Malatesta Scholar Spends Summer Teaching in Rural China

"Thanks to the Malatesta Scholarship at the USF Ricci Institute, supported by the Friends of Ricci, last summer I joined the "Teaching Service in Rural China" program and led nine students from Tsinghua University and one from the University of Montana to Yanjin County, which is situated in the highlands of Yunnan and Sichuan provinces. The living conditions in this remote area are rough. The region was struck by two earthquakes before and after our work there. It is among the poorest regions in remote China. There is only one high school with 1,000 students in a county of 370,000 people. Our work was mainly to go to village schools one by one and to provide training for the English teachers and communicate face to face with the students. We also brought them as many teaching and learning materials as we could manage.

I am grateful that I could benefit so much from this service in the rural schools. Through my meetings with teachers and students, I saw the importance of elementary education and the difficulties people face due to the severe shortage of teachers. As a teacher of higher education, I have realized for the first time my responsibility and mission for secondary and primary education. I hope I can do more in the future." —YIN Wenjuan

Upcoming Events

"Christianity and Cultures" International Symposium
November 30 - December 2, 2006, Macau

Leading specialists on China and Japan from around the world will gather in Macau for "Christianity and Cultures: Japan and China in Comparison, 1543-1644." At this four day symposium cosponsored by the USF Ricci Institute, the Macau Ricci Institute, and the Jesuit Historical Institute in Rome, scholars will compare and contrast the history of Christianity in China and Japan. This international symposium is aimed at fostering interdisciplinary and cross-cultural dialogue. Themes include: the challenges of religious translation, native faith communities, Christian art, the attitudes of Chinese and Japanese governments towards Christianity and Christians, and Macau as the crossroads of Europe and East Asia.

3rd International Young Scholars’ Symposium on “Christianity and Chinese Society and Culture”
December 7-11, 2006, Hong Kong

Doctoral candidates and recent Ph.D.s from around the world will gather in Hong Kong in early December to participate in the 3rd International Young Scholars’ Symposium on Christianity and Chinese Society and Culture. This conference, cosponsored by the USF Ricci Institute and the Centre for the Study of Religion and Chinese Society, Chung Chi College at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, will provide young Chinese scholars with the opportunity to present their research, receive comments from three of the leading scholars in the field (Prof. Richard P. MADSEN, University of California San Diego, Prof. James Shih-Chieh CHA, Chung Yuan Christian University, Taiwan, and Prof. YANG Huilin, People’s University, China), and to network with other young scholars in the growing field of the history of Christianity in China.

Please visit our website at: www.ricci.usfca.edu
Ricci Institute Awards
Four Malatesta Scholarships

This year the Ricci Institute received an unprecedented number of applicants for the Edward J. Malatesta Scholarship. This competitive scholarship provides Chinese doctoral candidates at Chinese universities with awards to further their doctoral research on topics related to the history of Christianity in China. The Ricci Institute is pleased to announce the following 2006-2007 recipients of the Malatesta Scholarship:

ZHU Jing doctoral candidate in the Department of English at Peking University, will travel to the United States in early 2007 to do archival research on Western women missionaries and Chinese women’s translations of Western literature during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. While in the U.S., Zhu Jing will spend a week utilizing the Ricci Institute’s library collection.

ZHAO Guangjun doctoral candidate at the Institute of Modern Chinese History at Central China Normal University in Wuhan, plans to travel within China to archives in Wuhan, Beijing, and Shanghai to research his dissertation. Examining the perceptions of non-intellectual Chinese towards Christianity, Zhao’s study will serve as a counter-balance to the numerous publications focusing on the reception of Christianity among China’s intellectuals.

ZHANG Shuqiong doctoral candidate in the Department of History at Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) University. Zhang’s research on Christianity and Western science in the cultural scope of Guangya Academy intersects both the fields of the history of Christianity in China and East-West cultural exchange in the realm of science. Zhang is particularly interested in examining the attitudes of the Chinese cultural elite towards Christianity and science.

ZHANG Longping, doctoral candidate in the Department of History at Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) University, will use his award to travel to archives in Hong Kong and various cities within China to explore the process of indigenization of Christian education in modern China through the activities and publications of the Chinese Christian Education Association.

Friends of Ricci Annual Contributions Campaign

During the Christmas 2006 and New Year’s 2007 holiday season, the Ricci Institute welcomes contributions from the Friends of Ricci. Contributions made during this annual fundraising campaign provide most of the funding for the Ricci Institute’s Research Scholar Endowment, the Ricci Research Award, and the Malatesta Scholarship. This year, the goal of our Annual Contribution Campaign is to raise a total of $25,000 for which we have already received an anonymous contribution of $3,000. Your personal contribution will be matched this year dollar for dollar up to $25,000 by an anonymous benefactor, essentially doubling the amount of your contribution. Every year at this time we encourage Friends of Ricci to invite their friends to join the Friends of Ricci and support the USF Ricci Institute.

In appreciation of 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. Contributions are tax-deductible.

Library Corner


The Ricci Institute has recently added to its permanent collection the second volume of the forthcoming five-volume collection, The Chinese Face of Jesus Christ, containing articles and illustrations which study the faces and images of Jesus Christ in China from the Tang dynasty to the present. Articles follow chronological developments in China, from the early Syrian monks, visual presentations of Jesus from Ricci and the Jesuits, evangelical roots of the Taiping Rebellion, and much more. See the Ricci Institute online catalog for a full description at: http://riccilibrary.usfca.edu/view.aspx?catalogID=3045

New Friends of Ricci Executive Committee Member

The Friends of Ricci are very pleased to announce that Ms. Alice CHAN has recently been accepted as a new Executive Committee member. She was invited to replace Sr. Maria Hsu after 3 years of much appreciated service. Ms. Alice Chan, like Sr. Maria, will serve as primary contact with the Archdiocese of San Francisco and as liaison with the Cantonese Speaking Catholic Communities of the Bay Area.