Yale-China REVIEW
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Greetings from Yale-China in New Haven!

Since starting at Yale-China on July 1, I have frequently been asked, “What brought you to Yale-China?” My answer is laid out on these pages in words and in images, which I think capture the attributes that attracted me to Yale-China. I hope that my observations will serve as an introduction to, or a fresh lens on, the accomplishments of this unique and rich community.

**Compassion** Yale-China’s ability to make a difference in each life it touches is remarkable. I hear compassion in the moving stories of Yale-China’s long-time friends such as Maude Pettus, James Scherer, and the late Sophie Zhu; in the positive comments of our donors who view our work as a model of how their generosity can make a tangible difference; in the descriptive anecdotes of how the Teaching Fellows are building bridges in the classroom and in their communities; and in the powerful observations of the Chia Family Health Fellows as they think about the components of care in a different culture and society. It is so clear that with discerning hearts, this community has consistently sought knowledge and used that knowledge to exhibit compassion.

**Purpose** In one of my first conversations at Yale-China, someone remarked that once Yale-China draws you in, Yale-China becomes your baby. As a mother of two young children familiar with the needs, joys, and sleepless nights that come with parenting, this analogy makes sense. At Yale-China, there is so much to do; there is so much opportunity. The excitement to see growth, yet the need to move and learn at the right pace is a difficult balance. However, I believe if we adhere to the strong sense of purpose that is so evident in all of Yale-China’s work and was so palpable in that of my recent predecessors Ann Williams, Nancy Chapman, and John Starr, we will continue to build bridges and forge relationships in useful ways. I recall Ambassador Lilley’s remarks about Yale-China that were relayed to me: it reassured him to know that when diplomatic relations were fraught, there were organizations like Yale-China out there building relationships on the ground, person-to-person.
Impact Considering the number of nurses trained, the number of students taught, the number of exchanges, the number of relationships, the number of partner institutions, and the number of lives changed over the last 108 years is a daunting, yet rewarding exercise. By any measure, the dedication to the work and its results—in education, health, and public service—are the same: excellence, patience, and perseverance in every detail and in every program.

Pioneering Attitude In the Yale-China model, inspiration and perspiration clearly meet. Arthur Williams, co-founder of Yale-China, once remarked, “As I look back upon it now, I am astonished at two things—one, the consummate self-assurance that we had; just a group of youngsters without experience and without background going out to ‘tell the world’ what was the matter with it; second, the results that were piled up on so inadequate a basis.”

One of the most distinctive components of Yale-China’s work throughout its history has been its pioneering attitude. I cannot think of a comparable entity today that equals Yale-China’s initial and continued combination of entrepreneurialism and boldness. Yale-China’s pioneering attitude brought us to help build New Asia College, which celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. Our current work with Xiangya School of Medicine to establish a formal medical residency training program is also a testament to our pioneering spirit. These and our other partnerships, including that with Yale University here at home, sustain us.

Thank you for this chance to serve as executive director of an organization that leaves me, at times, speechless. I hope to contribute as much compassion and purpose to Yale-China as my predecessors as we prioritize impact and pioneer forward.

With great enthusiasm,

Nancy Yao Maasbach
Executive Director

Announcing the Centennial of the Yale-China Teaching Fellowship

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF CHANGING LIVES

1909-2009
SAVE THE DATE

October 2, 2010
Celebration in New York City
More details to follow

We invite you to contribute your memories, thoughts, and reflections for a forthcoming special edition of the Yale-China Review. Send us 100 words by writing to yale-china@yale.edu or by mail at 442 Temple Street, Box 208223, New Haven, CT, 06520, USA.

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One Hundred Words for One Hundred Years
YALE-CHINA A PARTNER IN NIH GRANT FOR HIV ADHERENCE STUDY

Yale-China is pleased to announce our role in a groundbreaking HIV/AIDS study that is being supported by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). The grant, which was announced in August, is aimed at identifying ways to help patients take HIV/AIDS medications correctly. Led by Professor Ann Williams of the Yale School of Nursing and Professor Wang Honghong of the Central South University School of Nursing in Changsha, Hunan province, other partners in the grant include the Yale-China Association and the Hunan Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Since HIV first was identified in China in 1989 in Yunnan province, the AIDS epidemic has spread rapidly and widely throughout China. Currently an estimated 700,000 people are living with HIV in China. In response to the growing number of new infections, the Chinese government launched the China CARES program to provide free HIV/AIDS medications for those in need. However, if patients fail to take their medications correctly, the virus may develop resistance to the medications, making them ineffective in the future and for other patients who are infected by the drug-resistant virus.

The aim of this study is to contribute to the successful treatment of HIV around the world by developing an intervention to improve the medication adherence of Chinese AIDS patients. The project builds on a long-term collaboration in HIV/AIDS treatment and care between the Yale-China Association and partners at Yale and in Changsha, Hunan province, which began over 12 years ago before HIV/AIDS was recognized as a problem in China. Since then, Yale-China's work in this area has included:

- the creation of a Train-the-Trainer program which has trained more than 30,000 nurses across China in HIV/AIDS prevention;
- the development of a hospital infection control manual, which has been distributed nationally through the National Nursing Center of China;
- numerous clinical and research training exchanges;
- collaboration with the Hunan Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention on HIV/AIDS program development; and,
- a project focusing on improving screening for ophthalmologic complications of HIV.

Yale-China’s work in HIV/AIDS has also allowed for synergies with a number of Yale-China Health Programs including the Chia Family Health Fellowship Program and the Yale-China Academic Nursing Leadership Program.

LOOKING FOR A CHINA-RELATED JOB OR THE PERFECT EMPLOYEE? CHECK OUT THE YALE-CHINA JOB NETWORK

The Yale-China Job Network is a new service we’re offering to our members, alumni, and friends. Available on the Yale-China website at www.yalechina.org, the service is a place for potential employers and job seekers to connect. We’ll post any job opportunities related to China that come our way, so please send your listings to yale-china@yale.edu for posting. The site is updated frequently, so please visit often!
HEALTH PROGRAM FILLS THE SPRING AND SUMMER WITH STUDENT EXCHANGES

Thirteen future physicians and newly-minted residents from the Yale and Xiangya Schools of Medicine made reciprocal visits to each other’s campuses between May and August of this year. Three Yale medical students spent a month in residence at different Xiangya-affiliated hospitals, following similar rotations by three Yale residents who went to Changsha in 2008. In turn, seven Xiangya medical students and three Xiangya residents spent a month each at the Yale-New Haven Hospital, the Hospital of St. Raphael, Yale University Health Services, and the Yale School of Medicine throughout the spring and summer.

The exchanges are a component of the Yale-China Hospital and Residency Training Program, which aims to develop and implement a model residency-training program at the Xiangya School of Medicine and its affiliated hospitals. While post-graduate clinical education (residency) is common in the West, China has only recently begun to focus on improving the quality of post-graduate clinical training. Xiangya was one of only six medical schools across China to be selected by the Chinese central government to develop a pilot post-graduate clinical education program. The six pilot programs will be reviewed in 2012 in order to determine which might serve as the national model for all residency programs in China. The student and resident exchanges help to inform the work the team (made up of representatives from Yale, Xiangya, and Yale-China) is doing as it builds the pilot program.

“I felt the rotation was very effective in helping me learn about healthcare in China and make connections at Xiangya,” says Rachel Wattier, a Yale medical student who did a month-long rotation in the Pediatric/Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in the Third Xiangya Hospital this spring. One of her Xiangya counterparts at the Third Xiangya Hospital, Luo Tao, was also positive: “This [training] style is very different from ours. It feels wonderful to be introduced to such new things for the first time, just like opening a window and taking in a deep breath of fresh air. Thank you very much for opening such a window for us.”
NEW CHIA FELLOWS GET DOWN TO WORK

The newest Chia Family Health Fellowship Program Fellows Song Yan, Su Zhenfang, Tang Pingfen, and Wu Liaofang have arrived in New Haven to spend a semester studying and developing public health projects under the guidance of advisers from the Yale faculty and Yale-China Health Program staff. In December, these four women will return to China to implement their projects in communities in Changsha and Kunming, the capitals of Hunan and Yunnan provinces, respectively.

Made possible by a generous grant from the Chia Family Foundation, the Chia Family Health Fellowship Program seeks to improve the general health and health education of the people of Hunan and Yunnan provinces through public outreach programs and by promoting the role of Chinese women in the health professions. The fellowship gives special emphasis to health projects that are concerned with the prevention and management of infectious and chronic diseases in these communities, and that focus on health issues faced by the vulnerable or overlooked populations in Hunan and Yunnan.

These newest Fellows join the ranks of 25 other Chia Fellows, who continue to excel in their professional fields, while collaborating and supporting each other on continuing their research and public health work in their home provinces.

“The Chia Fellowship Program provides opportunities for the next generation of young leaders in the health professions in Hunan and Yunnan to contribute to the delivery of health education, knowledge, or services to underserved populations in their communities,” says Hongping Tian, director of Yale-China’s health program.

Zijie Peng, who serves as the program officer for the health program, adds, “The program has also created strong bonds between the Fellows and Yale faculty, as well as between Yale faculty and faculty at the Fellows’ respective institutions. The collaborations that result give the program a real multiplier effect, expanding its reach.”
YALE-CHINA INTERNS, HUNAN STUDENTS TEAM UP FOR SERVICE PROJECT

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

The students worked with Yunnan EcoNetwork, a nonprofit organization based in Kunming, on a series of environmental projects which included a Green Education Camp and field trip for local Naxi minority group schoolchildren and their teachers. Broken up into teams led by the Huda and Yale students, the groups worked to remove invasive species from an area near Lashi Lake and also engaged in environmental education activities.

“It was very meaningful for the students to interact with the local Naxi, and they all had Naxi host families where they went for dinner each evening,” said Katie Molteni Muir, Yale-China director of student programs, who accompanied the group on the trip. “This was certainly the first time that the Yale students had visited Naxi homes, and all of the Chinese students were Han Chinese so it was also a first for them. Everyone was learning about a new culture together, which added to the bonds between the Yale and Huda students.”

Yale-China Service Intern Adler Prioly, who just graduated from Yale in the spring and spent the summer interning at the Asian Migrant Centre in Hong Kong, agreed. “It was refreshing to see the life of another ethnic group in China, different in culture and heritage from many others. The Naxi families also made the effort to communicate with me, though I spoke little Mandarin. We usually succeeded at making our ideas known to each other.”

Hunan University student Liu Rongyuan noted that her favorite part of the trip was the Green Education Camp for local students. “Working together with the Yale students to plan the summer camp for local students made us all very happy,” she said. “I was able to learn a lot about [the Naxi] minority group from the local students, and it was lovely to spend time with them.”

The Yale-China Service Internship Program sends Yale students to intern at nonprofit organizations in Kunming, Yunnan province and Hong Kong for two months during the summer. This year’s internships included placements in the fields of environmental advocacy, women’s and children’s health, migration, domestic helpers’ rights, and community organization. The program is open to all Yale College students, including graduating seniors.

Photo, from left to right: Yale student Adler Prioly, Huda student Wang Xiaowei, Yale student Dana Miller, Huda student Zhang Yaling, and Yale-China Teaching Fellow Alexa Verme in Lijiang.
Yale-China Community Remembers Tierong “Sophie” Zhu

Tierong “Sophie” Zhu, close friend and mentor to generations of Yale-China Association Teachers in Hunan province and an alumna of Yale University (M.A. Sociology ’48), passed away on August 9, 2009 in Changsha. She was 94. The officers, trustees, members, alumni, and staff of the Yale-China Association extend our deepest condolences to Ms. Zhu’s family and friends. She is survived by her son, Zhang Taiheng, daughter-in-law Sun Xinhua, and grandson Zhang Yingfan.

The magnitude of Ms. Zhu’s impact on Yale-China staff and scores of Yale-China Teaching Fellows (known as “Bachelors” until the 1980’s), cannot be measured. As a teacher at Hsiang-Ya (now Xiangya) School of Nursing and Yali Middle School, Ms. Zhu served as a mentor, teacher, friend, and confidant to dozens of Yale graduates stationed in Changsha over the years.

We asked our community to share thoughts on Sophie’s life and her impact on our community. Below are some excerpts. To learn more about her life or to share your memories, please visit our website at www.yalechina.org.

Susan and I first met Sophie Zhu in 1992 when we were in Changsha for three months—and then for a decade afterwards a visit was mandatory when traveling in China. Tea and visits with Sophie became a weekly event, along with other Yale-China folks who kept her informed, talkative, and generously kind. Sophie was a presence—we all felt her warmth and spirit, close together and at large distances.

— Dick Lee, Former Trustee

During the five years I served as the Yale-China Hong Kong Director (1991-1996), I was a frequent visitor to Changsha and the Hunan Medical University, and no visit was complete without stopping in to see Sophie Zhu in her apartment. Near the end of my term with Yale-China, in 1995, when my wife and I adopted from a Chinese orphanage our first daughter (whom we also named Sophie!), it seemed inevitable that we should go to Sophie Zhu—the closest person we had to a Chinese family matriarch—to receive a perfect Chinese name. I requested that she should have my Chinese surname, 游.

Sophie Zhu mused for a week or two and then sent me her suggestion that she be named 游明霞—the last characters meaning “bright” and “rosy cloud.” A few months ago I sent [Sophie] a letter with our family news and a photograph of my Sophie, now 14 years old. I didn’t hear back for several months and then received a note from her son, mentioning her health challenges, and saying that she had read and reread my letter quite a few times over several days until she was satisfied that she had understood everything, and recognized this young woman in the picture was that same 游明霞 and her namesake that she had christened 13 years ago. My family will miss the legendary Sophie Zhu in our hearts....

— David Youtz, Former Yale-China Field Staff Director, Hong Kong

Teacher Zhu became my friend the moment I arrived in Changsha (in fall 1983) and stood by with stories, advice, guidance and invitations until the day I departed. While some of her advice concerned professional matters of English class conduct and content, what I recall best is her cultural and personal advice. Dear Teacher Zhu, despite its hardships, your zest for life and its hobbies and your sound advice on the niceties of personal relations all live on. Even though we have not met since 1985, you set a grand example for me every day.

— Jan Kleinman, Yale-China Bachelor, 1983-1985, Hunan Medical University
Judy Collins RETIRES FROM YALE-CHINA AFTER 26 YEARS

With great fondness, we bid farewell to our business manager and longest-serving Yale-China employee as she packs her bags for Colorado

Judy told me with a laugh not to write more than two or three sentences for this article—and to make them sentences that wouldn’t be too corny. I tried! But as Yale-China wishes Judy Collins a happy retirement, it bids the fondest of farewells to the woman who is, as honorary trustee and former Chair of the Yale-China Teaching Committee Edie MacMullen puts it, “the heart and soul of the organization.” Anybody who has gone to Judy with a question will agree when former Executive Director John Bryan Starr calls Judy “the rock solid center” of Yale-China, or when former Executive Director Nancy Chapman calls her “the rock of Gibraltar.” Not that those words imply stoniness. Even more than her professionalism, Judy’s warmth, humor, and kindness will be greatly missed on Trumbull Street.

Born in Philadelphia (“a long, long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away,” she said with a next-question-please look in her eyes), Judy grew up in Havertown, Pennsylvania. After marrying her husband, the late John “Jack” Collins, the two of them lived in Germany while he was in the Air Force. After they returned to the States, Judy worked while Jack completed his undergraduate education and entered the Yale School of Nursing. There he earned his Masters in Nursing and Certificate in Nurse Midwifery, becoming the first male nurse midwife in the United States.

Jack was teaching at the University of Connecticut when they had their first child, John. The family moved to Penn State and a second child, Tucker, was born. In 1983, when Jack returned to New Haven to study for his doctorate, Judy came to Yale University on the search for a job with medical benefits. As luck would have it, only one position was open—Staff Assistant at the Yale-China Association. Says then-Executive Director John Bryan Starr, “I made one stellar hiring decision in my career,” and with that the organization gained a great asset.

Judy says, “I never planned a career of much of anything,” and her China knowledge was slim at the beginning. She swiftly became adept, however, building firsthand experience from a trip to Hong Kong in 1987 and several more into mainland China thereafter. A favorite memory comes from her last trip to China, during Yale-China’s 2001 Centennial Celebration. At the former Yale-in-China holiday site in Lushan, Charles Blatchford, a former trustee and Yale-China Bachelor, read from Ed Hume’s wife Lotta Hume’s memoirs. “It was just sort of magical to be there and to hear somebody speaking the words of somebody who had been there before.” But, she adds, “mostly the things that I’ll remember are the times that I’ve heard people talk about the impact that this organization has had on their life.”

Judy served with four executive directors: John Bryan Starr, Nancy Chapman, Ann Williams, and Nancy Yao Maasbach. Her titles were staff assistant, program associate, vice president for administration, director of administration, and business manager.

Judy’s retirement will find her living in Boulder, Colorado, near a new grandchild, and visiting another who just moved to London with his parents. It will find us missing the friend and colleague who, even after years of experience, was still humble enough to answer the befuddled caller who wanted to know how to get from Beijing to Peking, with, “Well, I’m no China expert....”

— Mattias Daly

Photos, from left to right: Andrea Worden, Judy Collins, and Gavin Tritt aboard a train in China in 1988; Yale-China Health Program Director Hongping Tian with Judy at a farewell for Judy in New Haven; Judy with former staff member Janet (Rodgers) Chandler; and with former staff members Brad Farnsworth and John Starr.
Yale-China believes that individuals—and individual organizations—can be a force for making the world more peaceful and humane.

The Yale-China Association’s programs in health, education, and public service have been strengthening U.S.-China relations on a grassroots level since 1901. Our work is based on the conviction that sustained, one-on-one contact between Chinese and American people not only enriches the lives of the individuals involved, but ultimately contributes to improved relations between our two nations.

The Yale-China Association is separately incorporated, governed, and funded from Yale University. Our deep roots at Yale enable us to work closely with colleagues from across the university and across China to develop a range of collaborative programs aimed at strengthening Chinese capacity and creating strong partnerships between Chinese and Americans.

Yale-China’s work would not be possible without the support of our members. You have the power to make a difference in what we are able to accomplish this year. Please know that all contributions—of any size—are welcomed, deeply appreciated, and much needed. You can give online at www.yalechina.org or you can mail a contribution to the address below. We also accept matching gifts—our EIN number is 060-64-6971. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

If you have questions about giving or about our work, please contact us at (203) 432-0884 or by email at yale-china@yale.edu. We also hope that you’ll visit us on the web at www.yalechina.org.