

# China Council Quarterly



#42, April — June, 1991

## Taiji (Tai Chi) and the Internal Arts

On March 3, the China Council co-sponsored Taiji & The Internal Arts: Chinese Ways to Health & Happiness.



*'Internal arts' refers to those methods and exercises used to stimulate one's internal energy (qi 氣). — Editor's note*

Sometime in the beginning of their long history, the Chinese made a startling discovery. Health does not depend on what we see, the tissues or organs, it depends on the unseen energy within them. And strength does not depend

on the size or shape of muscles, it depends on the life energy running through them.

Thus a little old lady with strong, flowing energy can defeat a large mugger whose energy is blocked. And healing is done by balancing unseen energy channels with a few well-placed needles. The underlying energy is important, not the outer size or shape.

If this is so, the question becomes, "Is there a pattern to my life energy and can I control it?" The study of this is called *qigong* 氣功 (*chi kung*), and it is the traditional root of both the healing and the martial arts of China.

Chen Yen Kung in his seminal, *Tai Chi Chuan Tao Chien Kan San-Shou Ho Lun* (Shanghai, 1936) begins

by discussing *yi* 意, and *qi*. *Yi* is concentrated mental focus. *Qi* is life energy. Synopsizing from Chen, "When *yi* is dispersed, *qi* becomes weak. Thus it is absolutely necessary in *taijiquan* 太極拳 to concentrate the *yi*. Use *yi* to imagine *qi* moving from below the navel to the tip of the spine. *Qi* goes up the spine and out through the arms to the palms. From there, it penetrates your opponent's body. After long training, you can actually do this in combat. If *yi* is controlled, *qi* follows, stimulating and nourishing the blood. Having purified the blood, the body becomes extremely strong."

In this, we see that a scattered mind weakens the life energy. Further, there is a reservoir of life energy just below the navel. This is called the lower *dantian* 丹田. Concentrated attention moves some of this energy to the tailbone. From here it travels up the spine and out the arms. A burst of *qi* enhances your *taiji* punch or strike. And this is how a smaller person defeats a bigger one.

In healing applications, life energy circulates up the spine and around the internal organs without leaving the body. Studies show that hospital patients who learn to do this get well faster. Centuries of folk stories tell how people who practice this art live longer and look younger. (For more on this, see *The Wonders of Qigong*, Wayfarer, 1985.)

When a master watches *taijiquan*, what does he look for? The answer is: First the feet. Then the waist. Then the hands. Chang San Feng, the legendary founder of *taijiquan*, comments in his *Tai Chi Treatise*, "Qi is rooted in the feet, develops in the legs, is directed by the waist, and moves out the hands." In

this, Master Chang goes one step further. From the lower *dantian*, *qi* is first sent down the legs and 'screwed' into the ground, rooting you as you move. Then it comes back up the spine and out the arms. Watching, you should sense power coming up from the ground, invigorating the *taiji* player.

Second, look at the waist. As Yang Cheng Fu, the great Yang stylist, puts it, "The millstone turns, the *yi* does not turn." The millstone is the waist. This should constantly turn, sending *qi* to one arm or the other. But the *yi* or concentration never changes. This equilibrium comes from sinking the *yi* in the lower *dan tian*.

Finally, watch the hands. They should not be "pretty". *Taiji* is not a dance. The form comes from the harmony of the moving *qi* inside, it is not imposed from the outside. In "holding the ball", the *taiji* player's hands are naturally round, because a ball of *qi* has been projected between the hands. In striking, the arms are relaxed and slightly bent at the elbow, because tension or a fully-extended joint blocks the *qi* flow.

There is a *qi* reason for everything in *taijiquan*. Learn to feel *qi* and your form will naturally correct itself. You will also gain health benefits. *Taiji* is an excellent way to practice *qigong*, moving your internal energy. It is the real reason to become a *taiji* player.

John Allee teaches Asian thought at PSU. He is on the faculty of the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine and East-West College.

## SPECIAL EVENTS



### Spring Conversation Circle Begins April 4

Thursdays, April 4—May 9  
5:30—7 PM

China Council office, Smith Center, Portland State University, Suite M107 (in the mezzanine)

\$40 members; \$45 non-members

Pre-registration required; 725-4567

#### China Council Quarterly

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Acting Editor: Gaelle A. Snell

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Ideal for travelers and business people, the Chinese Conversation Circle gives Chinese language learners an informal but challenging exercise of their Mandarin by talking with native Chinese speakers. An excellent opportunity to learn more about Chinese culture, each circle, six weeks in length, is divided into small groups of three to eight people, all of whom have studied Chinese for at least six months. Meeting four times a year, the Summer Circle will run from July 11 to August 15, the Fall Circle from October 10 to November 14. While you are encouraged to sign up for a full six-week circle, participation in single sessions costs \$7.50.

CHINA 中國  
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### Our Chinese Sister Relationships: Where Are They Going?

Saturday, April 20

9 AM—Noon

PSU Campus Ministry, SW Broadway & Montgomery  
Call the China Council, 725-4567, for an invitation

In the first of our *China 1990s* policy meetings, we will evaluate the progress of Oregon's sister city and province ties with China and Taiwan and discuss how we can productively develop them. The 1989 China crisis disrupted Oregon's relationship with its sister province, Fujian, and brought to light questions about the value of sister state and city connections. Yet some very exciting exchanges have taken place since June 4, even if government to government ties have nearly ceased. Sister city ties with Taiwan are flourishing and may provide a model for mainland relationships. We might also explore cooperative projects among our various Chinese sisters in Taiwan and China.

Participants in the meeting will be Oregonians involved in sister relations in China and Taiwan, including sister city and other cultural exchange organizations, schools, Oregon Economic Development Department, International Trade Institute, and businesses involved in trade with sister provinces/cities.

Three issues will be addressed with panels and discussion: 1. What do the Chinese and American partners want from their sister relationships? What are our mutual expectations, goals, and motivations? (We hope to have a representative of the Fujian exchanges to give the Chinese point of view.) 2. What has been happening in Oregon-Chinese sister

relationships in the areas of education, cultural/social exchange, and trade? 3. What role should state and local government have in facilitating sister relationships? What is the current involvement of Oregon governments in China relationships and how should they be involved?

While the policy meeting is not public, invitations will be sent to those who are interested in this topic. Please contact the China Council office for more information.

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### ***Soaring Crane Qigong (Chi kung) with Master Chen***

*Tuesday, April 30  
7—9:30 PM  
PSU's Smith Center, 1825 SW Broadway, rm 338  
\$5 members, \$7.50 non-members*

A rare opportunity to see and meet with China's highest caliber qigong master who speaks fluent English, this evening lecture and hands-on demonstration will offer a glimpse of the most popular form of qigong in China. Master Chen Hui-xian, from Beijing, worked as an English teacher until she got what doctors told her was incurable cancer. As a last attempt to conquer the disease, Master Chen began practicing Soaring Crane Qigong. Since then she has risen to a second level master, second only to a grand master, or the founder of a school.

Soaring Crane Qigong is practiced by fifteen million Chinese and has been credited with amazing accounts of recovery and healing. Like all forms of qigong, Soaring Crane techniques concentrate on a person's internal energy, based on the concept that through concentration and simple physical movements, internal energy can be moved throughout the body, nourishing the blood and strengthening the body (see Cover Story).

Master Chen is in the United States on a rare visit. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about your own health and to get a taste of what millions of Chinese are practicing daily.

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### ***The Fourth Question: A Chinese Folktale; A Bookwarming***

*Saturday, May 11  
Noon—1:00 PM  
Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association  
317 NW Davis in Chinatown  
No admission charge*

A Chinese children's folktale which shows how doing good deeds brings happiness and rewards will be told by Portland-area author Rosalind Wang and illustrator Ju-hong Chen, whose beautiful new book, *The Fourth Question*, has just been published by Holiday House of New York. Wang, who was born in China and grew up in Taiwan, is now the education librarian at Portland State University. This is her first book, although she has translated books into Chinese which have been published in China, and it was inspired because she found so few Chinese folk stories in the library. Chen, who came to the U.S. from Shanghai in 1982, is a professional designer and artist. He has illustrated other children's books, including *A Song of Stars*, based on an Asian legend. (See Books In The News)

Wang will read her story and she and Chen will then answer questions from the audience. Both children and adults are invited; *The Fourth Question* will be available (\$14.95, hardback).

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### ***Chinese American Fact, Film and Fiction: Parents and Children***

*Saturday, May 11  
1:30—5:30 PM  
Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association  
317 NW Davis in Chinatown  
Admission fee \$5  
Co-sponsored by The Asia Society, Chinese American Citizens Alliance and Powell's Books*

The tender but often painful ties between parents and children in Chinese America is the theme of an afternoon of readings and drama by Chinese American writers. Presentations will be interspersed with analysis and discussion in this unusual program featuring some of the best new and established Chinese American authors.

To introduce the theme, Edward Rhoads, professor of Chinese history at the University of Texas, Austin, will link Chinese American history with specific Chinese American literary works, by authors such as Amy Tan, Jade Snow Wong, Pardee Lowe, and Louis Chu.

Two mother-daughter relationships will be presented in dramatic form. Genny Lim, author of plays, poems, and prose will present "The Only Language She Knows," a mother-daughter dialogue in which she speaks both parts. Lim's books include *Winter Place*, a collection of poems, and her play, *Paper Angels*, has been produced throughout the US

and was broadcast on PBS's American Playhouse in 1985.

Following Lim's presentation, several scenes from the play, *Mei Mei: A Daughter's Song*, by D. Roberts will be enacted. Roberts, who is co-host of Oregon Considered on Oregon Public Broadcasting radio, originally produced *Mei Mei* as a radio drama which tells of a traumatic trip home to Taiwan with her Chinese mother. The tape, broadcast on Soundprint and National Public Radio, won a Peabody Award, and from April 18 to May 5 will be presented in play form at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in Portland.

"Back to Duck Eggs" is a short story by Cherylene Lee about her father and his peculiar way of showing love for and needing respect from his family. Lee is a fourth generation Chinese American prize-winning playwright, whose play, "The Ballad of Doc Hay" is about the famed China Doctor of John Day, Oregon. Her poetry and short stories have been published in a variety of magazines and she is now in the 1991 Mentor Playwrights Program at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles.

Shawn Wong, professor of American Ethnic Studies at the University of Washington, will read from his book, *Homebase*, which tells of a boy whose father dies when he is a small child and his haunting search for the dreams of his Chinese American ancestors. Wong is a former chairman of the Seattle Arts Commission and he has edited several volumes of Asian American literature, including *The Big Aiieeeee!* (forthcoming from Penguin Books).

A reception will follow the program. A showing of Chinese American films and videos is planned through the Northwest Film and Video Center.

### ***Rethinking China Trade: Technological and Legal Issues in the 1990s***

Wednesday, May 22  
8:30—10:30 AM

World Trade Center, International Conference Center  
Co-sponsored by Center for Asian and Pacific Studies  
at the University of Oregon and International Trade  
Institute

As part of World Trade Week, a panel of four of Oregon's China specialists will discuss the changing context for trade and investment with China.

Richard Suttmeier, political science professor and director of the Center for Asian & Pacific Studies,

will speak on "Technology Transfer and High Technology Industrialization." Suttmeier co-authored a major report for Congress on technology transfer to China and also was director of the Beijing office of the National Academy of Sciences in 1987.

Mark Sidel, an assistant professor at Lewis & Clark Law School, will address "Legal Reforms and the Protection of Intellectual Property". Sidel directed the Ford Foundation's Law and Human Rights Program in Beijing from 1988 to 1990. (See China Profile for more on Suttmeier and Sidel.)

Mel Gurtov, political scientist and director of International Studies at Portland State University, will speak on "The Conversion of China's Military Industry to Civilian Production." The talk will be based on his research interviews at military industrial facilities in China over the past two years. Gurtov has written widely on Chinese and Asian security issues.

Finally, Michael Fishlen, an attorney and associate professor of Chinese language and literature at the University of Oregon, will discuss "The Legal Climate for Joint Ventures." He taught and practiced law in China in 1989 and 1990.

The panel moderator will be Gil Latz, Director of the International Trade Institute. (This program was originally scheduled for February 15.)

CHINA 中国  
1990S 1990年代

### ***CHINA AND DEMOCRACY Featuring Chinese Democracy Advocate Liu Binyan***

Friday, June 21 and Saturday, June 22  
Friday night dinner/lecture at House of Louie Restaurant, NW 4th and Davis, 5—8:30 PM, \$20, members; \$25, public  
Saturday program, Portland State University, Lincoln Hall 75, 9 AM—4 PM, 7—9:30 PM, no admission charge  
Reservations required for Friday dinner/lecture: 725-4567

Liu Binyan, China's most famous investigative journalist and currently an exiled democracy activist, will be the featured speaker for a forum on the meaning and practice of democracy and its role in modern China. Liu, who joined the Communist Party in 1944, was thrown out the party twice, first in the Anti-Rightist Movement in 1957 and second in 1987, after a series of large student demonstrations which he was accused of inspiring. In 1990, Liu pub-

lished two books, his memoir, *A Higher Kind of Loyalty*, and *Tell the World What Happened in China and Why* on the Tiananmen democracy movement.

Liu will tell his story in a dinner talk entitled "A Higher Kind of Loyalty: Liu Binyan and His Quest for Democracy in China" which opens *China and Democracy* on June 21.

Saturday's daytime program will compare "Chinese and American Visions of Democracy", involving Liu as well as a younger generation democracy advocate, along with Chinese Americans and others involved in the American institutions of democracy. Dialogue between Americans and Chinese on their experiences and visions of democracy will be moderated by Lewis & Clark College Law School professor Mark Sidel. Afternoon discussion sessions, in English and Chinese, will focus on such topics as the role of political parties in the political process and freedom of the press.

Saturday evening's topic is "China and Democracy: Looking Forward", which will feature a lecture by University of Oregon political scientist Richard Kraus, on the cultural, political and economic obstacles to democracy in present-day China, followed by comments by the two Chinese democracy advocates on their views of how China can begin to implement more democracy. Kraus was in Fujian province throughout 1989, and is co-author with Mary Erbaugh of an article, "The 1989 Democracy Movement in Fujian and its Aftermath;" his forthcoming book is *Brushes with Power: Modern Politics and the Chinese Art of Calligraphy*.

## CHINA COUNCIL NEWS



### China Council Holds Its Largest Fundraiser

From flowering plum branches to the auction item offer of 'Zoo Parenthood' for the red panda,

the first annual Chinese New Year Dinner & Flying Horse Auction was a blend of beauty, unique opportunities and camaraderie. Over two hundred people made their way to the Hi Hat Restaurant on the evening of February 16. By the end of that evening \$6,930 in net proceeds had been raised, making this the largest fundraiser ever for the Northwest China Council.

Before dinner, people viewed (and bought) wonderfully unique scrolls done by children of Fujian province, had their names written in Chinese by a calligrapher, heard their Chinese horoscopes, had a quick Chinese medical consultation, or consulted with a psychic. In this lively atmosphere people bid on nearly sixty silent auction items, which ranged from *taiji* lessons to Blazer tickets, acupuncture treatments to a performance by a madrigal group, and housecleaning to Chinese meals made in your home. Host Terry Wong Naito graciously oversaw the proceedings.

A Chinese lion dance dramatically marked the beginning of the banquet. Guest of honor Y. Sherry Sheng good-naturedly took part by feeding the lion its New Year's lettuce.

A fast-moving oral auction followed the gourmet eight-course Chinese meal, with auctioneer Stan Ash getting top dollar for such varied items as dinner for four on an Asian freighter, weekend at a beachhouse and a gold and diamond necklace. The Auction Committee of Mary Brown, Stan Chen, Norman Locke, Lois Beran, and Kate McCusker felt the evening was a success and would like to see more people involved in this project next year. Special thanks go to the office staff of Jane Larson and Gaelle Snell.

Much appreciation goes to Wendy Wells and Heidi Lambek for handling decorations, Charles Liu for telling Chinese horoscopes, Qian Zifen for calligraphy, Dr. Wang Lihua for medical consultations and Laurie McQuary for psychic readings. Volunteers were Feroza Allee, Qiulu Liang, Roger Bliesner, Shelly Pittman, Ren Jingshan, Esther Dai, and Peter Wonacott.

Mary Brown

### Volunteers Continue to Make The Difference

Several programs held in the last three months were made possible in large part by many able volunteers: Shelly Pittman and Sarah Moon assisted at the January 10 program, *Dim Sum With Amy Tan*;

Tim Cushing and Zou Can were volunteers for *The Current Environment for Doing Business in China: Is Now the Time to Return?* on January 25; numerous volunteers made the Chinese New Year event possible (see article above); volunteers for the March 3 Taiji event included Yvonne Cornell, Bob Brown, Feroza Allee, Solala Towler, Marcia Weinstein, Kim Ivy, David-Dorian Ross, John Wong, Yang Lian, Jonathan Bian, Bob Wilcox, and others.

Volunteers also helped with mailings and general office work: Lois Leiber (who volunteers weekly), Qiulu Liang, Bruce MacGibbon, Bernice Reed, Zhang Li, Bob Brown, Peter Wonacott, and Kevin Yang.

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### *Thanks to Foundations, Corporate & Individual Contributors*

The Council sincerely thanks the Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust for a \$2,500 grant which will go towards *China 1990s*.

Appreciation also goes to new corporate members, Major Donors The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corp Ltd and Imperial Tour & Travel Inc, Sponsor Ko-Am International Co, Ltd, individual sponsor Mildred Schnitzer, and contributors Mary Blakely, Daniel O. Potter, and Kathy Greey.

Thank you also to Ernst & Young for renewing its membership as a Patron. Other corporate renewals: Cascade Shipping, Folkways Travel, Bullivant Houser, Tektronix/Asia Pacific, Ater Wynne Hewitt, Oregon Wheat Commission, Metro Washington Park Zoo, World Class Products Ltd, Owen D. Blank, Attorney, Atiyeh International, Norcrest China, Engineered Structures, Patricia Neils Inc., Code-A-Phone, and Price Waterhouse. Thank you.

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## CHINA RESOURCES



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### *New Center Facilitates Trade with China's Northeast*

The newly opened US-China Business Information Service Center (USBISC) in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, and the American Consulate would like to help American firms export their products to China's Northeastern markets. Opened jointly by the US Consulate General in Shenyang, the US and Foreign Commercial Service and the Shenyang World Trade Center, it is the first organization of its kind in China. Its purpose is to promote business

and investment in China by providing information and services to Chinese and American businesses.

One of the best ways for businesses from this state to gauge the market potential is through catalogue shows, which the Center can arrange in one of the Center's exhibition halls. Companies participating in catalogue shows, which last three days, also receive advertising, a reception, bilingual staff, printing and distribution of invitations and a complete list of all trade leads generated.

Companies interested in participating in a catalogue show or with questions about the USBISC should contact Jim Spencer, Trade Development Officer, International Trade Division, Oregon Economic Development Department, 229-5625.

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### *Chinese Language Program at the Central Institute of Nationalities*

The Oregon State System of Higher Education is initiating an innovative new intensive language program in Beijing, 9/5-12/18/91. The 15-week program will be hosted by the Central Institute for Nationalities, giving the program a unique focus. In addition to intensive language instruction (18 hrs/wk), students will also take a course entitled "Chinese Culture and China's Cultural Diversity." Students will take a 3-week study tour to two minority regions as part of their study. The program is open to non-students; prior language background is recommended but not required. The cost of the program is \$3500, which includes instruction, room and board and in-country travel. Airfare to Beijing is not included. For information contact Christine Sproul at the Oregon State System Foreign Study Programs office at 737-6462.

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### *New Language Center Opens in Eugene*

The Yamada Center for Language Learning and Teaching recently opened at the University of Oregon in Eugene, in part to support training foreign language teachers and to research into how people can best learn new languages. The new language lab will feature many Chinese language resources. For more information call Cici Wray, College of Arts & Sciences, 346-3950.

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### *Qigong Residential Study Program*

A residential study program, "The Recovery of Balance", will be held 7/10-8/3/91 at the Bei-

jing College of Economics. Students will become acquainted with the fundamental elements of *qigong* therapy and its practice; curriculum will be overseen by one of China's leading *qigong* masters, Dr. Feng Lida. No previous knowledge of *qigong* or Chinese language is required. Cost is \$3550 (includes airfare from New York). For more information contact Stephen Andrew at Spiritwind, 33 Lord Road, Saco, ME 04072, (207) 929-5800, or call CET, (800) 225-4262.

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## HUMAN RESOURCES



### *Teachers Needed in Chongqing, Sichuan Province*

**S**ichuan International Studies University is looking for foreign experts (those with higher degrees and expertise) and teachers to teach English language, literature, writing and other subjects. Experts will be provided round-trip travel expenses, monthly salary of 1000-1300 RMB, free lodging and medical care as well as other benefits. If experts choose to work for one semester (rather than a full academic year), benefits will vary and only one-way travel will be provided. Teachers will be provided one-way travel, a monthly salary of 800 RMB, and most benefits provided to experts. No international travel is provided for teachers who work only one semester, but other benefits remain the same. For information contact: Prof. Sun Anyuan, Linfield College, Box 415, McMinnville OR 97128-6894, or call (503) 472-1467.

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### *Three English Teachers needed in Baoji, Shaanxi Province*

**B**aoji Teachers College needs three teachers of English for the 1991-2 school year. Candidates need not have experience teaching English but knowledge of ESL (English as a Second Language) is useful. Salaries will be modest, and housing and utilities will be provided. International airfare is not included. Those looking for a challenging, rewarding experience should contact: San Dy Smith, Baoji Teachers College, Baoji City 721007, Shaanxi Province, PRC.

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### *Three Teachers from Baoji Look to Teach in US/Pen Pals Needed*

**T**hree teachers from Baoji Teachers College (Shaanxi Province) are looking for positions or visiting scholar placement in universities, colleges or

high schools in the US. All are proficient in English and standard Chinese.

Pen pals are needed for Chinese college students majoring in English and for countryside high school students. Americans may find this to be a significant cross-cultural experience. For information on positions for the three teachers or on being a pen pal, please contact San Dy Smith at the address above (see preceding article).

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## CHINA PROFILE



### *Mark Sidel*

**M**ark Sidel first became interested in China when he was 14 years old and accompanied his parents (China experts Victor and Ruth Sidel) on a five-week trip to China in 1972 for the purpose of researching medical, child care and womens' issues. This meant that during the Cultural Revolution he was able to see China on the grassroots level, including China's communes, clinics, factories and countryside.

After his early introduction to China, Sidel went on to receive his bachelors degree in history from Princeton in 1979 and his masters degree from Yale in 1982. Later, in 1985, he received his J.D. from Columbia University School of Law.

After getting his law degree, Sidel became an associate for Baker & McKenzie in New York, where he represented both American firms in China and Chinese doing business in the US. His practice focused on international business transactions, corporate and securities law, Chinese law and international intellectual property law. He often dealt with local Chinese officials on behalf of American companies who felt that there was an infringement on their trademark or copyright. It was then up to the officials to enforce the law and get the offending factory or business to stop the infringement. According to Sidel, China was more receptive to stopping intellectual property infringement than has sometimes been assumed abroad.

Sidel left New York in 1988 to become a program officer for the Ford Foundation in Beijing. There he was responsible for academic exchanges and program development in judicial training, legislative drafting and legal education. His several year stay in Beijing also coincided with the June 4 democracy movement during which time the Ford Foundation never closed its doors.

Since fall 1990, Sidel has been teaching at Lewis & Clark Law School and also working to develop stronger ties between Lewis & Clark and the Asian Pacific Rim. This is done through externships, sending students overseas to study in China, bringing over visiting scholars from China, and holding an annual Law Conference on International Business. In March, Sidel was invited to become a member of the National Committee on US-China Relations.

By exposing more American students to foreign scholars and developing programs to send them to China for study, Lewis & Clark and Mark Sidel are increasing understanding and ultimately our ability to deal more effectively with China. On the other hand, by allowing students from China into Lewis & Clark on scholarships, Chinese students are learning a great deal about American law, which it is hoped will promote legal development in China.

### Richard P. Suttmeier

One of the nation's leading experts on technology transfer to China has come to Oregon to head the Center for Asian & Pacific Studies (CAPS) at the University of Oregon—Richard Suttmeier. Suttmeier, a political scientist who was the Henry P. Bristol Professor of International Affairs at Hamilton College in New York, has spent twenty years studying China's science and technology.

With a Ph.D. in Political Science from Indiana University and earlier pre-med and science studies, Suttmeier's first position was at NASA. Since 1970, in addition to teaching at Hamilton, he was a Senior Analyst for the Office of Technology Assessment, working on a study commissioned by the US Congress on the commercial and security issues of technology transfer to China.

He spent 1987 in Beijing where he represented both the Committee on Scholarly Communications with the PRC and the National Academy of Sciences, acting as a liaison with the Chinese Academy of Science, State Science and Technology Commission and other Chinese governmental research bodies to develop US-China scientific and technological exchanges and report on trends in China. He helped launch such projects as an anthropological film in Tibet and an extensive county-level investigation in Shandong province of workings of the grassroots economy, public health practices, and local administration.

Suttmeier is currently collaborating on a National Science Foundation project assessing the scientific and technological capabilities of East and Southeast

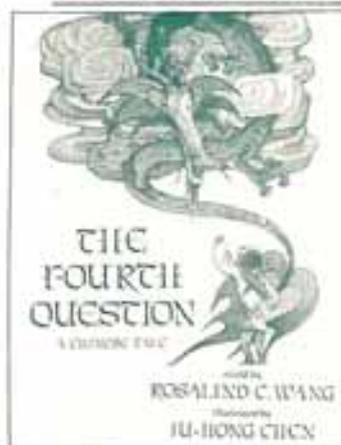
Asian countries for transformation from labor intensive economies to knowledge intensive ones. He has written a lengthy report on China's potential for development which uses much new material, including field interviews.

Coming to Oregon last fall, Suttmeier has become the first full-time director of CAPS, which leads and coordinates UO Asian and international programs, and oversees research, curriculum development and outreach programs. One such outreach program works with the Eugene school district on curriculum development for a Japanese language immersion program at the primary level.

Suttmeier has also helped organize the World Trade Week seminar on China trade on May 22 (see Special Events) and will be speaking on technology transfer and high technology industrialization in China.

Gwenna Pollock

## BOOKS IN THE NEWS



*The Fourth Question, A Chinese Tale* retold by Rosalind C. Wang; illustrated by Ju-hong Chen. Holiday House, 1991. \$14.95



*A Song of Stars, An Asian Legend* adapted by Tom Birdseye; illustrated by Ju-hong Chen. Holiday House, 1990. \$14.95.

The engaging writing of Vancouver author Rosalind C. Wang and delightful illustrations of Portland artist Ju-hong Chen combine in the charming children's book, *The Fourth Question*. The tale entertains and teaches, as the young man Yee-Lee goes on a journey in order to find out "Why, in spite of all my hard work, am I still so poor?"

In a recent conversation, Wang spoke of the value of Chinese folktales as not only a happy and effective way to teach good lessons, but also to help children

live with different cultures, essential to life in the US today.

As a public librarian in Vancouver, Wang occasionally filled in for the children's librarian during storytelling hour. Frustrated because she couldn't find children's books with Chinese folktales (which she also wanted for her own children to enjoy), she decided that perhaps she should write the stories down herself. Five years later she sat down and began to write one of the many stories her mother told her as a girl.

Wang met Ju-hong Chen on the first day he arrived in the United States from Shanghai. Impressed by his art, she pushed him to illustrate children's books. They agreed that if Ju-hong began illustrating children's books, then Rosalind would write them. Ju-hong has since illustrated five children's books, and now Rosalind has just begun her writing career.

Chen worked as a designer and illustrator for 22 years in Shanghai before coming to the United States. In these two books, one can see his versatility. *A Song of Stars* is filled with colorful, translucent, mythical-like watercolor paintings, well-suited to the fantastic love story, which takes place in the Milky Way. In *The Fourth Question* his illustrations are whimsical and much earthier, easily conveying the feeling and tone of the story. In both of the books, he transforms traditional Chinese water and cloud motifs.

You can hear Rosalind Wang and Ju-hong Chen at a bookwarming sponsored by the Northwest China Council on May 11 at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (see Special Events). Children are encouraged to attend.

Gaelle A. Snell

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## EATING CHINESE STYLE

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*Tak Kee Seafood Restaurant*  
28 NW 4 Ave, Portland (229-1888)  
11 AM—midnight weekdays and Sun; 11 AM—1 AM  
Fri & Sat

An article titled "Where to purge the Chinese Aurge" from *The Oregonian* is proudly displayed on the window as one enters this relatively new, inconspicuous (except for the "Food To Go" sign on the awning, which no one could ever miss) and mod-

estly decorated Cantonese restaurant just inside the China gate north of Burnside.

Since its opening on May 2, 1990, Tak Kee has all the makings of a four star Cantonese restaurant — the "basic" decor, the fast service, the number of local Chinese frequenting there, the moderate pricing, the noise level, the variety of dishes, the fresh seafood available, and the flexibility and creativity of the chef to throw together the freshest of ingredients to serve a dish that will transcend any culinary delight you may have yet to experience.

Tak Kee, owned and operated by chef Yuen Tak Chen, has turned out some of the best Cantonese cuisine in town. "Tak Kee House Chow Mein," "Beef and Bean Sprouts Chow Fun" and "Chicken and Salted Fish Fried Rice" lead my list of favorites for a simple and fast lunch. The rice dish, although favored by many native Chinese, can be a challenge for occidentals who are not geared up for a very unique flavor in fried rice.

Dining at Tak Kee can be a culinary adventure. For those with discriminating tastes in seafood and vegetables, consult with the waitress to determine the freshest items that are available and ask for suggestions for the method of preparation. One will rarely be disappointed.

The "House Special Salted Chicken," which is poached and served with a zesty ginger sauce for dipping is a favorite amongst many Chinese customers. On the other hand, the "Crispy Chicken," where roasted crisp and savory skin wraps the plump and juicy meat, fares very well with occidentals.

When asparagus is in season, the waitress may suggest "Asparagus With Beef in a Black Bean Sauce" — a heavenly combination. Another popular entree is "Prawns With Hot Mandarin Sauce," which features medium-sized prawns in a tangy, tomato base sauce and a touch of spiciness. The "Pepper and Salt Prawns" are sprinkled with black pepper and coarse salt and served slightly crisped. Both preparations can be done with or without the shell, and are a *must try*.

Cantonese food, to many westerners' surprise, is renowned as the finest in Chinese cuisine. Tak Kee promises the best in the form of a culinary adventure that will bring fond memories to those who have travelled to the East, and expand the imagination of those who have not.

Elaine Tan

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## CHINA TOURS

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### *Travel Committee Plans Tours*

The China Council's Travel Committee has begun work on organizing domestic and foreign trips for the next two years. Under consideration is a long weekend trip to Chinese historical sites in Central and Eastern Oregon, the Kam Wah Chung Museum in John Day and the High Desert Museum in Bend, perhaps including a visit to a private collection as well. Also being discussed is a trip to China and Tibet in spring or summer 1992, including a visit to Portland's sister city Suzhou. This trip would also tie in with a Himalayan art exhibition coming to the Oregon Art Institute this winter. Trips to Chicago in winter 1992-3 for the opening of the Asian Galleries at the Chicago Art Institute, and to Mongolia and the Silk Road in 1993 are also being investigated.

If you have information, ideas or opinions to contribute, please call Marcia Weinstein, committee chair, at 240-0614.

Marcia Weinstein

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## CHINA RESEARCH

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CHINA 中國  
1990S 向  
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### *Briefing Paper to Address Status of China Studies*

The China Scholar's Circle of the Northwest China Council has commissioned a paper on the status of China studies in Oregon higher education for its first publication, as part of the three-year program *China 1990s*. Christine Sproul, director of Asia study abroad programs for the Oregon State System of Higher Education will research and write the paper, which will survey both public and private institutions statewide. Publication is expected in June.

It is the China Council's firm belief that China studies programs and scholars are critical to maintaining and developing meaningful Oregon-China relations. We hope that this study will provide information and help access the focus, strengths, and weaknesses of the various China programs. In addition to course and faculty listings and student statistics, the

research will include interviews with department heads, and, if possible, information regarding future program developments. Of concern may be the impact of Measure 5 on the state schools and effects of the pro-democracy movement and June 4.

Ann Wetherell

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## Experts Speak on Doing Business in China



Local business leaders received a mixed message about prospects for China trade from speakers at the China Council's January 25 luncheon-seminar, "Today's Environment for Doing Business in China: Is Now the Time to Return?"

Barry Naughton, assistant professor of International Relations and Pacific Studies at the University of California at San Diego, although positive about doing business with China in the short term, warned about being too optimistic in the long term. "Unresolved economic problems will feed into the political problems," he said. "China may experience serious political instability in 1991."

According to Naughton, in the first quarter of 1990 China's industrial growth rate was zero. In the spring of 1990 China shifted course by adopting an excessively expansive policy, which included the extension of credit which helped build demand. At that time, China also benefited from a good grain harvest and an improved international reputation. By the end of 1990, the industrial growth rate had reached 14%. Bank credit grew 25% and there was an 8% increase in urban worker's wages. Export surplus reached \$9 billion and foreign exchange reserves jumped to \$25 billion.

Naughton said that because demand and output will be unable to keep pace and there will be stresses on supplies and prices, the situation will be unmanageable by the present system. "Clearly what China needs is more macro-control right now and politically courageous price reforms." He said that while Chinese economists recognize this, they have their hands tied in the face of power players — "not just households, but local governments, and central ministries as well."

Naughton sees Li Peng as a middle of the road economic pragmatist who is not opposed to economic reform. He ended by saying the Chinese economy will continue to be positive in the first half of 1991. Economic growth will be revived and China will use foreign exchange reserves for imports. "Now is the time to start talking to Chinese partners," he said.

Roger Sullivan, President, US-China Business Council, Washington, DC, agreed with Naughton that "the major uncertainty is the political uncertainty." According to him, this is a new period in US-China relations and he felt that relations would not normalize for an indefinite period of time.

Regarding doing business in China, Sullivan said: "What you see is what you get. Prior to Tiananmen the perception and the reality was that the direction of change in China's business environment was positive. Today, companies see the prospects for change in China as either zero or negative," he said.

He further pointed out that the aggregate trade picture looks positive but is misleading. China is buying only what it needs. Its exports are up and imports are down. US exports to China were down by 17% in 1990. China is following the path of self reliance, said Sullivan. Li Peng's statement, "We have built up substantial reserves and we have no intention of using it for imports," is not encouraging for US-China trade.

The single most difficult problem for foreign investment is access to foreign exchange. "Existing enterprises are being told they must either export or resort to the swap markets where one can buy for-

eign exchange although at a premium." Another difficulty is a long-standing problem which has become worse since Tiananmen—bureaucratic and political interference in the operation of enterprises.

Sullivan said that of the three kinds of business activity in China—selling, investing and buying—buyers clearly face the least uncertainty, although they do face uncertainty at home. Sellers will have a market depending on what they have to sell. In short, said Sullivan, if you can make money under the circumstances in China then "it is time to go back in."

Directly following the main speakers, local panelists gave brief summaries of their own experiences. David Chang, a trade consultant and a former vice president of Nike, stressed planning and the importance of having "the right timetable."

Wen Chen, a full-commission agent for North Pacific Trading Company, said that buying from China has become more difficult since the reduction of commodity export subsidies beginning in 1986, which caused price raises above market value and the growth of the black market.

Stephen Kerman of Tektronix said his company's experience in China has been mostly positive. "We have a product our customers want plus we don't just sell but operate joint manufacturing projects."

Don Miller from Helser Machine Works, which imports castings and forgings from China, advised, "be tactical not strategical . . . patience and a mutual sense of cooperation are what works for us."

Feroza Allee

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## CALENDAR

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### APRIL

- 1—21 **WINDOWS INTO CHINA:** Exhibit of photographs and artifacts at Hillsboro Public Library. Presented by Linfield College. Information: 472-4121.
- 1—7/31 **HOMES ON THE GO:** Children's Museum exhibit of homes that move, including an authentic Chinese junk, a Mongolian yurt, and an airstream travel trailer. Carousel Courtyard on NE Holladay between NE 7 and NE 9. Mon—Fri, 1:30—5 PM, Sat and Sun, 10 AM—4 PM. \$2.50 children and Museum members; \$3 adults. Tours and school field trip groups can be arranged. Information: 823-2227 mornings.
- 4/4—5/9\* **SPRING CONVERSATION CIRCLE:** Six weeks of Chinese conversation. China Council office, Smith Center, PSU, Suite M107; Thursdays; 5:30—7 PM. \$40 members, \$45 non-members; pre-registration required. Information: 725-4567.
- 11—13 **KOREA IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC COMMUNITY:** International conference includes panels on history, society, culture, economy, politics and foreign policy. Sponsored by International Studies Program of PSU in cooperation with Kyungnam University and the Institute of Far Eastern Studies, Republic of Korea. PSU, Smith Memorial Center, room 338. Free. Information: 725-3455.

- 12 **"IMPERIAL BELLS OF CHINA" HUBEI DANCE TROUPE:** Dance, music, and vocals accompanied by replicas of imperial bells. LaSells Stewart Center, 26 St & Western, Oregon State University, Corvallis. \$10, adults; \$5, children (tickets available at door). Information: Vicki Audette, 845-7132.
- 13 **COLLOQUIA ON CHINESE DEMOCRACY:** Conducted in Chinese, colloquia includes talks on the future of marxism and leninism in China and Deng Xiaoping's influence in China. Organized by the Chinese Students and Scholars Association of the University of Oregon. Willamette Hall, UO, Eugene, room 100; 7 PM. Information: Qindong Liang, 484-4163 or Zizhou Tang, 346-5240.
- 14 **ASIAN ART APPRAISAL DAY:** Panel of experienced professionals offer oral appraisals of Asian art. Sponsored by the Asian Art Council of the Oregon Art Institute. Oregon Art Institute, Portland Art Museum, 1219 SW Park; 11 AM— 5 PM; \$10 per object or three for \$25. Join the Art Council on 4/14 and have three objects appraised, free of charge. Information: 226-2811.
- 16 **MADAM NIEN CHENG:** Lecture based on her book, *Life and Death in Shanghai*. \$25. Information: Multnomah Athletic Club Social Office, 223-8736.
- 4/18—5/5 **MEI MEI: A DAUGHTER'S SONG:** Play based on award-winning radio piece about a Taiwanese mother and American-born daughter. Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N Interstate; Thurs—Sat at 8 PM, Sun at 2 PM; \$12.50/ various discounts. Information/reservations: 823-2000.
- 20 \* **OUR CHINESE SISTER RELATIONSHIPS: WHERE ARE THEY GOING?:** Policy meeting to evaluate the progress of Oregon's sister city and province ties with China and Taiwan. (See Special Events.) Invitation only. If interested call 725-4567.
- 23 **OPEN HOUSE AT THE OREGON COLLEGE OF ORIENTAL MEDICINE:** Open house for those interested in attending classes at OCOM includes attending a class, a tour and more. Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, 11231 SE Market St; 1—7 PM; pre-register by calling 253-3443.
- 25—28 **EAST-WEST CENTER ASIA-PACIFIC FILM TOUR:** Series of films accompanied by an Asian film expert. Sponsored by The Council of Presidents, Portland State University, and Oregon Trade and Marketing Center. PSU's Fifth Avenue Cinema; various screening times. Free. Information: 274-7475.
- 4/29—5/24 **WINDOWS INTO CHINA:** Exhibition of photographs and artifacts at Aloha Grade School, Reedville. Presented by Linfield College. Information: 472-4121.
- 30 \* **SOARING CRANE QIGONG WITH MASTER CHEN:** Rare lecture and hands-on demonstration with Beijing's Chen Hui-xian, China's only master of her caliber that speaks fluent English. (See Special Events.) PSU's Smith Center, 1825 SW Broadway, rm 338; 7-9:30 PM; \$5 members, \$7.50 non-members. Information: 725-4567.

## MAY

- 11 \* **THE FOURTH QUESTION, A CHINESE FOLKTALE: A BOOKWARMING:** Vancouver author Rosalind Wang and Portland illustrator Ju-hong Chen read and talk about their book. (See Books In The News.) Children and adults invited. Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, NW 3rd & Davis; Noon—1 PM; free. Information: 725-4567.
- 11 \* **CHINESE AMERICAN FACT, FILM & FICTION: PARENTS AND CHILDREN:** Afternoon of readings and drama featuring the best new and established Chinese American writers. (See Special Events.) Co-sponsored by The Asia Society, Chinese American Citizens Alliance and Powell's Books. Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, NW 3rd & Davis; 1:30—5:30 PM; \$5 admission fee. Information: 725-4567.
- 22 \* **RETHINKING CHINA TRADE: TECHNOLOGICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES IN THE 1990s:** Panel of four China specialists discuss changing context for trade and investment with China. (See Special Events.) Co-sponsored by Center for Asian & Pacific Studies (UO) and International Trade Institute. World Trade Center Portland, International Conference Center; 8:30—10:30 AM. Information: 725-4567.

## JUNE

4—30

**TIANANMEN SQUARE PHOTOGRAPHY & ART:** Exhibition includes work by artists from the Pacific Northwest. Sponsored by Amnesty International. Wentz Gallery, Pacific Northwest College of Art, 1219 SW Park; 9 AM—5 PM, Mon—Sat; free. Information: Mark Thomas, 227-1878.

21 \* **A HIGHER KIND OF LOYALTY: LIU BINYAN AND HIS QUEST FOR DEMOCRACY IN CHINA:** Dinner talk by one of China's foremost journalists and exiled democracy activists. House of Louie Restaurant, NW 4 & Davis; 5—8:30 PM; \$20 members, \$25 non-members. For reservations call 725-4567.

22 \* **CHINA AND DEMOCRACY:** Afternoon forum and evening lecture on the meaning and practice of democracy and its role in modern China features Liu Binyan and a younger generation democracy advocate. Richard Kraus gives the evening lecture, "China and Democracy: Looking Forward." Lincoln Hall 75, PSU; 9 AM—4 PM, 7—9:30 PM. Free. Information: 725-4567.

\* Sponsored by the Northwest China Council

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