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EALC House to Begin in Fall 2019

Chinese, Korean, and Japanese Corridors combine to form the new EALC House in Dower Residence Hall this coming fall.

Starting in the fall of 2019, Dower Residence Hall will be the home of the newly-created EALC House! Combining together the Chinese, Korean, and Japanese Corridors from previous years, the new EALC House will be a space for all students with an interest in East Asia to live together. Language assistants for each EALC language track will also live in the same hall, and will provide special events and programming for all students living in the House.



Photo: Dower House.

Dower may be smaller in size than other dorms, but it is mighty! It was originally a barn built in 1862 before it was renovated into a residence hall. Dower houses around 38 students, so it will feel exactly like living in a small house with close friends. Rooms in this hall are also a bit more spacious and have nice closet space, so students will live comfortably. The living room will even have air conditioning! An open house was held in February of this year to let students tour the dorm facilities.

We look forward to seeing new students in the EALC House, and we are hoping for a successful first year of the program!

Professor Carolyn Morley to Retire

Japanese program faculty share their memories of Professor Morley as she prepares to leave Wellesley College.



Photo: Professor Morley.

Professor Morley, in her many years of service to Wellesley, has impacted the lives of countless generations of students, as well as EALC and EAS faculty members, colleagues, and friends. She has left an indelible legacy to the Wellesley community. As one of the key actors in creating the Japanese Program at Wellesley, Professor Morley's impact on EALC has been monumental. Professors Eiko-Torii Williams, Yoshimi Maeno, and Eve Zimmerman recall their experiences with Professor Morley. (Continued on page 7)

Faculty & Staff Updates

EALC faculty and staff are always up to something, whether it's here at Wellesley or somewhere else around the world. Here's what they've been busy with this year.

Weina Zhao went to several national and international Chinese pedagogy conferences within the last year. She is now working closely with a MIT professor to bring more language technology to campus. This year, she will see five of her advisees' graduate, and wants to convey her congratulations.

Dai Chen organized a field trip to take her Chinese language students and Chinese majors/minors to a special exhibition, *Empresses of China's Forbidden City*, at the Peabody Essex Museum last November. She also held a year-end party with her students, and helped them make dumplings, Taiwan-style sticky rice balls, and bubble tea. Dai's students are grateful for her kindness and passion for education!



Photo: Chinese majors and minors with professors at Peabody Essex museum.

Mingwei Song published a co-edited volume named "The Reincarnated Giant: An Anthology of Twenty-First Century



Photo: Professor Song presents at the international conference.

Chinese Science Fiction" in September 2018, which was positively reviewed. In April 2019, he co-organized the international conference "May Fourth@100: Culture, Thought, History" During the academic year, he published 21 poems in addition to academic articles, essays, and reviews, and he gave lectures at UCLA, Yale, Wesleyan, and several other universities. He received interviews by the BBC, BBC Chinese Channel, ABC, New York Times, and The Verge. In November 2018, Mingwei also invited the internationally renowned filmmaker Wang Bing to visit Wellesley.

Eiko Torii-Williams organized several events this year, including the Hachioji Kuruma Ningyo Puppet Theater event with the Japan Society of Boston and a language exchange meeting with Showa Women's University. She also helped put on information sessions for internships in Japan, study abroad opportunities, and the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program. Eiko has been going through the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview tester recertification process, and she is planning to finish it this summer. Eiko advised Japanese language student Seunghoon Lee '22 for the 9th New England Japanese Language Contest, where she won first place in the essay division.



Photo: Maeno and Torii-Williams with Japanese Speech Contest participants.

Yoshimi Maeno helped bring the 18th annual Boston Area Japanese Speech Contest to Wellesley College. Above, Wellesley participants Majesty Zander '21 and Yuou Wang '22 are congratulated by their Yoshimi and Eiko Torii-Williams. Yoshimi worked very hard to bring this contest to Wellesley's campus, and we would like to thank her for all of her effort in making this a successful event. This was the third time that this event was hosted at Wellesley College.

Robert Goree gave four lectures this year: at a conference at Harvard on the topic on meisho, at the Association of Asian Studies in Denver, at Yale's Council on East Asian Studies, and at a conference on early modern Japanese cities at USC. He was also a thesis advisor to Japanese Language & Culture major Shannon Mewes '19. Shannon's thesis is titled "Intersections of Shinto and A-Bomb Imagery in Gojira, Akira, and Princess Mononoke".

Eve Zimmerman has been directing The Newhouse Center for the Humanities this year and was thrilled at the opportunity to collaborate with EALC faculty members on a couple of events. In the fall of 2018, Eve invited Min Jin Lee, author of *Pachinko*, in collaboration with Professor Yu Jin Ko of English and Professor Sun-Hee Lee of EALC (pictured below). Min held a packed open class session and then a lively reading in Jewett Auditorium. Students lined up at both events to get the author's autograph! In November 2018, the Newhouse collaborated with Professor Mingwei Song on the visit of the documentary film director, Wang Bing, on his first trip to the United States. With Codruta Morari of Cinema and Media Studies, they showed two films and enjoyed a discussion between Mingwei and the director. Finally, in February 2019, Professors Lee and Ko held a mini-conference at the Newhouse, titled "Images of the Girl from East to West: from Austen to Manga". They showed the Korean film *Little Forest* and enjoyed three academic papers on different representations of the girl from the England of Jane Austen to Korea under Japan's colonial rule. Eve also published a translation of Nakagami Kenji's short story "Late Flowers" in *The Penguin Book of Japanese Short Stories*, edited by Jay Rubin with an introduction by Murakami Haruki. Eve was also just promoted to Full Professor. She is deeply grateful to the EALC alumnae who wrote letters for her. Congratulations, Eve!



Photo: from middle left, professor Zimmerman and Min Jin Lee at talk.

Sun-Hee Lee has been working as the department chair since July 2018. She also participated in academic conferences, presenting two papers at the Asia Pacific Corpus Linguistics Conference (APCLC) in Takamatsu, Japan. Sun-Hee was later

invited to be included in the organizing committee for APCLC 2020 in Seoul, South Korea. In June, she will be presenting at the International Pragmatics Conference in Hong Kong, where she will also meet with Wellesley Club of Hong Kong members. Sun-Hee will also be heading to UC-Louvain in Belgium to attend the Bootcamp for Corpus Linguistics with R in August.



Photo: Bae(LA), Lee, Song, Park, and Ju.

This year, the EALC department welcomed a new academic administrator: **Anna Park!** Anna is originally from South Korea, and previously lived in Colorado before moving to Massachusetts. She is a mother to three sons and is married to her husband. An avid artist, Anna loves to create artwork, and is planning to host a solo exhibition of her paintings in September. Anna is also a skilled barista, as she works part-time at the local Peet's Coffee in Wellesley. Anna is planning to visit her relatives in Korea this summer, and will also continue to renovate her home here in Massachusetts. Earlier this year, Anna hosted the language assistants Minyoung Bae (of the Korean program), Misaki Mukai (of the Japanese program), and Jenny Huang (of the Chinese program), along with EALC student assistant Emma Duncan '19, for lunch at her home. We thank Anna for all that she has done so far—she is truly the backbone of the department! We are truly lucky to have Anna in EALC, and we hope that she enjoys her time in the department for many years to come.



Photo: Duncan, Bae, Park, Mukai, and Huang.

Meet Our Language Assistants

Each year, we're very lucky to welcome three accomplished individual scholars to our department who assist our faculty with language instruction. Emma Duncan '19 spoke with Jenny (Yu-Chen) Huang, Misaki Mukai, and Minyoung Bae to discuss their experiences as teaching assistants in the EALC Department.

What's something that surprised you when you first came to Wellesley?

Minyoung: For me, it was how students think about their future. They're very serious about it. Even first years really do their best. They want to find what they want to do, and what they like. At the same time, they're very stressed. When I was in my first year of college, I wasn't like that. (laughs) So it's very impressive, in a good way.

Jenny: It's the campus. It's so beautiful! I was surprised by the trees and the scenery.

Misaki: I was surprised at the people, and the number of Language Assistants here at Wellesley. The people here are so nice, and they welcomed us warmly and peacefully. As for the number of Language Assistants, we have eight this year—this number surprised me. Other universities usually only have three or five of them. But here, we have eight so that means there's a lot of effort put into language education.

What do you like the most about being a Language Assistant?

Minyoung: Since I want to be a Korean teacher, this opportunity is very precious and valuable to me. Students who study Korean really concentrate, and they're very into studying, so that makes me feel motivated. By being here, I can get more encouragement and motivation from the students.

Jenny: For me, I feel like I have so many sisters here! We get to hang out as friends. I teach them a lot of things they don't know (especially with culture and tradition), but they also taught me a lot of things, like stuff that their generation knows. It's very different. (laughs)

Minyoung: Yeah, the relations here are not just teacher-student ones. We also feel like we're peers.

Misaki: There are many things...as a Language Assistant, we're not at the same position as a professor, and we're at a level closer to students. Because of this, we get to know a lot about the students, and we can also share that information with the professors, which leads to better education. Also, for us, our job isn't just about language education. We're also connected to people who need to use the language. For example, I tutored a professor at the Davis Museum in Japanese. That professor asked me to be with her at an exhibition with a famous artist so I could translate for them. I was not only able to have a connection with students and professors, but also other people who like Japan.

What's it like living with students?

Misaki: On days off, when I go to places like Boston, I bring back things 've bought and I'm able to share them with students. I also



Photo: Huang, Mukai, and Bae.

receive things that the students have gotten after they've gone out. We have a warm, kind relationship, kind of like family members. That's really nice to have.

Jenny: Living with students made us feel very close to them. We got to see each other every day, and I got to practice the language they're learning with them.

Minyoung: In the Korean Corridor, we have over ten people, so every night we're able to gather together and talk. It's like talking with your family. We also made food together, watched videos, and talked about Korean culture. We even talked about government and politics. That was really nice since I wouldn't have been able to do that if I lived alone or off-campus.



Many different events!

Minyoung, Misaki, and Jenny held many events for the EALC corridors, as well as events for their other language students. Here are some of their favorites.

- Japan Corridor cooking nights including the Bo-nenkai (year-end) party with Minyoung and Jenny (pictured at left), and performing the One Piece theme song with several Beginning Japanese students at Yuki Matsuri
- Making Taiwanese food and talking with Chinese Corridor students
- Watching dramas, cooking, and having karaoke nights with Korean Corridor

Photo left: Huang with corridor residents.

What's the hardest part of your job?

Misaki: That hardest thing was making classes that would be useful to students. That was extremely difficult. But within that difficulty was

also, a certain sort of fun. When I saw students finally understanding something using the lessons I worked so hard on, I thought it was all worthwhile even if it was difficult.

Jenny: For me, I think the hardest part is that I have so much that I want to do. I have so much that I want to talk about in class, and I have so many things I want to do in Chinese Corridor, but we have limited time and budgets. So, it's hard to strike a balance.

Minyoung: In Korean classes, the student levels vary, and some of the students who are heritage speakers know a lot while others know less. It was hard to make lessons understandable for everyone. Preparing classes and presentations was difficult, but it was also fun.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Misaki: Reading books! I've completed seven books while I've been here. (laughs) I'm not lying, I'm being serious!

Jenny: I love to explore the city! I love going into Boston. My favorite place is the Isabella Gardner Museum. I went there six times. They have Rembrandt pieces there, which I love.

Minyoung: I opened a Netflix account, so I watched lots—LOTS—of dramas. Whenever students mentioned a drama, I could say that I watched it. Sometimes I just stay up all night and finish dramas. (laughs)

What do you miss the most about Japan/Taiwan/Korea?

Jenny: The food and convenience. In Taiwan, we have a lot of good food, and we have night markets. We also have convenience stores that you can access 24/7, so it's very convenient. I can cook food here, but there are many flavors you can't create here in America.

Misaki: I have one thing: baths! I really miss baths. Showers are no good—I really long for a good bath!

Minyoung: The first thing is my mom's cooking, and my grandma's food. Also, late-night deliveries. In Korea, almost any type of food can be delivered until 3:00am. I watch dramas late at night, but I can't find any delivery food here after 10:30pm!

What will you miss the most about Wellesley?

Minyoung: Definitely the people: students, professors, and others. I'll really miss them. They were so nice. The students were like my friends, and they helped me a lot. I really appreciated them for everything they gave me and showed me.

Misaki: I feel the same way as Minyoung. The students, Torii-sensei and Maeno-sensei, and the people in the EALC department are all so kind from the bottom of their hearts. I really feel the affection they have to give. I really don't want to leave everyone. Of course, I feel the same way about Minyoung and Jenny.

Jenny: I don't have to say it again—I agree with everything Minyoung and Misaki said. The EALC Department would like to thank Minyoung, Misaki, and Jenny for all the hard work and effort they have put forth during their time here at Wellesley. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

The EALC Department would like to thank Minyoung, Misaki, and Jenny for all the hard work and effort they have put forth during their time here at Wellesley. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

Next year, we will be combining all existing EALC language corridors to form the EALC House in Dower. We hope to have many more fun events there for future language assistants and students!

Check out our EALC language blogs to see more event descriptions and photos from the past year!

Chinese: blogs.wellesley.edu/chinese

Japanese: blogs.wellesley.edu/japanese

Korean: blogs.wellesley.edu/korean

Professor Eve Zimmerman Promoted to Full professor

Professor Eve Zimmerman, former head of the EALC Department and current director of the Suzy Newhouse Center for the Humanities, has recently been promoted from associate professor to full professor within the Japanese program.

Eve has put on spectacular programming at the Newhouse Center, including lectures on Masaoka Shiki's haiku poems and screenings of renowned director Wang Bing's film *Three Sisters*. The Newhouse's open class session with Pachinko author Min Jin Lee was a delight to many Korean and EALC students.

While working on Newhouse Center programming, Eve has also managed to continue supporting the Japanese program. She has been teaching wonderful courses this past year, such as those on post-war Japanese literature and the figure of the girl in modern East Asian cultures.

Eve's never-ending hard work, dedication, and passion make her recent promotion well-deserved. Congratulations Eve, and we look forward to seeing what you have in store for us in the future. The EALC Department is very lucky to have you!



Year in Review

Here are some highlights from the 2018 - 2019 academic year.



Photo: Kuruma Ningyo puppetry to Wellesley's Jewett Auditorium.

The Japanese program worked together with the Japan Society of Boston to bring a performance of Kuruma Ningyo puppetry to Wellesley's Jewett Auditorium on March 5th, 2019. Nishikawa Koryu V, the fifth grand master of the Hachijoji Kuruma Ningyo PuppetTheater, performed three female-centered stories from classic Japanese literature, accompanied by live chanting and shamisen music. Kuruma Ningyo is a unique style of puppetry where artists perform while sitting on a wooden box with wheels, enabling a single puppeteer to control one puppet. The packed auditorium enjoyed several programs involving stories from Japanese literature, including *Yugao* (from *The Tale of Genji*), *Kusunoha* (based on a folktale), and *Tsuri On'na* (adapted from a medieval *kyogen* play). We would like to thank Professors Eiko Torii-Williams and Yoshimi Maeno for working with the Japan Society of Boston to help make this event possible! It was a wonderful opportunity for Japanese and EALC students to experience Japanese culture.



Photo: Chinese majors and minors with professors of Chinese program.

On May 9th, EALC faculty gathered with graduating EALC seniors to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2019 at the department's annual Senior Dinner. Professors and students enjoyed a variety of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean foods while making lively conversation. A toast with champagne and sparkling cider followed, along with cake for dessert. A special thanks to our admin, Anna Park, who organized the event, from decorations to catering. Above, Chinese majors and minors gather with Chinese program faculty to take a commemorative photo.



Photo: President Johnson and professor Bu with the plaque on the left.

On February 5, Charles Bu, Professor of Mathematics at Wellesley, presented a plaque to President Paula Johnson on behalf of Wang Binggen, founding president of Bingxin Literature Museum in Fuzhou, China, as a gesture of acknowledgement of the role Wellesley played in the life of the renowned author Bingxin, who received her master's degree in English literature from Wellesley in 1926. Wang Binggen created the plaque, which reads "Wavelet Pavilion," in recognition of Bingxin's love for Wellesley's Lake Waban, into which she once threw a stone with her name on it, causing a sequence of ripples. The ceremony took place on February 5th (Chinese New Year) with several faculty members and EALC students. Bingxin, the pen name of Xie Wanying (1900–1999), was one of the most influential literary figures in 20th-century China and the world. An essay she wrote that references Wellesley's Lake Waban is required reading for Chinese schoolchildren. The President's House now has a lovely Chinese nickname! We wish President Johnson the best in this upcoming Year of the Pig (her zodiac year)!



Photo: Mewes presents at Ruhlman conference.

During this year's Ruhlman Conference, Japanese Language and Culture major Shannon Mewes '19 presented on her thesis, titled "Intersections of Shinto and A-Bomb Imagery in Gojira, Akira, and Princess Mononoke." Congratulations to Shannon for successfully completing and defending her thesis, and also to other EALC and EAS members who presented at this year's conference!

Professor Morley (continued)

Eiko Torii-Williams reflects on how Carolyn became a pillar of the Japanese Program: "Professor Koderá started the program almost 40 years ago, but it's Professor Morley who built the program to be the Japanese Department, which later became EALC. I'm extremely honored and blessed to have been able to assist her in this process since 1989 when I came to Wellesley."

She went on to explain how Carolyn specializes in Japanese literature and performing arts, including noh, and kyogen, and how her expertise and passion helped bring many famous Japanese performers to the college. "We were so lucky not only to have had opportunities to see their performances, but also actually to have met them and participated in their workshops, which were tremendous experiences for our students," Eiko explains (continued on next page).

Professor Morley (continued)

“On a personal note,” Eiko says, “Professor Morley has been my mentor for teaching and parenting. I never forget how she assisted my husband in planning a surprise baby shower for me and later came to see me in the hospital when I had my first baby.

Since then, she has shared with me a lot of her parenting stories. Thank you for all these years, Professor Morley—I wish you a wonderful life, and *hontouni otsukaresamadeshita!*”

Yoshimi Maeno explains how the Boston Area Japanese Speech event was actually Carolyn’s idea, and she asked Yoshimi to organize it. “I asked Boston area universities to join, and Wellesley College hosted the first event in April 2001. This event has become the great academic and social event for local Japanese students and teachers.”

Eve Zimmerman remembers Carolyn’s many achievements: “Carolyn Morley built the program from the ground-up, including a course in classical Japanese so that students could learn to read classic texts in the original,” Eve says. “Under her directorship, the program grew in leaps and bounds from the mid-1980s into the early 2000s, producing numerous honor theses and sending students to graduate school to earn PhDs in Japanese literature.” Eve also recalls Carolyn’s passion for education. “An early advocate of experiential learning before it was a trend, Professor Morley encouraged students to try out forms of Japanese culture such as tea ceremony, calligraphy, and acting/dancing in pre-modern Japanese theater. She also understood the importance of study abroad. She will always be remembered as the architect of the Japanese program at Wellesley.”

Arigatou gozaimashita, Professor Morley!

We will forever be grateful for you and everything you have done for the EALC Department. You will be missed.

Alumnae Spotlight

A year after graduation, Japanese program alumna Nadine Franklin ‘18 spoke with us about her life as a graduate student in Japan.

I’ve recently begun the MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology) Program in Japan as a Graduate Research Student. My host university is Musashino Art University (MAU), though I’m currently taking preparatory Japanese courses at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. In the fall, I intend to take the entrance exam and officially enter the Master’s Degree Program in the Painting Department at MAU, in order to complete the research that I set out to do through MEXT.

My research involves studying and understanding the relationship between art and politics in Japan, and hearing people’s opinions, or lack thereof, regarding this connection. I’m particularly interested in the opinions of the younger generation and



learning about their perception of political art, especially current political art. As a painter, my goal is to incorporate these topics into my work and to ideally spark conversations about Japanese art and politics through visual communication.

The EALC Department at Wellesley played a critical role in my ability to apply for and receive this scholarship and participate in this great

opportunity. I applied for several other grants, fellowships, and scholarships during my senior year at Wellesley, and even though I was not successful at first, the act of writing and rewriting my research plan ultimately allowed me to be successful through MEXT.

Additionally, during the summer after graduating from Wellesley, I interned at the Sakae Institute of Study Abroad Boston Office, where I was able to build upon my professional experience, practice the Japanese language in an office setting, and work on contacting universities in Japan in order to receive a Letter of Acceptance for MEXT. I found these opportunities directly through the EALC Department, and am still benefiting from the connections that I made through them while I’m living in Japan.

EALC and EAS alumnae, we want to hear from you! If you would like to be featured in our next issue, please write to Anna Park at hpark12@wellesley.edu

KEEP UP WITH US THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

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website: www.wellesley.edu/ealc & www.wellesley.edu/eas