

# Yale-China

## REVIEW

AUTUMN 2003



## Welcome

*From the Executive Director*

In the Spring issue of this publication, we noted the impact of the sudden appearance of the SARS virus on Yale-China's programs. In the ensuing months, much has been learned about the nature of the virus, but much remains unknown. It is still unclear where precisely SARS originated; whether it will reappear and, if so, how widely and severely; and how health care systems will respond. The SARS epidemic may turn out to have been a brief incident, or the virus may be here to stay. In China, as throughout the world, health care professionals have been preparing to

respond to a possible reappearance of SARS, which many predict may take place in the colder winter months. A lot of expense and planning has gone into these preparations; only time will tell if they are adequate to future challenges.

The SARS epidemic in Hong Kong and mainland China brought disruptions to Yale-China's teaching, legal education, and summer service internship programs while providing new opportunities for creative contributions from our health program. While the coming months could still bring surprises, we are cau-

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Scholarship students with the Yale-China delegation.

## YALE-CHINA SCHOLARSHIPS

The past year brought the inauguration of the Yale-China Scholarship Program at the Xiangya School of Medicine in Changsha, Hunan.

With the introduction of tuition at Chinese colleges and universities, some groups of people are losing out on the opportunity to pursue higher education because of increased cost. These include students from poor families, women, members of ethnic minorities, and students in poorer regions of the country that have fewer institutions of tertiary education than the more affluent cities and coastal regions. The annual costs of studying at a Chinese university can run as high as 14,000 yuan (U.S. \$1,700), significantly more than the annual income of many Chinese families.

Responding to this opportunity, the Yale-China Scholarship Program provided full or partial tuition assistance to 40 Xiangya students in the 2002-2003 academic year. Students are selected on the basis of academic excellence, commitment to service, and financial need.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony for the program, one student, Ms. Yan Wei, observed, "Because of

poverty, my family [could] hardly support my study. With the pressure of both spirit and economy, I had to do some part-time jobs while doing well at my major. However...I [now] fear no difficulties. And I am sure with the help of Yale-China Association, I will be a better doctor and make more contributions to our society."

The Yale-China Scholarship Program is made possible by the generosity of a donor in Hong Kong.

## CHIA HEALTH CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 9-11, 2003  
CHANGSHA, CHINA

Yale-China and the Xiangya School of Medicine co-hosted the second annual Chia Fellowship Health Conference in Changsha in October. Eight Chia Fellowship alumnae, all female health professionals active in health education in Changsha, led the conference with reports on their collaborative research and educational outreach projects. Discussions centered on topics of critical concern to the people of Changsha and Hunan province, including the social origins of new and re-emerging infectious diseases worldwide; standards of

nursing care for HIV/AIDS patients; the impact of health education, treatment, and outreach on hepatitis B patients; and nutrition education for pregnant women.

In her opening remarks, Yale-China's executive director, Nancy E. Chapman, observed that the conference was intended to serve as "a catalyst to the ongoing professional development of the Fellows, enhancing the contributions they are able to make in their home communities." Indeed, from all accounts the conference strengthened the professional bonds among fellowship alumnae while allowing them to share their findings with a targeted audience of community leaders and health experts in Hunan.

Continuing education opportunities for Fellows and their colleagues were again offered by way of plenary talks and workshops by senior Chinese and American faculty. Several Yale-China trustees, including Dr. Terrill Lautz and Mr. Timothy Liang, as well as Mrs. Ping Liang, joined Nancy E. Chapman in offering the greetings of the board and officers of the Association.

The Chia Family Health Fellowship for Chinese female health professionals is made possible by the generosity of the Chia Family Foundation. The program seeks to improve health outcomes in a defined community, the city of Changsha, and to further the careers of Chinese women in the health professions.

[www.yalechina.org/programs/healthprograms/chia\\_family.html](http://www.yalechina.org/programs/healthprograms/chia_family.html)



Yale School of Nursing faculty member Kristopher Fennie speaks at the Chia Health Conference.



Yan Wei speaks at the inauguration ceremony for the Scholarship Program.

*Because of poverty, my family [could] hardly support my study. With the pressure of both spirit and economy, I had to do some part-time jobs while doing well at my major. However...I [now] fear no difficulties. With the help of the Yale-China Association scholarship, I can finish my college life much better, for I needn't think too much [about my] economical conditions. And I am sure with the help of Yale-China Association, I will be a better doctor and make more contributions to our society.*

—Yan Wei, one of 40 Xiangya students to receive a Yale-China scholarship in the 2002-2003 academic year.

# Capturing Imaginations Through Service

BY INGRID M. JENSEN

**For more than 100 years, Yale-China has been inspiring both American and Chinese students to devote themselves to community service. Today, this tradition continues through the Yale-China Service Internship Program**

After spending weeks in a Hong Kong office writing a booklet about the sense of frustration that people who are hard of hearing sometimes feel when they can't communicate with others, Yale student Laura Oh found herself on the lurching deck of a wooden sailing junk, lost and invisible amidst a torrent of Cantonese as cold water from Causeway Bay sprayed in her face.

"[There I was], a buddy to a girl who has autism, [but] I found to my surprise that on the ship I seemed to have a greater disability than she. As the only person aboard who didn't speak Cantonese, I found myself wanting to participate in discussion, but unable...I had [been writing] about the intolerable frustration that those with a hearing impairment feel when they cannot communicate with others, yet never had experienced anything similar for myself before then."

But later, once Laura and her young friend were in the water together, she found that language was rendered unnecessary as they reveled in the vastness of the open waves, laughing and splashing their way through the waters around the ship.

That sense of discovery is at the heart of Adventure-Ship, a Hong Kong nonprofit organization devoted to improving the self-esteem of disabled and disadvantaged children in Hong Kong through the challenge of life at sea. Since 1997, working at Adventure-Ship has been just one of several internship opportunities in mainland China and Hong Kong that Yale-China has offered to Yale students through its Service Internship Program.

"My Adventure-Ship experience was about making contact through alternate means of communication—with another culture and with individuals who have different abilities. In doing so, I learned that we all have abilities and disabilities, some are just more visible than others," Laura Oh said.

Building on Yale-China's long tradition of public service, the internship program has the short-term goal of providing students the opportunity to explore Chinese culture while working in a service environment, and the long-term mission of inspiring stu-

**"What Adventure-Ship has is the ability to capture young imaginations and get them thinking about what's 'out there' ... we share more than a ship with them; we share a dream of where that ship can take us."**

**—Daniel Peterson, Yale-China Service Intern at Adventure-Ship in Hong Kong**

dents to make a difference in the lives of others. Students have worked at organizations as diverse as an organic farm, an AIDS hospice, and a university in southwest China.

The 56 Yale students who have participated in the program since its inception attest to the impact the experience has had on their lives.

"My experience in Kunming was nothing short of extraordinary," says Noam Schimmel, who spent a summer as an English teaching intern at Yunnan University. "My course was a challenging one, and I definitely pushed my students to achieve, but overall almost all of them rose to the occasion and seemed empowered, rather than overwhelmed by it. With time they became less shy and more willing to speak out in class."

Another Adventure-Ship intern, Daniel Peterson, shares similar warm memories



Yale-China Service Intern Laura Oh waits with a camper to reboard Adventure-Ship's wooden sailing junk after going for a swim.

of his summer experience.

"What Adventure-Ship has is the ability to capture young imaginations and get them thinking about what's 'out there,' beyond the seawalls and Star Ferries," he said. "With a lot of work and a little luck, Adventure-Ship can start a chain-reaction in a child, piquing his curiosity about uncontrolled environs and maybe even starting a lifelong trend of exploring them. [Adventure-Ship has] something that keeps schools, volunteers, and [others] coming back... our imaginations have been captured, just like our students. We share more than a ship with them; we share a dream of where that ship can take us."

The internships are designed so that both the intern and the host organization benefit from the experience. The program is based on strong partnerships with Chinese host institutions, and Yale-China works closely with them to develop meaningful projects for the interns to work on. The idea is not just to experience China, but also to have something tangible to show for that experience.

At Adventure-Ship, Laura Oh helped to produce a pamphlet for volunteers in the organization's Buddies Program, which pairs children aboard the sailing junk with an adult volunteer "buddy." Another Yale-China intern helped to build Adventure-Ship's website, and, in a subsequent summer, Daniel Peterson worked as a curriculum consultant.

"Few people are asked to dream professionally," Peterson said of his experience. "I'm proud to [have been] one."

At Produce Green, an organic farm and environmental

education center outside Hong Kong, Yale-China interns have worked on everything from building solar ovens to teaching children how to make recycled paper.

"When I wasn't helping the program officers, I focused on translating the dialogue of the docent tours," writes Garry Ng. "All the schools that visited were led by a docent on a farm tour, which taught the kids about the virtues of organic farming, how to plant rice, and the various types of natural fertilizers through various exhibits. Because I could understand spoken Cantonese, I took notes in English and then wrote essays that could be used by future docents on English-speaking tours."

Jessica Lin spent a summer interning at the Society for AIDS Care in Hong Kong. Among her projects at the non-profit organization was to research and write a position paper on preventive medicine for HIV/AIDS in Hong Kong, to be presented at the Hong Kong AIDS Conference.

Lin said that the process of writing the paper changed her forever.

"After two weeks of trying to absorb [all of my research], I settled down to write. In the middle of writing the fourth page I had a revelation and wrote an e-mail manifesto home to my parents in which I told them that I knew public health lay in some part of my future."

Now a medical student at Baylor College of Medicine, Lin says she will never forget that spark she felt in Hong Kong.

"I am now...wading my way through anatomy, cell biology and histology, and cardiovascular physiology. But I have not forgotten about the hands-on introduction to public health that has opened my eyes to where my medical degree can take me," she said.

"In my time at the Society for AIDS Care, I learned much about HIV/AIDS, the Hong Kong AIDS situation, what's going on in the international arena, and even how to say 'condom' in Cantonese. I also got a unique perspective on public and community health that has stayed with me as I have begun medical school."

Yale-China also offers team internships, in which Yale students are paired with Chinese students from several universities in Hong Kong and mainland China to work together on a summer project at a particular institution or organization. In some cases, the teams might divide their time between service organizations in Hong Kong and New Haven (see article, page 5). The team positions have enabled Yale-China to reach out to young Chinese students as well as their Yale counterparts.

In addition to the personal and professional growth that students experience while working at an overseas service institution, many Yale-China interns find the internships contribute a great deal to their own ideas about service.

The Yale-China Service Internship Program is made possible with the generous support of the Council on East Asian Studies at Yale.

## Behind Every Patient is a Person: One Intern's Story

### MY SUMMER AT LEEWAY

"AIDS is difficult to live with. The time I learned that I got the disease, I was so frightened. But I learned to live with it."

That quote is from a story that I heard from Sally,\* a resident of Leeway, as I helped her type up her life story. To me, AIDS is one of those many diseases you can find in a medical book. You can flip through the pages and then understand the pathology, the epidemic, and the latest treatment of this disease. However, what you cannot look up is every struggling life that is associated with the disease. As medical students, we learn about the disease from a book, but what we actually need to know is not the disease, but our patients. That is what I really wanted to learn about when I first applied for this internship.

Being in Leeway turned out to be a really inspiring experience for me. Leeway, being a skilled nursing home for AIDS patients, provides medical care, social services, recreational therapy and counseling for its residents. It acts as a bridge between the hospital and the real world outside.

Before I set off for my trip, many of my friends in Hong Kong who did not know what HIV patients would be like worried about me being attacked by the patients and thought they might be undisciplined. However, my experience proved them all wrong.

In the beginning, since I was not that familiar with the disease and its complications, it was pretty discouraging for me as I tried to understand the patients. I tried to talk to them and tried to give tutorials on using a computer or in reading. I even tried to share Hong Kong culture and the SARS experience with them. But the feedback was not good. They only showed up one or two times, and

sometimes nobody came. I did a lot of research, and I had a whole plan in my mind, but it just did not work. I tried to help a teenager who was exactly the same age I was, but her mood changed rapidly and it became hard to do so.

But as I slowly increased my understanding of what the residents were going through, I started to adjust to their lifestyle and was able to plan my activities with them with more ease. I learned that sometimes I just needed to slow the pace down, especially when dealing with groups of people who have suffered a lot from the disease and from their medications and when dealing with people who have lived on the streets for a long time and who have been mistreated before. It just takes time and your true heart to establish relationships and trust between people.

At first, I thought it would be hard to become their close friend. But after the first two weeks, when they got to know who I was, and observed that I was good to them and was willing to spend time with them, they began to let down their walls. They started telling me their life stories bit by bit. At first, it was a really general picture, but as time went by, they gave me more details, together with their thoughts and attitudes.

Sally, the one resident that I was closest with, contracted the disease through a blood transfusion years ago. She was the most cheerful person in Leeway. She always supported our activities and always said something nice and warm to us. She seemed to be the model patient. But as I got to know more about her, I could see her inside. She was suffering a lot from urinary infections and other complications. At night, it was sometimes so painful that she cried like a baby. But despite the fact I talked to her every day, she never complained of any of this to me. It was not until one time when we went to a dinner

together that she revealed to me that she always kept things to herself. She did not want the others to worry about her. Therefore, she even did not tell her nurse about her problems. It took a long discussion for me to convince her to tell the nurse so that she could get some pain relief.

The above is just one of the rich stories that I heard this summer. To know these residents was to know the complexity of life and the complexity of society. My internship provided me with opportunities to interact with people that I had never encountered in my life before, like drug addicts. The work also provided me with a chance to interact with a really diverse group of people, from a wide range of races and educational backgrounds. There were nurses, administrative directors, psychiatrists, doctors, substance abuse counselors, and housing and social workers. I was really thrilled to learn so much after working with them. They were always willing to teach me as much as they could.

Some say that American culture is like a salad with all sorts of different cultures mixed together. Indeed, this trip to me was like a salad too. It was a nice mixture of all fresh and meaningful ingredients, mixed together in the dressing of culture exchange and love. It really broadened my horizon and this increased understanding of humanity will also prepare me to be a better caregiver later on.



**LEUNG Hoi Ying (Joyce)** served as a Yale-China Service Intern this summer at Leeway, a nursing home in New Haven dedicated to the

treatment of people living with AIDS. She is a second-year medical student at The Chinese University of Hong Kong and is considering a career in pediatrics.

\*Name has been changed

# Our Community



Chia Fellows Cai Yimin, left, and Deng Jing carve pumpkins in New Haven.

## CHIA FELLOWS ARRIVE

**DENG Jing** and **CAI Yimin**, the recipients of the 2003-2004 Chia Family Health Fellowships for Chinese women working in Hunan in the health professions, arrived in New Haven in late August. Both Jing and Yimin have been hard at work on developing their research projects under the excellent guidance of Yale School of Nursing (YSN) Professor and Acting Dean for Academic Affairs Kathleen Knafl and YSN Associate Research Scientist and Lecturer Kristopher Fennie.

Jing is developing a project entitled "Unsafe Injections and Transmissions of Hepatitis B in Chinese Villages in Hunan." In addition to her research she has been taking a course on advanced research methods in epidemiology.

Yimin is continuing work on her project, "Knowledge and Attitude and Practice Assessment of Family Members of Patients with Hepatitis B." She is taking a course on principles and methods of nursing research and recently shadowed health professionals at Yale-New Haven Hospital in the oncology and ENT departments.

The Chia Fellowship program is made possible with the generous support of the Chia Family Foundation. Inaugurated in 1998, the program will place special attention on hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases in the coming five years.

## NEW TRUSTEES

**Jonathon (Jack) Gillette** is the director of the Teacher Preparation Program at Yale. He is also a Lecturer in Yale's Sociology department, and has an appointment at the Yale Child



Study Center. He was previously the director of professional development and consultation for the School Development Program at the Yale Child Study Center, a national school reform model headed by Dr. James P. Comer. Jack received his B.A. from Harvard, M.A.T. from Wesleyan, and Ph.D. in Administrative Science from Yale University in 1985, and has taught at the high school and graduate level, including at the Yale School of Management. Jack has lent his expertise to the Yale-China English Teaching Fellowship program in many ways, including assisting with orientations of Fellows in New Haven and in China.

**Terrill (Terry) E. Lautz** is vice president and secretary of the Henry Luce Foundation, where he also directs the Asia, Higher Education, and Henry R. Luce Professorship programs.



At the Luce Foundation he has initiated various special grant initiatives, including the Luce Fund for Southeast Asian Studies, the United States-China Cooperative Research Program, and the Luce Fund for Asian Studies (which provides grants for new junior faculty positions at liberal arts colleges). Before joining the Luce Foundation in 1984, Terry served as director of Yale-China's Hong Kong office and taught at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He gradu-

ated from Harvard College *magna cum laude* and received an M.A. in East Asian Studies and a Ph.D. in history from Stanford University. He has written and lectured on U.S.-China relations, Chinese and American mutual perceptions, higher education in China and Hong Kong, and financing for Chinese studies, and is pursuing a research project on the motives of young Americans who volunteered to become foreign missionaries during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Terry previously served as a Yale-China trustee from 1989 to 1995 and as Secretary from 1991-1995.

**Andrea Worden** is a Fellow at The China Law Center at the Yale Law School. Her research interests include criminal justice issues and civil society development. Prior to

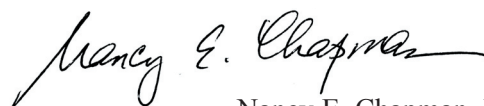


her return to Yale, she served as Senior Counsel at the Congressional-Executive Commission on China and counsel at O'Melveny & Myers LLP, where she specialized in litigation and white-collar criminal defense. Her legal experience also includes clerkships on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and the Alaska Supreme Court, as well as a stint at the Department of Justice. She also worked with Human Rights in China, where she served as a member of the Executive Committee and assisted with the editing and translating of the *Human Rights Tribune* and the book *Children of the Dragon: The Story of Tiananmen Square*. After graduating from Yale, Andrea taught English in China with the Yale-China Association, and later received an M.A. in modern Chinese history from Stanford University, where she also obtained her law degree.

tiously optimistic that increased knowledge and the high level of alert against SARS will lead to a more effective response should the virus reemerge, and that the dramatic disruptions to education, health care systems, and daily life of last spring and summer will not be repeated. We are in the midst of resuming programs that were temporarily suspended, and look forward to reporting on these and other activities in the next issue of the *Yale-China Review*.

In this issue, we give special attention to some of the

ways in which the ethic and spirit of service permeate Yale-China's work. Service was the bedrock on which Yale-China was founded a century ago, and it has animated the life of the organization ever since. One of the great pleasures of our daily work is the opportunity it affords to observe and facilitate the expression of service by a new generation of Chinese and American young people.



Nancy E. Chapman, Executive Director

## Dispatches

PROGRAM NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

### HONG KONG FELLOWS COMBINE TEACHING AND SERVICE

Yale-China's English Teaching Fellowship program in Hong Kong has undergone some exciting changes in the past year. Hong Kong Fellows now spend their first summer in an intensive Cantonese immersion course at New Asia College at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), rather than studying Mandarin in Beijing. The fellowship has also been redesigned to include a public service component that allows Fellows to complement their teaching roles with a service project of their own design relevant to the local community.

Yale-China's two newest Hong Kong Fellows, Carrie Pagnucco and Yomei Shaw, recently joined second-year Fellow Emily Hyde at CUHK after their summer of Cantonese language study. They are now settling into their teaching schedules, working hard to become proficient in Cantonese, researching potential projects, and enjoying life in Hong Kong.

### THE YALE-CHINA HEALTH JOURNAL

We are pleased to present the second issue of *The Yale-China Health Journal*, edited by two long-time Yale-China trustees, Deborah S. Davis and Ann B. Williams, and staff member Nancy E. Chapman. This issue is devoted to research and perspectives on the HIV/AIDS epidemic in China, and includes papers presented at a conference Yale-China organized at Yale in December 2002. The *Journal*, which we created as a service to help keep the community of international health workers and others interested in

China's health care challenges up to date on rapid developments in the field, is available for \$5 from the New Haven office or is free of charge on our website.

<http://www.yalechina.org/publications/healthjournal/index.html>

### RESPONDING TO SARS

With professional and financial assistance from Yale-China, the National Nursing Center of China was able to produce a special publication on the transmission of SARS and care for infected patients. A manual on institutional infection control is also currently in production. Both publications will be distributed to 30,000 Chinese nurses.



## New Grant

### NEW LEGAL EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP POSITION IN WUHAN

The Yale-China Association has been awarded grants from the U.S. Embassy in Beijing and the U.S.-China Legal Cooperation Fund to support a Legal Education Fellow at the Wuhan University Law School and the Center for the Protection of Disadvantaged Citizens. The Fellow's teaching assignment will be divided between team-teaching with Chinese professors in the law school's clinical law program and independently teaching a lecture course on an American legal topic. Wuhan University is home to one of China's foremost clinical law programs and China's first university-based legal aid center.



## Recent Events

- Oct. 9**      **Chia Fellowship Conference**  
Changsha, Hunan province
- Oct. 13**    **Train-the-Trainer AIDS Workshop**  
Urumqi, Xinjiang province
- Oct. 20**    **Train-the-Trainer AIDS Workshop**  
Chengdu, Sichuan province

The *Yale-China Review* is published by the Yale-China Association to keep our community up-to-date with rapid developments in Yale-China's programs and to feature the voices of our program participants in the field. The views expressed herein by individual authors do not necessarily represent the views of the Yale-China Association or its members.

Please direct any comments, questions, or requests for information on Yale-China to the staff by telephone at 203-432-0880, by email at <yale-china@yale.edu>, or by mail at the following address: Yale-China Association, PO Box 208223, New Haven, CT 06520-8223.

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Ingrid M. Jensen, editor  
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Please visit our website: [www.yalechina.org](http://www.yalechina.org)



Yale-China Teaching Fellows on an outing in Ningbo, China, during their November 2002 teaching conference. Above right, Executive Director Nancy E. Chapman speaks with a scholarship student in Changsha, October 2003.



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