Summer Retreat for Ricci Institute Affiliated Young Scholars

The USF Ricci Institute held a summer retreat in Beijing (July 20-21, 2007) for Institute affiliated young scholars in China. Thanks to the support of Friends of Ricci and many other colleagues and friends, the Ricci Institute over the years has sponsored more than 20 young Chinese doctoral candidates to further their research on Christianity in China in various disciplines. This support is funded mainly through the Malatesta Scholarship. At this first of its kind retreat, young scholars shared their thoughts and life goals as well as reflections about their studies. Fr. Beda Liu, S.J. and Prof. Fan Lizhu of Fudan University presented an enlightening dialogue on the theme of a scholar’s journey, sharing their own experiences in life and learning as senior scholars. Also in attendance at the retreat were Fr. Daniel Ross, S.J., a sociology professor from Fujen University in Taipei, and Dr. Paul Lee, a member of Friends of Ricci.

Reflections on the Beijing Summer Retreat

Thanks to the Ricci Institute and Fr. Edward J. Malatesta (now in Heaven), I had the opportunity to take part in this fascinating retreat for our young people. The gathering was to share ideas and ideals and our lives with our fellow scholars in the field. Learning was the common factor, and passions were shared emotions. I was deeply impressed by the openness and freedom with which participants shared their thoughts. Young people can really benefit from such opportunities. This retreat offered such an opportunity. I hope this is only the beginning, and I also look forward to seeing more new faces, for it assures the continuation of the study of Christianity in China.

—Zhang Longping
2006 Malatesta Scholarship recipient
Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou

As one of the Malatesta Scholarship recipients, I attended the “Spirit and Initiative: Retreat of Associated Young Chinese Scholars of the USF Ricci Institute” last summer. We shared our experiences and achievements in our studies, research, work, and life. We also discussed the future direction of our research with one another. I learned a great deal during the retreat. As a young female scholar, I hope the faith and joy of sharing and cooperation of this sort can be passed on to more young scholars through retreats like this.

—Zhang Shuqiong
2006 Malatesta Scholarship recipient
Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou

Save the Date!

Chinese-Western Musical Exchange Symposium Planned for May 2008. The USF Ricci Institute is planning a two-day event in early May 2008 to explore East-West cross-cultural exchange through music. A public lecture/performance featuring Drs. Joyce Lindorff and Peter Allsop will be held, Tuesday, May 6, 2008 [tentative date] from 5:45 PM – 7:15 PM. A day-long symposium will be held on Friday, May 9, 2008 at the University of San Francisco. The symposium will provide a venue for the discussion, performance, and examination of research on intercultural communication and exchange between China and the West during the 18th–20th centuries via music. Don’t miss this rare opportunity to experience late imperial Chinese history through the musical arts. For details, please visit www.ricci.usfca.edu

2007-2008 Malatesta Scholarship Recipients

The Ricci Institute is pleased to announce the recipients of the Edward J. Malatesta Scholarship for 2007-2008. Thanks to the support of the Friends of Ricci, these two promising scholars will have the funds they need to complete their doctoral research and further the field of the history of Christianity in China.

Cui Junfeng
doctoral candidate, History Department, Sun Yat-sen University. Cui’s dissertation research on the China Medical Missionary Association will shed new light on Chinese-Western cultural exchange through the field of medicine. In his study, Cui will focus on the activities and the historical influence of this medical mission from 1887-1932.

Zhang Yongguang
doctoral candidate, Institute of Modern Chinese History, Huazhong Normal University. Zhang will use his scholarship award to facilitate his doctoral research. In his dissertation, “A Comparative Study of Christian Education in China and Japan,” Zhang plans to explore the relationship of Christian education and the native church in China and Japan from 1860-1950 highlighting themes such as socialization and nationalization.
In cooperation with other colleagues, the Ricci Institute has recently published *When Stone Speaks: Zhengfusi Catholic Cemetery*, Edited by Ming Xiaoyan and Jean-Paul Wiest and following the pattern set by our earlier volume on the Zhalan Cemetery, this new work explores the historical and cultural significance of Western missionaries and Chinese Catholics during the 18th and 19th centuries as revealed by the elegantly carved stone tablets displayed at Zhengfusi. Well known Westerners such as Joachim Bouvet, Michel Benoit, and Joseph-Marie Amiot as well as Chinese clergy such as J.-C. Ko, Jean Tcheng, and Paul Liou are represented here among the thirty-six tombstones which date from 1730-1949. Shanghai, 2007. In Chinese. 279 p., b & w plates, 29 cm. To purchase, contact:
e-mail: web@wenwu.com or http://www.wenwu.com

Devotion and Dedication

After three years of hard work, *When Stone Speaks: Zhengfusi Catholic Cemetery* is finally published. It is a delight. During the research and writing period, I was often touched by the dedication of the Jesuits to China. For their mission, they overcame all difficulties, studying the Manchu and Chinese languages, learning Chinese customs, and translating Chinese Classics. They devoted their lives to their beliefs. This was also my first time working closely with Dr. Jean-Paul Wiest, whose thoroughness in his scholarship made a great impression on me. I learned a great deal during this project and am now motivated to carry on the spirit of this work to produce even better books in the future. —Ming Xiaoyan, Associate Research Fellow Beijing Stone Carving Art Museum Co-Author of *When Stone Speaks*

The Lotus & The Cross: Cultural Exchange along the Silk Road—exhibition, public lecture, & symposium. In September 2007, the Ricci Institute welcomed Dr. Ken Parry [Dept. of Ancient History, Macquarie University, Australia] to the University of San Francisco to exhibit and present a lecture on his collection of photographs showing archaeological evidence of early Eastern Christian presence in India and China. *The Lotus and the Cross* exhibit displayed more than thirty large-format photographs of stone tombstones from Fujian province in China and stone crosses from the Kerala state in India. The exhibit served as the focal point for a day long symposium on East-West cultural exchange along the Silk Road from 600 to 1500 CE. Visit www.ricci.usfca.edu to view podcasts from the symposium. The Ricci Institute hopes to have the exhibit available online in early 2008.

Ricci Institute Co-sponsors International Event on Paul Xu Guangqi. In November the Ricci Institute co-sponsored an international event in Shanghai commemorating the 400th anniversary of Paul Xu Guangqi, one of the earliest Chinese literati converts of Matteo Ricci. Participating in the event involving other international scholars were eight professors and graduate students from four Jesuit schools in California. While at the conference, Dr. Xiaoxin Wu presented a photograph of an excerpt from the Shujing [Classic of History/Book of Documents] to the Shanghai Guangqi Museum on behalf of the Ricci Institute.

“Icons of the Celestial Kingdom” Travels to Australia for World Youth Day

“Icons of the Celestial Kingdom,” a collection of twenty-six Christian paintings held by the Ricci Institute, will be traveling to Australia for exhibition at World Youth Day. These paintings depict various biblical themes in the traditional Chinese watercolor style. Since the acquisition of the collection in the mid 1990s, the paintings have traveled to Macau and Europe for exhibits and appeared in Chinese calendars. In celebration of International Youth Day in Australia, the Ricci Institute has made an arrangement with the Jesuit Australian Province for the entire collection to be exhibited in Sydney during summer 2008. Fr. Jeremy Clarke, S.J., who was in residence at the Ricci Institute in the spring of 2007, will be the special docent for the exhibit.

Support the Friends of Ricci

We encourage friends of Ricci to invite their friends to become member of the Friends of Ricci and support the Ricci Institute.

In appreciation of your donation, the Ricci Institute will send you our limited edition mouse pad. For more 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.