The Ricci Institute is pleased to welcome Dr. Robert E. Carbonneau, C.P., Ph.D., to serve as Archival Specialist (September 2012 –14). Fr. Carbonneau is a Roman Catholic priest and member of the Passionist Congregation. While at the Ricci Institute, he will focus on the digitization project of the Passionist China Collection that pays special attention to twentieth-century West Hunan history.

Fr. Carbonneau holds a Doctorate from Georgetown University in American and East Asian History with a concentration on American Catholic and Protestant Missionaries’ relationship to twentieth-century American-Chinese diplomatic relations. He is a respected international scholar for his path-breaking research and publications on Chinese political, social, military, and religious history in such journals as *The Catholic Historical Review*, essays in the symposia proceedings of the Ferdinand Veibiest Foundation, Belgium, and an article in the *Handbook of Christianity in China, Volume Two: 1800-Present* (2010). He is a member of numerous historical organizations. From 2009 to 2012 he served on the Executive Council of the American Catholic Historical Association.

**The Passionist China Collection**

The Ricci Institute is pleased to announce the arrival of the Passionist China Collection (PCC) (on loan to the Institute for two years). In September, the Institute initiated an electronic-digitization project that will make 20th-century everyday life and history in Hunan Province come alive to those who want to know more about the home province of Mao Zedong.

The project will make available more than 5,000 never before seen black and white photos from West Hunan as well as the cities of Hankou, Shanghai, and Beijing. In addition, digital access will be gained to over 50,000 letters and documents.

The digitized photos and documents reveal the story of the Passionists, a Roman Catholic religious congregation of priests and brothers sent to Hunan, China, in 1921. A total of 80 Passionists were assigned to China with the last Passionist being expelled in 1955.

The collection reveals the effort to spread the Catholic faith in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Yuanling 湘陵, located in West Hunan, from the 1920s warlord period to the Communist era of the 1950s. Interesting documents in the archives follow the adventures of the missionaries as they wrote their observations each month in the pages of the noted Catholic monthly *The Sign Magazine*, detail the diplomatic intrigue surrounding the 1929 murders of three Passionist Fathers, chronicle their heroic work to assist refugees during the Nanjing decade (1927-37) and the Sino-Japanese War (1937-45), the missionaries’ internment under the Japanese in the 1940s, the 1944 visit of Passionist Father Cormac Shanahan to Mao Zedong in Yan’an, the Civil War period (1945-49) and finally the missionaries’ trials in Hunan (1949-55).

**Ricci Institute Awards Three Chinese Doctoral Students Malatesta Scholarships (2012-2013)**

Honoring the memory of Rev. Edward J. Malatesta, S.J., founding director of the Ricci Institute, the Ricci Institute annually awards the Malatesta Scholarship established to promote research by Chinese scholars on topics related to the history of Christianity in China.

**CHEN Ling**, Department of History, Shanghai University, Shanghai. The scholarship will enable Mr. Chen to complete his doctoral dissertation *Final Curtain: The End of the American Protestant Missions in China*.

**WANG Yanhong**, Institute for Modern Chinese History, Central China Normal University, Wuhan. Ms. Wang will collect materials for her doctoral dissertation entitled *American Presbyterians and Local Society in Shandong during the Late Qing Era (1861 – 1911)*.

**XIONG Yin**, National Research Center for Overseas Sinology, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing. Ms. Xiong will study the transmission of Western learning and its relationship to an English-Chinese dictionary composed by the German missionary Wilhelm Lobscheid in the late 19th century.
Funded by a major grant from the Henry Luce Foundation and administered by the Ricci Institute, the Narratives from the Hinterland Project is a research and educational program that promotes the study of Chinese-Western cultural history through Christianity in remote areas of China.

In May 2012, the last of the six planned programs, *Manuscripts, Reminiscences, Locations, and Interpretation: New Perspectives on Chinese-Western Cultural Exchange and Christianity in Northeast China (Early Qing to Republic)* was held at Northeast Normal University, Jilin Province, China.

This final program featured a series of lectures on research methodology in intellectual history and scientific exchange and a symposium attended by more than 30 scholars from regional academic institutions. Topics included information on primary sources housed in local archives, the complex relationship between missionaries, locals and the Japanese puppet government during the "Manchukuo" (Manzhouguo, 1932-45) period, contentious religious cases, and border-mapping efforts by Qing emperors and Western missionaries.

The Narratives from the Hinterland Project is expected to come to its conclusion in mid-2013 with the publication of a series of collections of primary sources.

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**Ricci Institute Visitor Highlights**

**Dr. FAN Lizhu**, Professor of Sociology from Shanghai Fudan University, was in residence at the Ricci Institute as the EDS-Stewart Chair Distinguished Fellow in spring 2012. Dr. Fan completed a textbook entitled *China and the Cultural Sociology of Religion*, due for publication in December 2012. This concludes a three-volume series on religion and modern Chinese society sponsored by the Ricci Institute.

**Dr. LI Yuan**, a scholar from Northeast Normal University, Changchun, spent two months at the Ricci institute conducting research on Chinese ritual, rites, and ceremonies in the context of Christianity and Christian practices of the late Ming period (16th-17th centuries).

**Ms. Claire SOON**, BA Oxford University, currently a Master of Arts student in History at Yale, visited the Ricci Institute in October 2012. Ms. Soon is researching Chinese Catholic Art in the 1930s and their significance in terms of indigenous Chinese Christianity. Ms. Soon also examined books and objects, including posters, prints, altar items, and the “tsikim” (祭巾) worn by Catholic priests during the 18th-19th centuries.

**Mr. Frederik VERMOTE** is completing his Ph.D. dissertation in World History at the University of British Columbia. He works on the financial and personnel mechanisms by which the Jesuits operated a global mission in the 17th and 18th centuries. His particular interest is in the procurators and how they coordinated international and local resources to finance mission endeavors.

**Ms. XIANG Hongyan**, a doctoral candidate from Pennsylvania State University, was the recipient of the Ricci Institute 2012 – 13 Doctoral Fellowship. Using the Canton Diocesan Archives, she studied the relationship between land issues, the Catholic Church, and political power in Guangzhou (Canton) from 1840 to 1927.

**Dr. ZHAO Guangjun**, associate professor from Henan University, collected materials from the USF Ricci Institute, UC Berkeley and Stanford University during his two-month residence in the Bay Area in the summer of 2012. His research focuses on issues relating to church-property policies implemented by the Chinese Communist Party from the early 1930s to the early 1950s.