invited to Suffolk by the Rosenberg Institute, was composed of He Jun, Vice-President, Hangzhou Normal University; Chen Danyu, Director, Academic Development Office; Wu Xiaowei, Director, International Exchange and Cooperation Office; Zhou Xiao’ou, Dean, Fine Arts Institute; Chen Xing, Dean, Research Institute of Arts and Education; Fan Lidan, Associate Dean, Institute for Chinese Studies. May 2011

Yamakawa Takashi 山川隆司. Yamakawa-san is Chairman of the family-owned USACO Corporation in Tokyo. He was in Tokyo for a meeting of the Society for Scholarly Publishing, of which he is an officer. His corporation deals in the electronic delivery of scientific and specialized information. He met President Brown, Vice-President Griffith, Dean O’Neill, and some other folks at Suffolk. June 2011.

Takahashi Akira 高橋 晶. Mr. Takahashi is CEO of AyuSoft Co., Ltd. in Japan. Mr. Yamakawa invited him to attend our meeting at Suffolk and he was kind enough to do so. He supplies software that handles the library systems of some large universities in Japan. Jun 2011.

Promoting Suffolk’s Asia-Related Activities

The Rosenberg Institute takes every opportunity to promote Asia-related activities at Suffolk. This often involves simply endorsing an event, or a welcome delivered by the Director Dr. Suleski. In addition, we use our targeted email lists to draw audiences to the program we endorse.
Chinese Students Visit Suffolk. Suffolk has been regularly hosting groups of students from Asia who visit our campus and take an intensive program in English language and American Studies. In the summer of 2010 we had two such groups on campus. A group of 15 students and 1 faculty member from Lixin University in Shanghai were here from 17 to 31 July. They lived in the dorms and combined English language study with visits to Boston’s cultural sites. A second group of 23 students from the Chinese University of Hong Kong were here from 28 June to 7 August. In addition to their studies, they participated in volunteer activities, and stayed with host families. In both cases, students from Suffolk are now studying in the summer of 2011 at these two campuses.

These two successful programs were arranged by Dan Wu at the Center for International Education and Linda Foley-Vinay of Suffolk’s second Language Services.

Suffolk’s Sawyer Library received books donated by the Japan Foundation and by Korean Professor Hong Wontak. These gifts were arranged by the Rosenberg Institute, and delivered in September 2010.

The Japan Foundation donated seven modern Japanese novels that had been translated into English. Professor Hong donated two of his original studies. Suffolk prominently displayed this news story on the University website, and included a photo of Dr. Suleski with Acting Librarian Rebecca Fulweiler, and the statement: Ronald Suleski, professor and director of the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies, said, “Suffolk University is continually increasing its course offerings dealing with Asia, so all of these books will be welcomed by our students who are always exploring a wide range of ideas.”
The ‘Evil State’: Collective Memory and National Identity in North Korea, was a talk given in October 2010 by Dr. Simone Chun of the Department of Government at Suffolk. The Rosenberg Institute assisted the Government Department and the Asian Studies Program in advertising the lecture. Attending were Um Taeyun Korean Consul, Frederick Loher Consul-General of Germany in Boston, who has served as ambassador to Pyongyang and to Beijing. Simone was introduced by Prof Rodriguez from Government. The room was filled with other faculty and students.

Lunar New Year Celebration was held in February 2011, sponsored by the Center for International Education to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit. Chinese food was offered to the many students present. Many members of the Asian Studies Committee also attended. The Rosenberg Institute and the Office of diversity Services assisted in this festive event.

China in the World: Regional Responses was an open roundtable held in March 2011. The Rosenberg Institute joined with Suffolk’s Distinguished visiting Scholar Program, the Asian Studies Program, and the Government Department, to promote this event. A series of specialists looked at China today from the perspective of the European Union, Africa, Latin America, and Northeast Asia. Many graduate students were in attendance. Associate Dean Sebastian Royo was one of the panelists. All present agreed that an unusually broad view of China’s involvement
in the international community was presented because of the exceptional range of expertise of the speakers.

**Artist Gowri Savoor** was on campus over a period of several days to construct a **rangoli**. This was a “sand-painting” using geometric designs constructed of rice, wheat and other natural grains. She also gave a lecture to students at NESAD (the New England School of Art and Design), the Art Department in the College. The purpose of the **rangoli** was to celebrate the new building scheduled to be built on the Suffolk campus which will house facilities for NESAD students. Held in November 2010.

**Community Outreach Programs**

The Rosenberg Institute continued to cooperate with selected community non-profit organizations. Since Boston has a large community of Chinese, Vietnamese, Cambodians and Koreans, it is important that the Rosenberg Institute offer its support and endorsement to groups organized by these communities. In this regard, the Rosenberg Institute joins with Massachusetts Governor Duval Patrick and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, who have endorsed these organizations.

**Asian Taskforce Against Domestic Violence (ATASK).** Many prominent Bostonians are involved in raising funds for this unique organization. Many Asian women who face domestic violence issues feel isolated and helpless because of language and cultural differences. Clients of the Taskforce are predominantly Asian immigrants with roots in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia. Their staff speaks 12 Asian languages and the group provides emergency shelter, a 24-hour multilingual helpline, case management/advocacy, children’s services, legal advocacy, life skills/ESOL, and outreach and education. Several of ATASK’s innovative programs have been recognized as national models. In the Spring 2011 gathering, the wife of Governor Patrick spoke, as did Mayor Menino. The Rosenberg Institute helps to publicize these events.
**Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC).** This is the most active and well-organized community group in Boston’s Chinatown, which is adjacent to the Suffolk campus. Faculty often take their students for a tour of this Center and Suffolk students sometimes volunteer at the Center. The endorsement of the Rosenberg Institute has been acknowledged by this organization.

**Chinese historical society of New England (CHSNE)** is an active organization that gathers materials, publishes books, and holds exhibitions on the history of Boston’s Chinatown community. Suffolk professors and Staff, including Justina Chu of the Law School, Alan Tow of the Department of Education and Human Services, and Da Zheng the Chair of Suffolk’s Asian Studies Committee are all officers of this organization. The organization awarded a four-year scholarship to Jonathan Huang, a Suffolk freshman from Chinatown who was present at the annual banquet held in September 2010. The Rosenberg Institute sponsored a table at the Annual Banquet.

**Primary Source.** This influential education non-profit group has been promoting the teaching of Asia in New England schools for the past three decades. It is well respected by educators in the United States. The Rosenberg Institute has helped to arrange venues on the Suffolk campus for the group. For example, in August 2010 Primary Source had a lecture room at the Suffolk University Law School called East Asian Stories and People. It began at 8:30am and ran until 4pm. About 35 secondary school teachers from Massachusetts attended. Dr. Suleski welcomed the group on behalf of the Rosenberg Institute. Dr. Suleski has agreed to serve on the Primary Source advisory committee.

**Taiwan Education and Cultural Office in Boston (TECO).** This serves as the diplomatic office for Taiwan. The Rosenberg Institute continues to assist the office in obtaining venues at Suffolk for some of their activities. For example, the **Taiwan Culture Leadership Conference held in September 2010.** In this annual event, students from Taiwan who are at colleges in the New England area gather for a day of talk and reflection about their experiences as international students in the US. About 60 student leaders participated in the full day of panels and discussions.
Promoting Academic and Faculty Research

In cooperation with the Asian studies Committee, the Rosenberg Institute continued to encourage Suffolk faculty to be active in research and community involvement. Our email notices always cite recent publications by the Asia scholars on campus and we note their participation in academic conferences. Two activities given wide local coverage are mentioned below.

**Asian Studies: Traditions and Transformations** was the Asian Studies Development Program’s Seventeenth Annual National Conference, held in Boston in March 2010. The Asian Studies Committee at Suffolk organized a panel and two other lectures by Suffolk faculty. The Rosenberg Institute endorsed this event and helped to advertise it. A large number of people from our email lists were in attendance because of the Institute’s announcements.

**Video Conference with President Ma Ying-Jeou of Taiwan.** This was held in May 2011, organized by the Taiwan diplomatic office in Boston. Dr. Suleski was on a panel, joined by Asia specialists Joseph Fewsmith of Boston University, Steve Goldstein of Smith College, and Alan Wachman of Tufts University. The panelists and audience in Boston were welcomed by Bill Clifford, President of World Boston, co-host for the event. The meeting was held at the offices of K&L Gates at State Street Financial Center. Christopher Lynch, an honors student in History at Suffolk was also present.