

Yale-China

REVIEW

AUTUMN 2008



雅禮協會

INSIDE

2 Letter from the
Acting Executive
Director

3 Program News

10 Yale-China Stories

15 Our Community

Yale-China Faces

This fall multiple transitions continue at Yale-China. My personal transition is from many years of deep engagement in the Health Programs to the recent

responsibility for facilitating and supporting the full range of our programs in the role of Acting Executive Director. As I reflect on the past eight months, I want to share some snapshots from my personal transition. Among the snapshots in my mind is one of the open and cheerful faces of Teaching Fellows, earnestly discussing their students, China, and the world across round tables laden with wonderful food. Another photo captures the composed, calm face of a Hunan University student from Sichuan as she describes the efforts of her fellow Yale-China scholarship students to raise money to ameliorate the tragic consequences of the earthquake. In New Haven, the camera captures the beaming faces of two young women from Changsha, one graduating in May with a PhD from the Yale School of Nursing. Each snapshot is accompanied by a story, unique to each individual, but bearing in common a link to the Yale-China Association.



From left, Li Xianhong, a Yale-China Chung Fellow in 2007-08; Ann Williams, and Liu Shan, a graduate of Central South University in Changsha who received her PhD from Yale in May.



In this issue of the *Yale-China Review*, we bring a few of these Yale-China stories to you. We'd also like to invite you to share your "Yale-China Story"—why does this work inspire you, what is it about China that captures your imagination, what are your thoughts on the future of U.S.-China relations? Or maybe you have a story to tell from your own Yale-China experience. You can share your experiences on our website at www.yalechina.org or email us at yalechinastories@yale.edu. As we hear from you, we'll share your story with others on the web.

Ann B. Williams

Acting Executive Director, Yale-China Association

Professor of Nursing and Medicine, Yale University

YALE-CHINA OPENS OFFICE IN CHANGSHA

For the first time since the early 1950s, a full-time Yale-China staff member is living and working in Changsha. Christina Stouder, senior program officer for teaching programs, has taken up residence at Hunan University. From a newly-renovated office on the Hunan University campus, she will oversee all of Yale-China's Teaching Programs, including those in Anhui, Guangdong, and Hong Kong. She'll also serve as liaison to our many programs and partners based in Hunan's provincial capital.

"The reopening of an office in Changsha is truly an historic and moving event," said Ann Williams, Yale-China's acting executive director and a professor of nursing and medicine at Yale University, during the unveiling of the new office in October.

"As Yale-China moves into its second century, the renewal of a permanent office in Changsha reflects the enduring nature of our partnerships and friendships with Chinese institutions and individuals. We are extremely fortunate that Ms. Stouder will be our representative in the coming years."

Christina is fluent in Chinese and Japanese and has a Master's degree in Teaching English as a Second or Other Language (TESOL). She previously taught English and developed curricula at a school for girls in rural Hunan province and has also lived in Japan.

Hunan University held a formal ceremony to mark the opening of the office in early October. Several Members of the Yale-China staff and Board of Trustees, as well as more than 200 Hunan University Yale-China Scholarship recipients participated.



Senior Program Officer for Teaching Programs Christina Stouder, Hunan University Vice President Zhang Jin, Acting Executive Director Ann Williams, and Interim Hong Kong Office Director and Trustee Terry Yip at the opening of the Changsha office.

NEW JOURNAL EXPLORES HEALTH AND INTERNAL MIGRATION



The 2008 edition of the *Yale-China Health Journal* is now available free of charge on our website. This issue focuses on the health of China's internal migrants. The SARS outbreak in 2003 and China's highly visible HIV/AIDS epidemic brought a new sense of urgency to the seriously-overlooked health status of China's internal migrant population, who mostly go without any form of health insurance and have limited means to access China's existing health care system. In focusing on this topic, Yale-China hopes to contribute to scholarship, dialogue, and programming in this important area.

Hard copies of the journal can be purchased for US\$5.00 plus shipping. Please contact Katie Glazier at 203 432-1771 or katie.glazier@yale.edu for more details. Previous journals have covered topics such as HIV/AIDS and Mental Health and are available free of charge in electronic form on our website (www.yalechina.org).

LAW FELLOW TEACHES EVIDENCE, CLINICAL LAW AT HUNAN UNIVERSITY

Yale-China Law Fellow Eden Forsythe joined the faculty at Hunan University Law School (HULS) in September to teach courses on Evidence and Clinical Law and to help re-start the Yale-China Law Fellows Program. The program sends young U.S.-trained attorneys to China for one year to teach courses on U.S. and international legal practices and standards in Chinese law schools. Yale-China Law Fellows have also helped to pioneer the field of clinical legal education in China, which provides one of the best avenues through which Chinese law schools can begin to foster communities of students and teachers prepared to use the law to serve the public interest.

Eden, who served as a Deputy District Attorney in the State of California before beginning her fellowship and is fluent in Mandarin, Russian, and English, says, “I think few things would [give me] greater professional satisfaction right now than being a part of the rule of law movement in China.”



Eden Forsythe teaches at Hunan University Law School.

In addition to placing a Law Fellow at HULS, Yale-China is further collaborating with the school by selecting outstanding HULS Law Faculty to spend a semester in residence at Yale as Yale-China Chung Fellows (see page 5).

“The cooperation between Hunan University Law School and the Yale-China Association is very exciting,” says Yale-China Director of Law Programs Honglin Li. “These collaborations give U.S. attorneys the opportunity to contribute to the education of China’s future lawyers and judges while witnessing China’s rapidly-changing legal environment up close. There’s so much that both sides can learn from each other, which is why we’re thrilled to be bringing Huda law faculty to the U.S. as well.”

The Yale-China Law Program is made possible with the support of the Chung Kin Kwok Education Foundation and the members of the Yale-China Association.

‘BEYOND THE IRON RICE BOWL’ TO EXAMINE CHINA’S NUTRITIONAL CHALLENGES



A Symposium on Public Health Interventions & Policy Approaches to New Nutritional Challenges in South China

11/06/08

9:00 AM

Cohen Auditorium
Yale Child Study Center
230 South Frontage Road
New Haven, CT

As this issue of the *Yale-China Review* was going to press, staff were getting ready for a November 6 symposium entitled “Beyond the Iron Rice Bowl: A Symposium on Public Health Interventions and Policy Approaches to New Nutritional Challenges in South China.” Co-sponsored by the Yale-China Association and the Council on East Asian Studies at Yale University, the event will address burgeoning health issues through a look at regional nutrition trends and intervention strategies, with the hope of contributing to scholarship and outcomes in this area.

To learn more about the symposium and these important issues, please keep an eye on our website. We plan to post photos, abstracts, and possibly full presentations from the event’s speakers in the coming months. The symposium is part of an initiative on Public Health Challenges in South China that is made possible with the support of the Council on East Asian Studies at Yale, the United States Department of Education, and the members of the Yale-China Association.



From left, Yale Psychiatry Faculty Robert Rohrbaugh and Michael Sernyak discuss residency training with Professor Chen Jindong, director of the Medical Affairs Office of the 2nd Xiangya Hospital, and Professor Sun Weijia, vice president of Xiangya Hospital.

YALE-CHINA PARTNERS WITH XIANGYA TO PIONEER RESIDENCY TRAINING IN CHINA

Yale-China has been intensively engaged in developing a residency training program that we hope will become a model for university-affiliated hospitals across China. The initiative, entitled the Chung Hospital and Medical Program, is being designed with a core group of faculty members from the Yale School of Medicine and the three Xiangya School of Medicine-affiliated hospitals in Changsha.

The program will develop and implement model residency programs at each of the three Xiangya-affiliated hospitals, focusing on internal medicine, psychiatry, and community health. One of its primary goals is to successfully integrate medical ethics, professionalism, and patient safety across the continuum of medical training. It will also aim to enhance medical and psychiatric care and public health education in rural communities through exchanges and trainings involving residents and senior professionals. Faculty from both sides have been visiting each other to work on the program's design, and the program includes annual exchanges of medical residents and students from Yale and Xiangya, who will do rotations at each other's institutions, which will allow them to learn about global health problems and develop joint projects. The first residents from Yale were set to depart for China when this issue was going to press.

"Systematic post-medical school training for new physicians is sorely needed in China," says Hongping Tian, director of Yale-China's health programs. "With China's health system undergoing a period of reform, this project is giving Yale and Xiangya colleagues the chance to work together to develop a residency training program that will adapt what has worked in the U.S., yet also tailor it to ensure that it truly works for China."

The Chung Hospital and Medical Program is made possible with the support of the Chung Kin Kwok Education Foundation and the members of the Yale-China Association.

CHIA, CHUNG FELLOWS ARRIVE IN NEW HAVEN AND FIND A HOME AT YALE

Eight Yale-China Fellows have taken up residence in New Haven this fall as they spend a semester at Yale as Visiting Scholars. While they are here under the auspices of various program initiatives, all of our visiting fellowships to Yale focus on building Chinese institutional capacity, strengthening our ties with our Chinese program partners, and creating ways for the Fellows and faculty at Yale to learn from each other.

Four of our Fellows are Chia Fellows. The Chia Family Health Fellowship program brings Chinese women who work in the health professions in Hunan and Yunnan provinces to Yale each fall during which time they develop a public health project



under the guidance of a Yale faculty mentor and Yale-China staff, and then implement the project upon their return to China. This year's Chia Fellows are Cao Yuping, Luo Jing, Rui Li, and Zhang Xiaoyu. (To read one former Chia Fellow's story, please see page 10.)

In addition to the Chia Fellows, we have four Chung Fellows in New Haven this fall. Gao Zhong, a professor of law at Hunan University; and Zhang Yun and Cheng Jiaolin, professors of English at Hunan University, are this semester's Chung Academic Leadership Fellows. The Chung Academic Leadership Program aims to develop a few defined disciplines at key universities in Hunan province through faculty

visits to Yale and subsequent exchanges with Yale faculty and students in Changsha. Guo Jia, a PhD candidate in nursing at Central South University in Changsha, is this year's Chung Academic Nursing Fellow. The goal of the Chung Academic Nursing Program is to contribute to the development of Central South's nursing program, with particular emphasis on its PhD program. (To read Guo Jia's "Yale-China Story," please turn to page 12.) To read bios of all of our Fellows, please visit our website (www.yalechina.org).

CHINESE AND AMERICAN MUSICIANS SHARE MUSIC, OUTREACH IN 2ND YALE-CHINA MUSIC EXCHANGE



Scenes from the YUE Music Exchange, which included concerts and community outreach.

The Yale-China Music Exchange (YUE or 乐, meaning music) celebrated its second season in June, bringing together 28 musicians from China and the United States to perform eight concerts for nearly 2,000 audience members over the course of two weeks in Changsha, Huangshan, and Shanghai.

"Most musical 'exchanges' in China are solely on the level of performance, where a local Chinese ensemble plays the first half of a visiting American ensemble's concert," says Courtney Cox, a co-founder and executive director of the exchange. "While musical tours do have great value, YUE's vision reaches beyond an exchange of ideas or performances—rather, YUE seeks to tap into the power of music to bring people to use these exchanged ideas in a creative and collaborative new way, working together to bring about something new that can only be the result of shared efforts and mutual trust."

One of Courtney's fellow musicians from China, violinist Zheng Chenzi, shared his view: "When YUE began, I didn't

dare speak—but slowly, I discovered that everyone was really friendly and very interesting, that musically everyone had an opinion, and so I longed to take part. After two weeks, I had made friends, and began to rely on the team."

The 2008 YUE Music Exchange was made possible with the support of the members of the Yale-China Association, Fuji Xerox China, the Xujiahui District Cultural Center, and members of the Yale Club of Shanghai.



Yale-China Service Interns and Yale-China Scholarship students at Hunan University lead classes and activities for students in Ningxiang, Hunan province.

YALE-CHINA INTERNS AND HUNAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS JOIN FORCES IN SERVICE PROJECT

In late July, a group of Yale-China Service Interns teamed up with ten Yale-China Scholarship recipients from Hunan University for a week-long service project in Ningxiang, Hunan province. The activity came at the end of the Yale-China Service Internship Program, which sends Yale undergraduates to mainland China and Hong Kong each summer to intern at nonprofit organizations.

The service project saw the students designing and leading an English-language day-camp at a middle school in Ningxiang, an under-resourced area about an hour away from Changsha. Each Yale student co-taught with a Hunan University counterpart, and the camp featured English songs and games, public health education, and plenty of basketball and Frisbee with the kids.

In addition to being a chance to do service work, the “End-of-Summer Service Project” component of the Yale-China Service Internship Program facilitates meaningful exchange between Yale students and their Chinese counterparts. The students room together during the project, giving them lots of time for personal and informal conversations in the evenings. At the end of the week-long camp, the Huda and Yale students traveled together to Zhang Jia Jie National Forest Park in Western Hunan. For the Yale students, the opportunity to get to know someone their age proves to be a very meaningful experience and for the Yale-China Scholarship students, the project is often the first time they’ve really interacted with a foreigner.

“The most meaningful part of the internship for me was the service project,” says Rachel Flynn, Yale ’09. “While I enjoyed my time in Hong Kong immensely, there was something really special about the opportunity to teach English at a day camp for Chinese schoolchildren as well as live with a roommate from Hunan University.”

Peter Sack, Yale ’11, says, “The friendships I made with the Hunan students will last long beyond the end of the program.” A Hunan University student shared his sentiment: “With the friends from Yale, I learned a lot about Western culture and their ways of thinking,” says Summer Wong. “What’s more, through the program I made so many foreign friends who are optimistic, passionate, and independent, and this means a life treasure for me.”

The Yale-China Service Internship Program is made possible by the Council on East Asian Studies at Yale University, the Pao-Watari Fund, and the members of the Yale-China Association. The Yale-China Scholarship Program is made possible by the Chung Kin Kwok Education Foundation, an anonymous donor, and the members of the Yale-China Association.

TEACHING PROGRAM NEWS

THE WIZARD COMES TO XIUNING

More than 400 Xiuning students and teachers packed the school's cafeteria on May 19 to see their peers put on an energetic performance of the classic American musical, the "Wizard of Oz." Bringing the "Wizard" to Xiuning was conceived by the Yale-China Teaching Fellows as a fun extracurricular activity that would give their students an opportunity to participate in a drama while strengthening their English skills. Perhaps even more importantly, the Fellows also saw the play as a way to give their students the experience of working toward a goal that wasn't a test or entrance examination.

The Teaching Program at Xiuning Middle School began in the fall of 2006 and is the first rural site in the program's history. All of the Yale-China Fellows played an integral part in the production, from getting permission from the school to produce the play, to leading students in learning the music and script, and finding volunteers to craft costumes and stage sets. When it was finally time to put on the performance, the cast and crew rose to the occasion and the show was a resounding success.

"For me, this has been one of the most rewarding journeys I've taken in many years," says Veronica Hu, one of four Yale-China Teaching Fellows at Xiuning Middle School. "Every part of it—every costume and prop and scene—had a story behind it. I loved working with the cast and was touched by their eagerness to do as much as they could to make the show perfect. The Wicked Witch refused to pare down her lines, even when I was worried it'd be too hard for her. I teared up at the end, when I realized that the message of the story—finding confidence in yourself and in the friends you've made in the journey to realize your dreams—rang true for each one of us."

The "Wizard of Oz" production was just one of many service or extracurricular activities that Yale-China Fellows undertook in their host schools or host communities in the past year. Other projects included organizing clothing drives, basketball tournaments, and grant proposal contests; teaching classes to families of people living with HIV/AIDS; taking students to volunteer with Doctors Without Borders in Guangzhou; and doing service projects with Yale-China Scholarship recipients at Hunan University. We look forward to reporting on these and other Teaching Fellow-led initiatives in a future issue of the *Review*.

YALI MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT NEW HAVEN

A group of students from Yali Middle School in Changsha, Hunan province, China, visited the Yale-China Association offices in New Haven on October 3rd during their trip to the United States. The students were in town as a part of an exchange program between Yali Middle School and the Foote School in New Haven.

"We were so thrilled to have the students visit us," says Katie Molteni, Yale-China program officer for teaching programs. "This trip is such a great opportunity for them to learn firsthand about the U.S., and a great opportunity for us to meet students who are studying with our Teaching Fellows at Yali."

The Yale-China Association has helped to facilitate teacher and student exchange programs between Foote and partner schools in China since 1999. The exchange now sends a Yali Middle School teacher to New Haven to teach at Foote for a semester each fall, while Foote has sent ninth graders to visit Changsha during Foote's spring break. This year is the second year that Yali Middle School students have visited Foote, a private school for kindergarten through ninth grade.



Xiuning students in their costumes for the 'Wizard'.



Yali Students visit the Yale-China office in New Haven.

CONNECT WITH OLD FRIENDS AND ALUMNI ON FACEBOOK & LINKEDIN

Yale-China wants you to become a fan of our Yale-China Teaching Fellowship Program page on Facebook and to join our group on LinkedIn. The sites are a great place for program alumni to connect and for prospective applicants to learn about the program by meeting former participants.

"I expect the Facebook page to eventually grow into a place where prospective applicants to the Teaching Fellowship can connect with current and former Fellows to get information on the program from the people who know it best," said Yale-China Program Officer for Teaching Programs Katie Molteni. "We already have several current and former Fellows and staff who have joined the page, and eventually we'd like it to be a place for the entire Yale-China community on Facebook to gather and get connected. I'm also hoping that LinkedIn can be a place where Teaching Program alumni can network online and find friends and colleagues from their time in China."



MEDICAL ENGLISH FELLOWS MAKE A HOME AT XIANGYA

One of our newest Teaching Program endeavors is building a bridge between our Health and Teaching Programs. The Yale-China Medical English Fellowship Program provides opportunities for students at the Yale School of Medicine or Yale graduate students with a background in the medical sciences to spend one academic year in residence at Xiangya School of Medicine. Fellows teach Medical English to Xiangya students and faculty while also learning Mandarin and engaging in clinical and research experiences under the guidance of Xiangya and Yale faculty.

"We wanted to respond to Xiangya's desire to improve the medical English proficiency of their students and staff," says Hongping Tian, director of Yale-China's health programs. "The concern is that without strong English training, Xiangya's students and faculty won't be able to publish their research in English or be able to attend international conferences and participate in discussions. This program is responding to that need, and is also giving Yale medical students the chance to get some real international experience."



Richard Reznick and Yoshio Kaneko.

Yoshio Kaneko (Yale School of Medicine '10) and Richard Reznick (Yale PhD in Microbiology, '08) arrived at Xiangya in late August and have been teaching Medical English classes to third and fourth year students in Xiangya's 8-year medical program and more advanced lectures to help students with conference presentation skills and research paper composition. They also offer bimonthly lectures to faculty and students about contemporary American culture.

"This program brings our health and teaching initiatives together and is a great example of how we're creating synergies among our programs," says Christina Stouder, Yale-China's senior program officer for teaching programs.

TEACHING FELLOWS TO COME TOGETHER AT NOVEMBER CONFERENCE

As Teaching Fellows complete the second month of the new academic year, Yale-China's annual November Teaching Conference provides them with an opportunity to come together both to reflect upon their experiences as teachers and foreign residents in China and to receive further training in Teaching English as a Foreign Language. This year's conference will take place from November 3 through 6 at Hunan University in Changsha.

For the teaching portion of the conference, sessions will include presentations of issues such as teaching pronunciation; methods to assist in students' acquisition of new vocabulary; incorporating extended reading into the curriculum; Communicative Language Teaching in China; and responding to student writing. Because of the diversity of teaching contexts, another portion of the conference will be largely generated from the Fellows' own experiences through a "Foreign Language Share Fair," in which Fellows will present language learning activities that have been particularly successful in their own classrooms. In addition, Fellows will have the opportunity to discuss the discoveries, challenges, and experiences that they have encountered while living in China. The conference will be led by Christina Stouder, senior program officer for teaching programs, and Katie Molteni, program officer for teaching programs.

To keep up to date with Teaching Program news, visit our page on Facebook or our website at www.yalechina.org.



Yale-China Stories

At Yale-China, we invest in people. In these pages, we bring you just a few of the many 'Yale-China stories' made possible with the support of our members. We hope that you'll go online to share your 'Yale-China story' with us.

CHIA FELLOWSHIP ALUMNA PUTS HER YALE-CHINA EXPERIENCES TO THE TEST



Wang Honghong's first contact with the Yale-China Association was in 1995, when she attended a lecture on HIV/AIDS by Yale Professor Ann Williams at the Xiangya School of Medicine. Several hundred health care workers thronged the hall, more curious to see a nurse from Yale than interested in AIDS, which was widely considered to be a disease of foreigners unlikely to ever be a threat to China.

As the session ended, Honghong stood up in the audience and spoke movingly of the loneliness and suffering of AIDS patients she had observed in Chiang Mai, Thailand, while pursuing her Master's degree in nursing there. Her compassion and commitment were exquisitely visible.

It was no surprise, then, when Ann returned to Changsha for Yale-China's first HIV/AIDS Train-the-Trainer workshop, that Honghong was there again, this time working as a volunteer to help coordinate and organize the workshop that provided training to nurses from across Hunan. When the Yale-China Train-the-Trainer program expanded, Ann invited Honghong to become one of the program's Chinese trainers.

Honghong gladly accepted, and her interest in HIV/AIDS grew as she worked with Yale-China. She understood the creativity required for effective AIDS education and proved to be a gifted trainer, building on her teaching experience as a faculty member at Xiangya School of Nursing. During these years, she traveled to Yale for a one-month program on blood-borne pathogens and, in the fall of 2001, returned to New Haven as a Yale-China Chia Fellow.

Established in 1998, the Chia Family Health Fellowship Program works to improve health outcomes in defined communities in Hunan and Yunnan provinces through health education and service, and to further the professional careers of Chinese women working in the health professions. Chosen through a highly competitive selection process, Chia Fellows spend a semester at Yale, during which time they develop a public health project under the guidance of a Yale faculty mentor and Yale-China staff, implementing the project upon their return to China. For her Chia Fellowship, Honghong's project was an evaluation of AIDS education for nursing students.

Honghong's HIV/AIDS efforts didn't stop after she completed her Chia Fellowship project. From 2002 through the present, she continues to serve as a trainer under the auspices of the Yale-China Association and the National Nursing Center of China, traveling throughout the country to train nurses.

Today Honghong is an associate professor at the Nursing College of Central South University. Her scholarship is devoted to improving the lives of people living with AIDS. In the summer of 2006, she went, with two graduate students, to rural villages in Hubei and Anhui to study medication adherence among HIV/AIDS patients and their quality of life.

Working with Yale-China Acting Executive Director Ann Williams, Honghong and her students have begun a program to visit AIDS patients, bringing information and support into the homes of some of the most vulnerable members of Chinese society. One man's family was so terrified of his disease that they refused to cook for him or let him eat with the family. Honghong and her student came to his door with groceries, prepared a meal in the family kitchen, and sat down and shared the meal with the patient, demonstrating their lack of fear and providing a model of kindness.

Honghong is modest about the impact of her work. "We [university faculty members] don't have many chances to serve patients directly," she says. "The field projects allow me to learn new things and put what I've learned from books into practice."

What she has learned has a direct impact on the quality of care for patients with AIDS in Hunan. Honghong believes that China still has a long way to go to help patients with HIV or AIDS. While Honghong says she realizes that one person's strength is not enough to make systemic changes, she's willing to contribute however much she can to make a difference in China's HIV/AIDS fight.

From training
to showing a
family how to
care, one
Yale-China
story in the
fight against
HIV/AIDS.

LONGTIME SUPPORTER OF YALE-CHINA REFLECTS ON CULTURAL EXCHANGE

China has a knack for drawing people in. If you're a member of the Yale-China Association, there's a good chance you've felt that magnetism yourself. While countless tourists pour through China's borders for only a single visit, many who intend to visit just once find their paths forever tied to the land. Yale-China Trustee **Alex Wilmerding** has a story a bit like this. Shortly after high school he embarked upon a six-week bicycle tour of China, starting in Macau. It was the first tour of its kind after China began to open up in the 1980s and it took Alex through much of the southwest atop a bike and the northeast on a train. More than twenty years later, China has stayed with him (he now calls Hong Kong home) although, alas, cycling has not.

A newfound wish to return to China to live and work led Alex to pursue Mandarin at Yale. Upon graduation in 1987, he headed back to China as a Yale-China Teaching Fellow at Yali Middle School, though not before raising \$20,000 to start a rowing team in Changsha. As Alex stresses, one can rarely predict the twists and turns of life; this adventure was to be no exception. A semester into the crew team's existence, it was clear that Yali students were too busy with school to devote themselves to rowing. This was problematic because, for one, the \$20,000 Alex had raised, much of it for importing boats and equipment, remained mostly unspent after he found a boat manufacturer in China. Second, there was the question of what, exactly, to do with the two boats.

Through Yale alumnus Winston Lord, then Ambassador to China, Alex tracked down the Chinese national team coach. Together they arranged an exchange which brought together Yale's teams and the Guangdong, Hunan and Beijing rowing teams. The Chinese government then brought two Yale eights, together with their coxswains and coaches, to compete with these three teams. The Guangdong and Beijing teams were no match for the Yale crews. However, the Hunan provincial team swept in its races with Yale. Given that Hunan served as Yale's host and primary sponsor in the exchange, this was fortuitous, and the Yale crews quite diplomatically did not protest at having received faulty equipment for the contest on Hunan waters!

With yet more money left, Alex arranged to send rowing coaches from Yale and Cornell to coach the Shanghai city teams and teachers Hu and Zhou from the Yali English department to Yale for teacher training with co-sponsorship from Yale-China. Finally, as a gesture of gratitude, the Hunan provincial team was presented with the two boats and Yale's gift of rowing machines, then very expensive in China.

Several Yale oarsmen went on to study Chinese as a result of the trip. Says Alex, "It was a time when China was really just starting to open up, so I was able to see and experience firsthand how much the people in many communities wanted not only to engage with the West, but to better understand Western culture. The experience at Yali was a very profound and meaningful one. I think it made me recognize how important a role Yale-China had and would continue to have within communities."

Alex's career trajectory was heavily shaped by his time as a Yale-China Teaching Fellow. "I was inspired by physically being in China and able to explore living in Hong Kong and staying on to work in the region [after my fellowship]," he says. Alex has found himself in management roles throughout China and Southeast Asia and is now back in Hong Kong with Pantheon Capital (Asia) Ltd. Through the years he has maintained his connection to Yale-China, and continues to be impressed with what he refers to as "the integrity and high standards of the people who are attracted to lead the programs, as well as the graduates who are program participants. They are consistently inspired to step up and take leadership roles and be a deep resource to make sure that the [organization's] programmatic directions are rich both in the support guidance and leadership that they receive, often through volunteerism."

Alex serves as treasurer of the Yale-China Board of Trustees and was previously a vice chair for development and one of the leaders of Yale-China's Second Century campaign. His hopes as Yale-China's second century unfolds are quite simple: "I really look forward to the organization sticking to its mission and not wavering. My only wish is that people find ways to come back to be a resource."





“This
experience is
just perfect
to make my
dreams come
true.”

A YALE-CHINA SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT TAKES HER NEXT BIG STEP

When 2008-09 Chung Academic Nursing Fellow **Guo Jia** speaks about healthcare, it's clear why she was chosen for this Yale-China fellowship program, which aims to develop Central South University's PhD program in nursing. Guo Jia found her way into medicine for very personal reasons. She was inspired by the doctors and nurses who helped her father when an ocular injury threatened blindness and is further fueled, in her study of diabetes, by having seen family members succumb to the disease. But while her initial reasons for becoming a healer stem from struggles at home, Guo Jia projects the aura of a woman as adept at turning a keen nurse's eye on whole populations as she is at caring for individual patients.

As this year's Yale-China Fellow for the Chung Academic Nursing Leadership Development Program, Guo Jia is spending the first year of her PhD studies at Yale under the guidance of the Yale School of Nursing's Dean Margaret Grey, as well as Associate Professor Robin Whittemore. Both of her advisers share Guo Jia's interest in treating diabetes.

Guo Jia's proposed dissertation will adapt Dr. Grey's coping skills intervention training for adolescents for use in China, where Guo Jia has ambitious plans: “I want to do some descriptive studies on the fate of children with type 1 diabetes in China. In Chinese hospitals nurses help type 1 diabetes children, but they don't help them after they're discharged,” she explains. “We don't do anything once they come home because China doesn't have nurse practitioners in community health centers. [Well-educated] nurses don't want to work in community health centers because the salary is very low and the nurses in those centers only get very low education. We don't have many opportunities for them to continue their studies or to get higher positions.” The time is ripe for Guo Jia's work, as she notes that the Chinese government is increasing its attention to community health centers.

Dr. Whittemore immediately describes Guo Jia as, “very motivated and eager to learn,” so it is little surprise that her promise began to shine early, easily securing her a medical university spot. Guo Jia has also secured several scholarships, and is now the recipient of a competitive Chinese Government stipend for study abroad as well as the Yale-China Chung Fellowship.

Interestingly, her role as a Chung fellow is not Guo Jia's first connection with Yale-China. In 2006, a combination of her scholastic merits, Xiangya School of Medicine faculty recommendations, and financial need led Guo Jia to be awarded a Yale-China Scholarship at Xiangya, which allowed her to complete her undergraduate studies.

In fact, Yale has long been on Guo Jia's mind. “I wanted to study at Yale when I was an undergraduate. I wanted to continue my master's degree at Yale. However, you know it's very difficult,” she says, laughing. “I think to get a degree at CSU is also very good, and while I'm there I can live close to my parents and take care of them. So this experience is just perfect to make my dreams come true.”

Guo Jia has already taken advantage of the opportunities at hand. She recently returned from the 2008 State of the Science Nursing Research Conference in Washington, DC, where she networked with the likes of Journal of Nursing Measurement Founding Editor Dr. Ora L. Strickland of the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University. Dr. Strickland was impressed with Guo Jia's master's degree work measuring the holistic health of Chinese undergraduates using the “Health Quotient” rubric, and testing the survey itself. The two plan to collaborate on future projects.

Guo Jia already has an idea of what her future career in China will hold: “Chronic illness. There are more and more old people in China and chronic illnesses will have a bad impact on people's quality of life. People pay more and more attention to quality of life. [This will be a problem], especially for children.” Fortunately, she says, “the Chinese government contributes a lot, more and more, to public health.” With the promise of young leaders like Guo Jia, the future may be much brighter for China's infirm.

YALI MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATE JOINS THE YALE-CHINA STAFF

There is little doubt **Zijie “Bill” Peng’s** story would bring smiles to the faces of the founders of Yali Middle School. Born and raised in Changsha, Hunan province, Bill—who did friendly battle in English class for the right to the popular and then-Presidential name—might never have attended Yali were it not for a timely family move that precipitated the need to find a school of suitable rigor near home. Yali stuck out as the best choice. Says Bill, “It had the reputation of educating people with more comprehensive talents instead of just book talents.” As Yale-China’s new Program Associate for Health Programs, self-taught magician, and independent filmmaker, Bill readily embodies the ideal of comprehensive talent.

Yali’s strong emphasis on liberal education—something that is uncharacteristic of most Chinese middle schools—and its Yale-China Teaching Fellows had a big impact on Bill and his classmates. “I would say a lot of my classmates who were taught by ELIs [Yale-China Teaching Fellows] were really influenced by [the ELIs’] attitudes and by their way of life,” Bill explains. “That’s why many of us actually came out overseas to study things like international affairs, public policy, international relations, non-profit work, and social work. That’s not really common in a class in China, where most people want to do engineering or business, which are reasonable choices in a developing country. But I think the liberal arts influence had the power to direct us into a more humanities-based area to do research and work.”

Part of the Teaching Fellows’ influence came down to the level of freedom they enjoy relative to Chinese English teachers, whose curriculum is very standardized. Yale-China Teaching Fellows, baked apple pies in class, shot movies with students (making it no surprise that Bill went on to direct his own feature film in college), and opened their home for a lunchtime salon where foreign culture and politics were often the topics du jour. More recently, the Fellows have been actively engaged in community service projects with their students, which are also having a significant impact on student life at Yali.

Bill’s post-college years have been a whirlwind of internationalism. After receiving his BA from the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, Bill found his way to the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. There he obtained a master’s in public policy and developed a taste for non-profit work. As program assistant for the Minnesota International Center he helped coordinate World Cultures Day, which brought more than one thousand international speakers to dozens of local elementary schools to share their stories. “It was a really fascinating experience for the children,” Bill says. “They’re always very enthusiastic about different countries and they’re very interested in learning about different cultures.”

With a growing passion for public service, international education, and work with children, Bill headed to New Delhi in 2007 to work with the Pratham Delhi Education Initiative. In India he developed evaluation tools for a preschool program that engaged local adults to teach children who were falling through cracks in the education system because they lived in the slums. Again, the young were a source of inspiration. “They didn’t know how bad their situation was. So they were always very optimistic, they were very interested in seeing people from outside, particularly foreigners.”

His globetrotting curriculum vitae notwithstanding, Yali’s founders might well have found the most pride in the news that Bill joined the staff of the Yale-China Association this July. Bill works with Hongping Tian, director of Yale-China’s Health Programs, to provide program management for Yale-China’s health initiatives in China. A fan of New Haven living, Bill nevertheless sees himself returning someday to China to apply his commitment to community development at home, with the ultimate goal of working in the non-profit education sector. In the meantime, we are thrilled to have him on the Yale-China team.



“A lot of my classmates who were taught by Yale-China Fellows were really influenced by the Fellows’ attitudes.”



“Yale-China
really
emphasizes
a responsible
relationship
with the place
where people
are sent.”

VOLUNTEERING HELPS YALE-CHINA FELLOW CONNECT WITH HER STUDENTS

Nowadays China is scarcely mentioned without talk of the country’s unprecedented transformation. Amongst the chatter, it is refreshing to find a perspective coming from somebody like **Ivy Wang**, whose day-to-day engagement in the country affords her real, fresh insight.

Ivy was a Yale-China Teaching Fellow at Lingnan (University) College at Sun Yat-sen University from 2006 to 2008. Since then she has been working for a human rights organization that works with multilateral institutions to make sure that human rights agreements and laws are being implemented. In her current work she has a lot of interaction with people who are involved in Chinese human rights.

Amongst that group, Ivy says, “the big question on people’s minds is what the next generation’s feelings are towards human rights. Having lived and taught in China for two years and having gotten to know people my age gives me a level of insight that I think even Chinese nationals who haven’t been to China in a long time lack. Working alongside young people will probably become more and more valuable.”

Ivy’s drive to get involved with Chinese civil society after college made the Yale-China Fellowship her top choice. “One of the reasons was that [Yale-China] really emphasizes a responsible relationship with the place where people are sent.”

While teaching at Lingnan (University) College, Ivy sought out an unpaid internship at the Guangzhou office of Medecines Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders), the organization’s first office to do outreach work in China. Student response was overwhelming. “When word got out that I worked with MSF, I received emails from students on a nearly weekly basis asking how they could get involved with MSF and NGO work more generally. In every major event and research project that MSF took on, Lingnan students made up the biggest portion of volunteers.”

The MSF experience was eye-opening. “Through the things I was doing in the organization I was introduced to a huge number of incredibly interesting people like activists and journalists and citizen journalists and bloggers,” Ivy says, including the well-known Bei Feng. “2008 has been a huge year for China. I feel like I really got to hear Chinese people—the people who were making the news in some instances—respond to events in a very immediate, uncensored way. And I definitely got to know my students in a different way (through volunteering with them) than if I had only known them in the classroom.”

As China transforms, Ivy believes the Yale-China Fellowship will be challenged to similarly evolve. When a former Yale-China Fellow who taught in 2003 passed through Guangzhou, she described a city almost unimaginable to Ivy. The Fellows are changing too. “Between 2006 and 2007 the profile of the Fellows was completely different. They were much more geared toward getting involved in the community,” she says. “Today’s students come with a level of involvement with the outside world that did not exist before.” Whatever changes may come, Ivy stresses that the teaching component is core to the fellowship: “[The Program] has given me an opportunity to develop a relationship with China that would have been impossible otherwise.”

Ivy sees graduate school on the horizon and likely a life-long focus on political issues affecting people throughout Asia. Asked if she would like to be involved in Yale-China in the future, Ivy says, “I would love to.”



Tell Us Your Yale-China Story

We’d like to invite you to share your “Yale-China Story”—you can share your experiences on our website at www.yalechina.org or email us at yalechinastories@yale.edu. As we hear from you, we’ll share your story with others on the web. Let the conversation begin.

Our Community



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10

7 Staff Assistant Michelle Averitt. **8** Development and Communications Associate Katie Glazier (foreground) and Business Manager Judy Collins. **9** Associate Director Ingrid Jensen speaks with Yali Middle School students in New Haven. **10** Program Officer for Teaching Programs Katie Molteni. **11** Director of Law Programs Holly Li, right, with Hunan University Law Student Chen Tao. **12** Staff Intern Mattias Daly picks apples with Chung Visiting Fellow Zhang Yun.

1 Yali-Foote Exchange English Teacher Yan Ke, Chia Fellows Luo Jing and Cao Yuping, and Senior Development Officer Trudy Loo. **2** Yale-China Staff, Visiting Fellows, and Friends at a pumpkin-carving party in New Haven. **3** Program Officer for Student Programs Kristen Chin with Li Yue Yuan, a Hunan University Scholarship Program student coordinator. **4** Chia Fellow Cao Yuping. **5** Director of Health Programs Hongping Tian, right, with a nurse from Xiangya hospital. **6** Senior Program Officer for Teaching Programs Christina Stouder and Interim Hong Kong Office Director Terry Yip in Changsha.



11



12

YALE-CHINA ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1901, the Yale-China Association is a private, nonprofit organization with more than a century of experience contributing to the development of education in and about China and to the furtherance of understanding and knowledge between Chinese and American people. Current Programs include work in the fields of public health, nursing, and medicine; legal education and public interest law; English-language instruction; and educational and cultural exchange for young people. Yale-China places special emphasis on developing strong partnerships with collaborating Chinese institutions, building Chinese capacity, and addressing the needs of the underserved.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

At Yale-China we believe that individuals—and individual organizations—can be a force for making the world more peaceful and humane. Our work is based on the conviction that sustained, one-on-one contacts between Chinese and American people not only enrich the lives of the individuals involved but contribute, ultimately, to improved relations between our two nations.

RELATIONSHIP WITH YALE UNIVERSITY

While closely affiliated with the Yale community, the Yale-China Association is separately incorporated and administered and receives no financial support from Yale University apart from limited funds for projects involving Yale students and scholars and in-kind contributions.

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

Yale-China's work would not be possible without the support of our members. You can give online at www.yalechina.org. If you are interested in learning more about membership or other giving opportunities, please contact us at (203) 432-0881, by email at yale-china@yale.edu, or through our website. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.



Yale-China Association
PO Box 208223
New Haven, CT 06520-8223 USA

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
New Haven, CT
Permit No. 133