In Memory of a Dear Friend

A few months ago, I learned of the passing of Prof. Yang Youfang, a special friend of the late Fr. Edward Malatesta. When my wife and I visited this remarkable man and his wife, despite being in his late 80’s and in failing health, he was still very quick and clear mentally with an excellent memory. Sitting in his simple living room, lined with photographs of his past and the holy pictures of Jesus and the blessed Mother, he shared with us his many translation projects that he planned on completing when he got better. With a computer purchased by Joseph Ku and other friends, Prof. Yang and his wife translated over a dozen of books about Christianity from English into Chinese, including a book on the life of Mother Teresa. This help from the Friends of Ricci was multiplied many times over by this determined Chinese scholar and his wife. — Bill Chu

New Research Projects and New Visitors

The Ricci Institute initiated a number of new research projects in the past year. They cover such areas of women’s studies, Chinese language archival studies, and Christian secondary education in China. Meanwhile, the Ricci Institute has also welcomed a diverse group of scholars to use its resources. These scholars are from the U.S., Argentina, Canada, Italy, Australia, Hungary, China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. For more information on research at the Ricci Institute, please visit our website at: www.ricci.usfca.edu/projects/researchpc.htm

Upcoming Events

Tradition and Faith: Life in a Northern Chinese Village
Through a series of new photographs, Prof. YANG Huilin, a visiting scholar from China, will illustrate how the faith of the people in a small village in Beijing has remained unchanged for the past hundred years. Location: San Jose Date and Time: To be announced

International Symposium in Macau
The Ricci Institute will co-sponsor the international symposium, Christianity and Cultures: Japan and China in Comparison (1543-1644) in Macau from November 30 through December 2, 2006 Macau. Detailed information can be found at: www.ricci.usfca.edu

Symposium for Young Chinese Scholars in Hong Kong
The Third International Young Scholars’ Symposium on Christianity and Chinese Society will be held from December 7th to 11th, 2006 at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Over 30 young Chinese scholars will participate in this meeting. The Ricci Institute has been co-sponsoring this symposium since 2002.

40 Librarians Visit Ricci Institute

In early April, the Association for Asian Studies met in San Francisco for their Annual Conference. Forty members of CEAL (the Council on East Asian Libraries) visited the Ricci Institute Library. Nearly all were librarians of Chinese background from different Asian Studies institutions both in the US and abroad. Mr. Mark Mir, librarian/archivist of the Ricci Institute gave the group an extensive tour of our Chinese library, a unique resource on Chinese-Western cultural history.

Special thanks to Ms. LIU Li for her translation of this newsletter from English into Chinese.
Recent Publications


A new textbook for college students in the mainland, *Religion in the Late-Modern World* was published in March 2006 in China with the support of the Ricci Institute. Authored by Dr. Fan Lizhu, Dr. James D. Whitehead and Dr. Evelyn Eaton Whitehead, this book is a unique contribution to the academic study of religion in China.

In early June, we received a newly published book in the series on the Study of Religion and Chinese Society and Culture. This book, co-edited by Dr. Peter Ng and Dr. Wu Xiaoxin, presents eighteen essays from the Second International Young Scholar’s Symposium held in Hong Kong in 2004. It represents the interests of young Chinese scholars on religion and society in China today.

"The Malatesta Scholarship has motivated me to study harder"

"With the Malatesta Scholarship, I have been able to do much more for my research than I had planned. I was able to go to archives in Sichuan, Nanjing and Shanghai and collected a lot of first-hand materials related to the Border Service, a Christian mission organization with a strong presence in Sichuan, China. Those archival materials have been transcribed into notes of more than 1,000,000 words for my research. As a result, besides my dissertation writing, I have written some papers which will be presented at conferences and published in academic journals. The Malatesta Scholarship has motivated me to work harder."

— Deng Jie

Librarian Corner

On April 13, 2006, the Ricci Institute was presented with a digital copy of the *Japonica-Sinica* Collection of the Jesuit Archives in Rome, which contains more than 100,000 manuscript pages and other primary sources concerning the interaction between China, Japan, and the West, written between the 16th - 18th centuries. The collection contains correspondence, descriptions, and reports on subjects including Chinese religious affairs, governmental relations, popular customs, history, philosophy, and literature. Chinese scholars find these sources important because they often record customs, practices, and rituals not described in Chinese sources. Among the many significant documents are letters signed by Matteo Ricci; a draft of the first Chinese-Western dictionary; and letters from the Emperor and the China Jesuits to kings and popes covering more than two centuries.

Anonymous Gift for a New Endowment

The Ricci Institute has recently received an anonymous donation of $100,000.00 from a Chinese entrepreneur. The gift of this benefactor from China who now lives in California will serve to establish a new endowment for a permanent researcher’s position at the Ricci Institute.

Support the Ricci Institute

**Friends of Ricci** membership helps support a variety of unique programs at the Ricci Institute. Please join, renew your membership, or make an additional contribution. In appreciation for your donation, the Ricci Institute will send you our limited edition mouse pad. For more detailed information about how to become a member, please contact us at 415-422-6401, on the web: www.ricci.usfca.edu, or via e-mail at: ricci@usfca.edu