

# NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

#9, April — June, 1983



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## *NEW ASIAN STUDIES CONSORTIUM FORMS IN OREGON*

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In late January, a group of more than sixteen area universities, public and private colleges, and community colleges joined to form the Oregon Asian-Pacific Studies Consortium. The purpose of the group is ". . . to further the knowledge and understanding of the Asian-Pacific region on the part of Oregon citizens." Among its aims are these:

- . To strengthen undergraduate education.
- . To provide background in Asian-Pacific cultures, economy, and other subjects for the business community, educators, and the general public.
- . To strengthen and expand instruction in major Asian languages at all levels.
- . To provide access to special expertise on the region to the general public, with particular reference to needs of the business community.
- . To encourage cooperative research.
- . To establish and maintain communications between academic groups and the rest of the community, particularly the business sector.
- . To strengthen cooperation between higher education and the kindergarten through twelfth grade levels.
- . To serve as a vehicle for obtaining new resources for these purposes.

. To cooperate with other organizations sharing similar or related goals.

The consortium is to be administered by the Oregon International Council, a private, non-profit organization, controlled by a board of thirty members drawn from education, the business community, labor, and civic organizations, the legislature, and the general public. The Council's president is Willem Winter, Vice-President for International Banking of First Interstate Bank in Portland. Its executive director is Robert Willner, a Foreign Service Officer assigned to Oregon, first to serve as executive director of the Governor's Commission on Foreign Languages and International Studies.

In recent months, many sectors in Oregon, including the Northwest China Council, have voiced the need for greater cohesion and cooperation among institutions in increasing public awareness and knowledge of Asia. As a result, the Oregon International Council sponsored a series of meetings in Salem this January with the outcome being the consortium.

The consortium's initial effort has been to submit a grant application

to the U.S. Department of Education. If successful, this grant would help strengthen undergraduate curriculum at the college level by assisting member schools in expanding or adding to their existing Asian studies offerings. Selected faculty would participate in a series of seminars and follow-up workshops intended to provide them with the information and materials necessary to augment current courses. The foci would be on Asian cultures and Asian economic development and trade.

The consortium has already received significant support from the Oregon Legislature, where Representatives Donna Zajonc (Salem) and Vera Katz (Portland) have co-sponsored House Bill 2614, which would direct the Oregon Educational Coordinating Commission to "plan and develop programs for Oregon Asian-Pacific Studies." The hearings for the bill should provide a forum for those who are concerned with enhancing Asian studies in Oregon.

An immediate impact of the consortium has been the opportunity it has provided member schools to better plan and coordinate their academic programs in Asian studies. In the future, the consortium could provide a much-needed clearinghouse to coordinate activities of all sectors of the Oregon community seeking or providing information and education about Asia.

Jeffrey Barlow

**Northwest China Council Newsletter**  
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## SPECIAL EVENTS

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### **"U.S. — CHINA RELATIONS: POINTS OF COOPERATION AND CONFLICT"**

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21st Annual International Affairs  
Symposium

Sponsored by Lewis & Clark College;  
co-sponsors: Northwest China Council and World Affairs Council

May 10, 11, 12--two sessions per  
day, 3:15--5:15 PM and 7:30--9:30 PM

Lewis & Clark College Templeton  
Center, Council Chambers

No Admission Charge

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The Northwest China Council is privileged to co-sponsor this major symposium which will treat issues in U.S. - China relations: trade, Sino-Soviet relations, Taiwan, Chinese economic development, and China's role in the Asian and global balance of power.

The three-day symposium features guest speakers from China, Taiwan, South Korea, and the U.S. Several of the speakers now represent their governments in international affairs or have done so in the recent past.

The tentative program and confirmed speakers are as follows:

May 10: 3:15 PM, "U.S. - China Relations: The American Perspective" --Paul Wolfowitz, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. 7:30 PM: "U.S. - China Relations: The Chinese Perspective" --representative of the Chinese Embassy in Washington, DC.

May 11: 3:15 PM, "The Scholar's View of U.S. - China Relations: Politics and Culture"--Zhongyun Zi,

Associate Professor at the Princeton University Center of International Studies (on leave from the Institute of International Studies in Beijing) and Stephen Uhalley, Director of the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies at the University of Hawaii.

7:30 PM, "U.S. - China Business Relations"--Roger Sullivan, Executive Vice-President of the National Council for U.S. - China Trade in Washington, DC.

May 12: 3:15 PM, "Taiwan - U.S. Relations"--King-yuh Chang, Director of the Institute of International Relations, Taipei, Taiwan; "U.S. - China Relations: Their Impact on East Asia"--Jae Kyu Park, Director of the Institute for Far Eastern Studies, Kyungham University, Seoul, Korea. 7:30 PM, "Summing Up"--Michel Oksenberg, Professor of Political Science at the University of Michigan's Center for Chinese Studies and former advisor to Zbigniew Brzezinski of the National Security Council for the Carter Administration.

Each session will feature one or two speakers, a panel, and questions from the audience. Those on the Northwest China Council mailing list will receive full details of the symposium schedule. Symposium coordinator is Joseph Ha, Chairman of the International Affairs Program at Lewis & Clark College. Information: 244-6161, x464.

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## **JONATHAN SPENCE TO SPEAK ON EARLIEST SINO-WESTERN CONTACTS**

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"CATHOLICS AND CONFUCIANS IN  
SIXTEENTH CENTURY CHINA"

Sponsor: Portland State University  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Co-Sponsor: Northwest China Council

June 23, 8:00 PM, Portland State  
University, Lincoln Hall Auditorium

No admission charge

Jonathan Spence, Yale University's George Burton Adams Professor of History and author of a number of ground-breaking books on Chinese history, will be a visiting professor and lecturer at Portland State University June 20-25.

Among Spence's popular books are The Death of Woman Wang, Emperor of China, To Change China, and his most recent, The Gate of Heavenly Peace (1981). This last book presents a new perspective on the Chinese revolution derived from its most articulate participants who lived in China during a century of revolutionary change. The dean of American sinology, John K. Fairbank, called the book "a brilliant achievement" and hailed it as a breakthrough to history based on literature and humanist concerns rather than on a social science framework.

Spence's talk on June 23 will focus on his most recent topic of research --the mutually stimulating and culturally revolutionary contacts between European Jesuit missionaries and Confucian mandarins in the China of the Ming Dynasty.

The Portland State University College of Liberal Arts has brought Spence to Portland as a Distinguished Visiting Professor. He will conduct part of a seminar on the Chinese revolution which will use The Gate of Heavenly Peace as its main text (see China Resources column for details).

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## **CHINA COUNCIL NEWS**

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### COMING EVENTS

Two exciting exhibitions from China are coming to the Northwest in the next year: in 1983, "China From Within: Contemporary Landscapes By Chinese Photographers" and in 1984, "Chinese Secrets: 7,000 Years of Discovery."

"China From Within" comes to Portland State University's Littmann Gallery August 27 for a month-long show. It is a collection of Chinese landscape photography that in style and mood evokes traditional Chinese landscape painting. Ranging from scenes of Hangzhou's West Lake to the Potala Palace in Tibet, the 48 photos were all taken by Chinese professionals and were brought together by the Chinese Exhibition Agency.

The Northwest China Council is sponsoring a series of lectures to accompany the show, including an opening reception on September 11 featuring a Chinese brush painting demonstration by Wing Leong. Other speakers in the series will be Donald Jenkins, Portland Art Museum, on Chinese landscape paintings, and Kenneth Hanson, Reed College professor, giving a Chinese poetry reading.

In Seattle, at the Pacific Science Center, an exhibition of traditional Chinese science and technology, "Chinese Secrets," will be shown March 1 to August 31, 1984. This show features 500 artifacts illustrating Chinese discoveries in astronomy, medicine, printing, bronze-casting, silk-making, and even culinary techniques, as well as Chinese artisans who will demonstrate such crafts as making paper and porcelain.

The Northwest China Council hopes to organize bus tours to Seattle for special viewings of this exhibition; local lectures on Chinese science and technology; and a teacher workshop presenting projects for classroom use.

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## BOOKS IN THE NEWS

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### The China Option

Nancy Milton

Pantheon Books, 1982

Nancy Milton lived and taught in China from 1964 to 1969 (along with her University of Oregon professor hus-

band, David Milton). Her recent novel, The China Option, is the tour de force every American who has lived and worked in China wishes s/he had written. Her keen observation of daily life, eating habits, dress, and family relations are intricately woven into a plausible Soviet - U.S. spy thriller set in China, post-1980.

Milton has breathed life into the community of Americans living, working, and just plain surviving in China. The reader meets journalists competing to break the "story of the year" in China, the businessman abroad drawn to quick profits and the easily controlled workers of the a third world industrial system, the emigre American in live with the civilization of the country of his choice but not birth, and the proverbial soldier's soldier, executive-turned-diplomat, and the starry-eyed State Department types to be found in most every American embassy the world over.

Unlike some other American friends of China who have written about their experiences and observations while living there, Milton is admirably honest in her depiction of the Chinese as well as of the Americans with their clumsy attempts to transcend the cultural differences that inevitably raise barriers between peoples. In one particularly effective scene, Milton has the American emigre explain to the rookie journalist, Anne Campbell, the way to evaluate political events in China:

". . . China's centuries of feudalism aren't easily shaken off. I myself doubt they ever will be. These succession struggles go on for decades. I don't expect to see the resolution of this one in my lifetime. . . Power. It's everything in China. In the West it's money, but here it's power. There is no Chinese of talent who doesn't, at some time in his life, play for power."

Milton effectively uses historical stories to illustrate contemporary

Chinese political situations, a device the Chinese also employ in newspapers, films, and other media.

The book's political scenario, as Milton points out in an historical note at the end of the book, is eerily accurate, and while wholly fictional, has many factual bases. This is particularly noteworthy when taken in light of the China Spring movement reported in the March 10, 1983 issue of Far Eastern Economic Review. The movement, which is based in North America, aims to "change the system in China completely and give our people a real opportunity to choose what they want in terms of government and political beliefs. We want democracy, rule of law, liberty, and human rights." The article claims that the movement is directed by contemporaries of dissidents, including journalist Wei Jingsheng, who are now serving jail sentences in China for alleged counter-revolutionary activities during or since the Beijing democracy movement. Nancy Milton mentions Wei as a model for one of the rebel characters in China Option. It is premature to attempt an assessment of the movement, because at present it appears to lack cohesion. Also, there is some question as to the integrity of China Spring as many Taiwan sympathisers have gravitated to it in the U.S. and Hong Kong. However, its defenders claim no ties to Taiwan and also criticize the Kuomintang regime for its alleged undemocratic rule. The China Spring activists are similar in some respects to the dissidents in Milton's novel, especially in their common experience of the Cultural Revolution.

One learns from Milton that the strategic aspects of the so-called "China option" are extremely complex from the perspectives of both the U.S. and China. Both of our political climates are changeable, if not unstable at times. Moreover, Milton demonstrates how foreigners in China sometimes choose a "China option" for themselves--becoming enamored of

and entangled in the "Middle Kingdom", its culture, civilization, and peoples. Her own opinion about this personal "China option", best exemplified in the book by the American emigre, is hard to pin down, but a clue is found in the interrogation scene of the emigre by two security men. He is essentially destroyed by his involvement, which albeit not entirely innocent was at worst naive, with the journalist's secret contact with the Chinese rebels. After collapsing and capitulating to the intense questioning, he remembers this quote from E. M. Forester: "If I have to choose between betraying my friend and betraying my country, I pray for the strength to betray my country."

Christine Richardson-Barlow

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## CHINA RESOURCES

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### *SPECIAL SUMMER STUDIES*

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A number of Oregon universities and colleges are offering special summer programs relating to China. These range from single classes to substantial inter-related programs.

The University of Oregon in Eugene is offering "The New China" (Hum 354) which meets June 21 to August 12, 12:30 PM, Monday through Thursday. The course offers a look at the People's Republic of China today in the light of both its remote as well as its more recent past. Along with readings from China in translation as well as critical Western perspectives, slides, films, and personal experiences will be used to provide unique insights into the special nature of China's ongoing socialist transition. A major component of the course will be the exploration of the complex status of women in China.

Additional courses are being offered in second-year Chinese language

(Chinese 201, 202; June 21--July 15; July 18--August 12) and "Western Images of the Far East: Marco Polo to the Present" (Hst 408G; June 21--August 12). For information, call 686-4005.

Portland State University is offering a unique opportunity to study in an intensive seminar with Professor Jonathan Spence of Yale University, noted author of a number of important works on China. Using his latest book, The Gate of Heavenly Peace (1981), Spence will conduct the seminar along with Linda Walton, PSU history professor. The "Intensive Seminar on the Chinese Revolution" will be held June 20 to July 1, Monday through Friday, 1:30--4:00 PM. For information, call 229-4081. Auditors should call Linda Walton, 229-3004.

Lewis and Clark College is offering a course particularly intended for those with a serious interest in working, studying or traveling in China, as well as for those with a general interest in contemporary China. "Topics in the Culture of the People's Republic of China", History 498, will run from June 20 to July 15, Monday through Friday, 7:30--9:30 AM. The course is being taught by Jeffrey Barlow, leader of the 1982 Overseas Studies Program in China and by Rebecca Wisser and Elizabeth Carter, two of the returned students who lived in Guilin from February to August. The course will also include a language-study component given by a native speaker and trained language teacher. Information: 244-6161, x217.

Linfield College will be giving two weekend courses relating to China. "History and Culture of China" is offered July 5 and 6, and "Introduction to Buddhism" is August 19 and 20. Both courses run each day from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and may be audited or taken for credit. For information, call (within Oregon) 1-800-452-4176 or (outside Oregon) 503-472-4121, x269.

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## CHINA TOURS

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A short-term course on traditional Chinese architecture is being offered by the Department of Architecture at Qinghua University, Beijing. The course runs from June 27 to July 23, 1983. The program is conducted in English and includes field trips to monuments in Beijing and Chengde. There is an optional 14-day tour to six other cities at the close of the course. Air fare is estimated at \$1,250; land costs are \$1,050; the optional tour is \$700 and will be July 23 to August 6. The local organizer is Howard Glazer, 227-4331.

The U.S. China People's Friendship Association is sponsoring three tours led by Oregon people this fall. All will cost about \$3,000 total. The first, "Art and Archeology", is led by anthropologist Robin Drews, September 8--29, and will visit Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Guilin, Kunming, Chengdu, Xian, Luoyang, and Beijing.

Annie Hall will lead a tour entitled "People in Public Life", October 8--28, which will visit Shanghai, Beijing, Xian, Changsha, Guilin, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong.

Grace Anders of Salem leads "Wonders of the South" to Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Guilin, Kunming, Chengdu, Xian, Luoyang, and Beijing from October 13 to November 3.

For information on the Friendship Association tours, call Annie Hall at 292-1809.

Max Shelton of Shelton-Pacific in Seattle specializes in bicycle tours to China--his October 1983 itinerary will include Beijing, Shandong province, and Shanghai. For information, call 206-622-1604.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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- April** 9 NORTHWEST REGIONAL SEMINAR ON EAST ASIA: Panels with papers on such topics as regional Chinese history and Japan's new economic policy. Sponsor: East Asia Resource Center, University of Washington. At the University, Seattle, all day. No admission charge. For details, call Mary Bernson, 206-543-1921.
- May** 10 \* "U.S. - CHINA RELATIONS: POINTS OF COOPERATION AND CONFLICT": Lewis & Clark College International Affairs Symposium. Templeton Center, Council Chambers. No admission charge. May 10, 11, 12.
- 3:15 PM: "U.S. - China Relations: The American Perspective"--Paul Wolfowitz, State Department  
7:30 PM: "U.S. - China Relations: The Chinese Perspective"--Chinese Embassy representative
- 11 3:15 PM: "The Scholar's View of U.S. - China Relations"--Zhongyun Zi and Stephen Uhalley  
7:30 PM: "U.S. - China Business Relations"--Roger Sullivan, National Council for U.S. - China Trade
- 12 3:15 PM: "Taiwan - U.S. Relations/U.S. - China Relations: Their Impact on East Asia"  
7:30 PM: "Summing Up"--Michel Oksenberg, U. of Michigan
- June** 6/20-7/1 "INTENSIVE SEMINAR ON THE CHINESE REVOLUTION": Portland State University course (History 410E) taught by Jonathan Spence and Linda Walton, Monday--Friday, 1:30 PM--4:00 PM. 229-4081.
- 6/20-7/15 "TOPICS IN THE CULTURE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA": Lewis & Clark College course (History 498) taught by Jeffrey Barlow, Monday--Friday, 7:30--9:30 AM. 244-6161, x217.
- 6/21-8/12 "THE NEW CHINA": University of Oregon course (Humanities 354), taught by Michael Fish. Other courses offered 6/21-8/12 are "CHINESE 201" and "WESTERN IMAGES OF THE FAR EAST: MARCO POLO TO THE PRESENT" (History 408G). 686-4005.
- 23 \* "CATHOLICS AND CONFUCIANS IN SIXTEENTH CENTURY CHINA": Lecture by Jonathan Spence. Sponsored by Portland State University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, co-sponsored by Northwest China Council. Lincoln Hall auditorium, Portland State University, 8:00 PM. No admission charge. 229-3917/229-3049.
- \* CO-SPONSORED BY THE NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL MAILING LIST We welcome you to receive this quarterly newsletter and other special mailings, at no charge.

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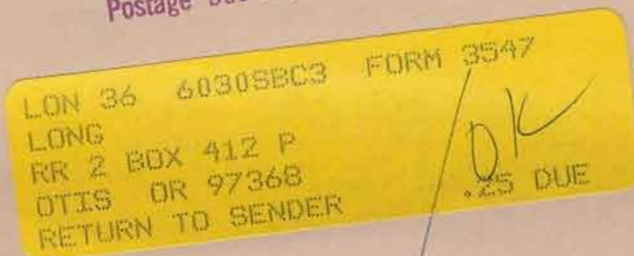
Please describe your special interest in China (trade, scholarly, lived in or traveled to China, Chinese descent, etc.). Let us know what programs we should organize for the future.

WANT OFF THE MAILING LIST? Just call the World Affairs Council office, 229-3049, give us your name and zip code, and we will gladly remove your name from the list.

The Northwest Regional China Council is formed to deepen public understanding of China's history, culture, and contemporary affairs (in the People's Republic, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and among Chinese-Americans). Our events are held all over Oregon and in Vancouver and Seattle, Washington and include exhibitions, lectures, conferences, teacher workshops, and business seminars. The Northwest China Council is a program of the World Affairs Council of Oregon and one of twelve regional China councils in the U.S. affiliated with The Asia Society.

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