Distinguished researchers in the fields of public health, epidemiology, pediatrics & obstetrics, gerontology and health policy gathered on November 19, 1999 at the UCLA Faculty Center for a one-day briefing on important emerging health issues in the Pacific Basin.

Addressing an audience of students, faculty, and community health leaders from around the state, UC medical researchers spoke to the emerging health issues unique to the Pacific Rim with its dynamic migration shifts and interplay of cultural attitudes towards health promotion and disease prevention. In addition, researchers noted important changes taking place in diet, disease epidemiology and health care policy which are likely to have a significant effect on people's lives in the region in years to come.

Speaking to the silent epidemic of Hepatitis B infection among certain groups in East Asia and among many Asian immigrants to California, Dr. Claire Panosian (Medicine, UCLA) described efforts to employ Asian language mass media to educate at-risk populations about prevention of this potentially deadly disease (for more, see “Hepatitis B: The Global Challenge,” on page 3 of this newsletter.) UCLA School of Public Health researcher Gail Harrison outlined the dietary

In this wood-block print by the Japanese ukiyo-e artist, Yoshitoshi (1839-1892), a woman receives moxibustion treatments, an acupuncture-like procedure that uses burning herbs instead of needles. The title at top reads "It looks hot." From the University of California, San Francisco Special Collections.

(Continued on page 5)

The PRRP Executive Committee convened in Berkeley on May 12-13 to make its 2000-2001 grant awards. The Program decided to fund thirty six proposals, including the dissertation research projects of fourteen UC graduate students. Awards totaled more than $800,000. For the list of 2000-01 awards, see pages 6-7.
Environmental health, biodiversity preservation and attempts to understand climate change have of late become important aspects of Pacific Rim studies. Over the past few years, compelling projects have sought to understand the loss of coral reefs in the Pacific, to find ways to improve reforestation efforts in Asia and the U.S. northwest, and to mitigate the effects of polluted air and water caused by huge population growth in the region.

Berkeley Professor of Integrative Biology David B. Wake, who serves as well as Curator of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, reports on his efforts, in collaboration with UC, Russian, and Vietnamese colleagues, to inventory biodiversity at the Tam Dao Reserve near Hanoi, a refuge for endangered fauna that they hope will serve as a model for local ecological preservation in regions undergoing break-neck urbanization.

While many developing countries, such as Costa Rica and Kenya, promote ecotourism as an important source of income both to the entire country to the local people living around reserves, people in the Tam Dao area, lacking motivation to stop, have continued to hunt animals and cut down trees. Vietnam as a whole has seen heavy deforestation: whereas in 1943 forest covered 43% of the country, by 1991 the forestation dropped to barely 17%. As a result, the government recently established eighty-seven protected areas covering all ecosystems, ten of which have since been designated national parks. Biological surveys in Vietnam and neighboring areas of Laos and Cambodia have made remarkable discoveries of new animals.

Since 1990, two large ungulates have been discovered, a mouse deer (Muntiacus) and a goat-like bovid (Pseudoryx), the latter representing both a new genus and species to science. Smaller creatures, such as reptiles, amphibians and small mammals, have also been discovered, some as stuffed tourist souvenirs offered for sale in Hanoi.

With the founding, in 1996, of the Tam Dao Protected Area as Vietnam’s newest national park, efforts to map and preserve Vietnam’s rich biological heritage are beginning. Preliminary studies, Professor Wake and his team reports, reveal an astonishing diversity of wildlife, with over one hundred species of snakes and amphibians (twelve of which are new to science), and at least thirty-five mammals, including the rare hedgehog-like “moon rat,” fruit-eating arboreal civets and many varieties of small carnivores. A species of tropical salamander, the Parmesotriton deloustali, exists only at Tam Dao.

Tourists have now begun to make their way to Tam Dao, allowing local residents to take advantage of the economic opportunities afforded by international tourism. An article in the National Geographic (June, 1999) introduced Tam Dao to the world.

(Continued on adjacent page, bottom.)
In another effort at species-preservation Professor Dale McCullough (Environmental Science, UCLA) led a team investigating conservation and restoration of the Taiwan Sika deer, a subspecies native to the island that has been extinct in the wild since 1970 due to the use of their antlers in the Chinese medicine market. Modern DNA techniques have been brought to bear on the question of genetic integrity of two captive populations, both of which turn out to be native Sika populations suitable for broad-scale recovery in the lower foothills of the island. Carried out with the assistance of the aboriginal Rukai people, the Taiwan Sika deer restoration project is a model for similar recovery efforts throughout south and east Asia.

Human predation has not been the sole cause of species extinction. In a cutting-edge project, Professor Nan Crystal Arens (Integrative Biology, UCB) and collaborator Dr. Yan-Ju Liu (Beijing Natural History Museum) have combined the disciplines of paleography, botany, climatology and geography to investigate the role that climate change has played in species extinction and range change of the Metasequoia or Dawn Redwood tree, a species once widely distributed throughout North America, but now restricted to a single small population in central China. Since the tree—long thought to be extinct—has experienced little evolutionary modification, Arens and Liu hypothesize that it might be a sensitive tracker of its preferred environment, making it a good candidate for paleoenvironmental reconstruction and for marking the patterns of climate change over the past 80 million years. Their work continues, pushing paleo-botanical research into exciting new frontiers.
In a continuing effort to better serve UC faculty and graduate student researchers, the PRRP Executive Committee recently approved a number of modifications to the Program designed to attract the widest possible range of scholars. These changes include raising the cap, from 10 to 12, on number of proposals that each campus can submit each year for funding consideration, and reducing the requirement for extensive research collaboration, which can disadvantage scholars in the humanities. While these modifications will be fully highlighted in the 2001-2002 Call for Proposals, to be published in summer 2000, the following is an overview of the most significant changes, highlighted in boldface:

- a broadening of the allowable research foci to include “comparative investigation across national, cultural, linguistic and/or regional boundaries;”

- a modification of the requirement that proposals focus on problems affecting the “entire” region to “major issues facing the Pacific Rim region.” Compelling single-country studies will be considered for funding, especially if the research has implications for other regions of the Pacific Rim.

- a change to the requirement for extensive collaboration to state that while encouraged, “collaboration is broadly defined and need not be required in all aspects of research.”

The Program encourages the submission of innovative and imaginative research proposals regardless of whether the project meets all the individual criteria as stated in the annual Call for Proposals. Campus review committees have been informed of these changes, which will take full effect with the 2001-02 funding cycle.

**International Directory of Specialists on Trans-Pacific Affairs**

The University of California, San Diego invites scholars, policymakers, businesspeople, journalists, and other experts on relationships between Latin America and the Asia/Pacific region to become members of an International Directory of Specialists on Trans-Pacific Affairs.

The purpose of this initiative is to create a network of specialists, to facilitate communication, and to compile an inventory of current and recent research in this area.

Faculty and graduate students associated with all academic disciplines and professional fields -- in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, engineering, business, law, and medicine -- are invited to take part.

This effort is part of multi-year project on "Latin America and the Pacific Rim" that is sponsored by the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies (CILAS) at UCSD.

The project is funded principally by the Ford Foundation, with additional support from The Japan Foundation's Center for Global Partnership, the UC Pacific Rim Research Program, and the University of California's Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation.

To register, please visit the CILAS website at http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/las/studies/directory.html. There is no charge for accessing or entering this database.
changes seen among Asian (particularly Korean) immigrants to California, and the consequences—such as increasing incidences of certain cancers—on health outlook. Deborah Dean (Medicine, UCSF) outlined efforts to fight trachoma, a contagious conjunctivitis found with increasing frequency among some Vietnamese populations around the Pacific Rim; Peter Kunstadter (Institute for Public Health Studies, UCSF) described lessons learned in delivering culturally-appropriate health care to Hmong refugees in Fresno in comparison to similar efforts among non-refugee Hmong in Thailand.

Professor Roger Detels (Epidemiology, UCLA), whose path-breaking work has brought to light the extant and spread of HIV in China, spoke of the unique role the PRRP can play, due to its transnational focus, in helping to gain understanding of the epidemiology and treatment of such diseases in a region undergoing extraordinary demographic change.

Presentations focused on other key regional issues: “Reproductive and Infant Health” panelist Professor Paula Braveman (Family and Community Medicine, UCSF) spoke of challenges to making good health care available to California’s maternal and infant population, the majority of which, perhaps surprisingly, falls into the category of “low-income” according to federal standards. Dr. Colin Partridge (Pediatrics, UCSF) presented his group’s findings on the varying criteria and standards throughout the region governing resuscitation decisions for extremely low birthweight (ELBW) children. They found considerable variation in medical practice and decision-making, which may in turn have direct implications for infant mortality statistics in the region.

UC San Francisco sociologist Dr. Patrick Fox and colleague Dr. Margaret Wallhagen (Nursing, UCSF) presented findings on comparative long-term care of the elderly in China, Japan and the United States, an important concern with recent dramatic declines in mortality rates for which no Pacific Rim country is adequately prepared. They noted that in Japan, for instance, over one quarter (27.5%) of the population will be elderly by 2025, while at the same time traditional care-giving structures are disappearing.

A final panel, “Issues in Public Health Policy and Practice,” examined the role of educational intervention in disease control and health promotion, as well as the looming crisis of access to health insurance and health care for children in US immigrant families. Peter Chua (Sociology graduate student, UCSB) and Professor Donald Morisky (School of Public Health, UCLA) explored the effects of health education and policy in Philippine HIV/AIDS prevention and TB control efforts in Los Angeles; E. Richard Brown, Director of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, delivered alarming information on the lack of access to health care among immigrant children: such children, he noted, are two to three times as likely as non-immigrant children to be uninsured, nearly four times more likely to have no regular source of health care, and twice as likely not to have visited a doctor in the last year. The problem is especially acute, Brown finds, in Latino families.

A keynote address by Dr. Richard Feachem, formally of the World Health Organization, now director of the new UCSF/UCB Institute of Global Health, described the potential role UC can play in solving global health problems. With its unrivalled strengths in medicine, biomedical science, public health policy, business, economics, law and international studies, UC can and will, through the new Institute of Global Health, make real contributions in such pressing areas as international health policy, vaccinology, and reproductive health.
The Executive Committee of the Pacific Rim Research Program awarded 36 grants for the 2000-2001 competition. Principal investigators and project titles are listed below. Faculty advisors of graduate students awardees are in brackets.

### Planning and Workshops

**BERKELEY**

Michael Reich, “Assessing the Impact of Codes of Conduct and Monitoring Systems on the Apparel Industry in the Pacific Rim”

**DAVIS**

Robert Feenstra, “Planning Workshop for the Consortium for the Study of Asian Economics”

**LOS ANGELES**

Valerie Matsumoto, “Rethinking Minority/Majority Relations: Cultural Identity and Political Process for Asians in Peru, Brazil and the U.S.”

Herbert Plutschow, “Realistic Observation in East Asia: An Historical Investigation of an East Asian Modernity”

**RIVERSIDE**

Kurt Schwabe, “The Social and Environmental Impacts of Deforestation in Malaysia and Indonesia”

**SAN DIEGO**

Antonino Catanzaro, “Planning for a Center for Pacific Rim Health Studies”

Deborah Wingard, “Planning for an Investigation of Diabetes Prevalence and Risk Factors Among Filipina Women in San Diego, Hawaii and the Philippines”

### Research

**BERKELEY**


**DAVIS**

Tzung-Su Ding, [D. William Rains] “Mapping Biodiversity Hotspots of East Asia”

Sun-Mee Kang, [Phillip Shaver], “Cultural Differences in Emotional Experience: Their Possible Implications for Asian Immigrants’ Psychological Adjustment”


Haley Seif, [Roger Rouse] “A New Beginning? The Incorporation of Pacific Rim Labor and Investment in California Legislative Politics”

**LOS ANGELES**

Jennifer Watts, [Douglas Conklin] “Coastal Aquaculture Development and Environmental Change in a Tropical Estuary”

Jacob Whittacker, [Susan Mann] “Ethnicity, Local Identity, and Elite Status on the Southwest China Frontier (1681-1856)”

**SAN DIEGO**

Wayne Cornelius, “Center for Comparative Immigration Studies”

**IRVINE**

James Swanson, “Genetic and Cultural Factors in Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD): Differences Across Two Pacific Rim Locations (Hong Kong and Irvine)”

**LOS ANGELES**


Doran Ross, “The Art of Rice: Spirit and Sustenance in Asia”

Gi-Wook Shin, “Politics of Representation and Conflict Resolution in the Korean Peninsula”
(Continued from previous page)


RIVERSIDE

Maria Chee, [Christine Ward Gailey] “The Impact of Transnational Family on Middle-Class Women and Marital Relations: Hong Kong Canadians and Taiwanese Americans in Southern California”

Yatin Lin, [Susan Foster] “Negotiating Identities Through Dance: A Comparative Study of Two Pacific Rim Dance Companies”

Lewis Owen, “Long-Term Glaciological and Hydrological Responses to Variations in the Southeast Asian Monsoon in Eastern Tibet”

“Golf Plan” by Alfredo Esquillo, Jr., 1997. This contemporary painting by a Philippine artist provides a social critique of the recent trend in the Philippines for the conversion of rice land to golf courses. This artifact and many others will be on display at the UCLA Fowler Museum’s exhibition on “The Art of Rice: Spirit and Sustenance in Asia,” opening October, 2002 and later scheduled to tour nationally. The exhibit will be accompanied by a new 450-page book of scholarly essays examining the deep significance of rice for Asia’s peoples hidden in any array of diverse but related cultural practices. The project is supported by the Getty Foundation and the UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture, as well as the Pacific Rim Research Program.

SAN DIEGO

Heather Boyle, [Jeffrey Graham] “Mudskippers (Gobiidae; Exudercinae) as Sentinels of Mangrove Ecosystems, Protectors of Human Health, and Tools for Environmental Education in the Indo-west Pacific”

Richard Madsen, “Religion and Civil Society in the Asia-Pacific”

Roger Reynolds, “Asian Performance Traditions and Their Futures”

SAN FRANCISCO


Jorge Oksenberg, “Multiple Sclerosis in China and the U.S.”

SANTA BARBARA

Dana Collins [Kum-Kum Bhavnani] “Tourism, Sexuality, and Development: Gay Sex Tourism in the Philippines”

Howard Giles, “Ageism in the Workplace: A Cross-Cultural Perspective”

SANTA CRUZ

Timothy Choy, [Anna Tsing] “Greening Hong Kong: Environmental Consultants and Environmentalism in Hong Kong”


Sasha Welland, [Lisa Rofel] “Transnational Chinese Art Worlds and Postsocialist Public Culture”
Recent Research Findings

The PRRP has recently received a number of final reports documenting results of Program-funded research. Following are some highlights:

Recent doctoral degree recipient Jennifer Jacobs (Psychology, UCLA) reports on differences in attitudes and practices between Japanese and American teachers of elementary school mathematics, an issue of interest to Pacific Rim educators who have noted Japan’s success in mathematics education. American teachers, she finds, appear to have varying “ideal scripts” with regard to teaching mathematics, incorporating both traditional and non-traditional methods; American teachers tend to blend different methods into their conception of effective teaching. Japanese teachers, on the other hand, tend to follow one ideal lesson model, supported closely by the Japanese literature on effective teaching, and have well-developed and exacting criteria for evaluating this model. “In Japan the innovative teacher is the one who skillfully teaches the lesson that is prescribed by the text,” explains one quoted researcher. Ultimately, such detailed knowledge about comparative teaching philosophies may lead to more effective strategies for helping teachers reflect on, change and improve their classroom practices.

In another study of comparative pedagogy, UCD graduate student Marisol Clark-Ibañez (Sociology) examined “transformative” and “orthodox” teaching philosophies as they have been applied in an impoverished urban community in Los Angeles. She compared practices at two elementary schools (the names of which have been changed protect the privacy of the participants), at “Velos” Charter Elementary School, a “transformative” institution in which parents, teachers, business and community leaders work together to transform public school teaching through a progressive agenda and high academic expectations, and at the Carver Public Elementary School, a traditional public institution. Clark-Ibañez found that, while certainly not the cure-all, the “transformative” approach does indeed result in better schooling, better morale among students and teachers, and slightly higher test scores. She cautions, however, that “self-selection” among students who chose to attend the Charter school may skew statistical results, and that family support, regardless of the institution attended, is an important factor in success. Clark-Ibañez will be continuing her field work in Los Angeles, and hopes to extend her comparative scope to encompass teaching practices in Peru.

With funding from the PRRP and the Luce Foundation, UC Santa Cruz professors Gail Hershatter (History), Emily Honig (Women’s Studies) and Lisa Rofel (Santa Cruz) have collaborated on a multi-year project to combine documentary and ethnographic research on several urban and rural venues in China to explore the centrality of gender in China’s recent history. In archival and field work in central Shaanxi, Hershatter uncovered the effects of laws in the 1950s that mobilized women for literacy and public health work, shaped labor policies and reworked marriage laws.

Honig examined women’s experiences in the Cultural Revolution (1966-76), an era when profound social upheaval changed attitudes with respect to appropriate work for women and men, the relationship between marriage and work for women, and the changing roles for women workers, as in the rise of “Iron Girls”—teams of female workers sent to do a “man’s job” while keeping the state safe for Maoist thought.

Rofel’s part of the project extended the findings to contemporary China, focusing especially on women in newly emerging professions—the stock market, film and other media—as well as on (Continued on next page).
domestic servants and menials. As a result, she has developed a comparative perspective that looks at women’s lives from various strata: women from the countryside working as maids in Beijing, women in white-collar occupations, and women in the sex trades. It shows the stratification taking place and the effect of a market economy on the lives of Chinese women. The findings of all three researchers will soon be published in a number of scholarly venues, including as contributions to


In a report on his multi-year project, “Intergenerational Communication around the Pacific Rim,” UC Santa Barbara Communications Professor Howard Giles describes some surprising findings that contradict prior (Western) studies showing that the communication climate between younger and older adults in East Asia is one of mutual accommodation, as opposed to the much bemoaned Western “generation gap.”

Through extensive collaborative field surveys in several Pacific Rim countries, from Japan to the Philippines, Hong Kong, China, New Zealand, Canada and the USA, Giles’ team has found that intergenerational relations in Western contexts tend to be more favorable and accommodative, with less strife and fewer negative expectations, resulting in generally higher measures of psychological well being among the elderly. The data have resulted in a number of publications and conference papers, three of which have won, between 1996 and 1999, the Top Paper Award at the Annual National Communications Association Meeting. This is an unprecedented honor.

The utilities industries around the Pacific Rim have become the focus of several PRRP grants in recent years. Professor Pablo Spiller (Haas School of Business, UCB) recently reported on his work to identify the extent to which New Zealand’s approach to utility regulation is sound and replicable to other environments. New Zealand is the only country in the Pacific Rim where not only have utilities been deregulated, but where “antitrust” laws provide the main regulatory thrust. New Zealand, in fact, has introduced the concept of “direct access” to the electricity market, a plan by which individual customers at all levels can negotiate for favorable rates directly with the wholesale electricity market. To date, this concept exists elsewhere only in Norway.

This emphasis on competition in the industry, combined with a “light handed” regulatory approach, has brought benefits to consumers, and promises to play an important role in the evolution of distribution regulation in other parts of the world, including the United States. The New Zealand plan serves as a natural experiment to test the appropriateness of leaving utilities operational details to be negotiated by the parties involved, rather than mandated by government regulators.

The first collaborative social science research project involving preeminent research institutions in three Chinese regions and the US was recently completed under the leadership of Professor James Tong (Political Science, UCLA). Entitled “A Cross-Polity Survey of Political Culture and Political Participation in Mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong,” investigators from both sides of the Taiwan Straits, and from UCLA, extensively surveyed over

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http://ucop.edu/research/pacrim/

This issue of CURRENTS was designed and edited by Martin Backstrom.  
Suggestions and contributions are welcome.
Research Findings

(continued from page 9)

five thousand people in the regions about their level of political information and interest, conservatism and liberalism, and on their attitudes towards several modes of political participation. A data set on the political orientations of the Chinese population will be deposited at the Inter-University Consortium of Political and Social Research in late 2000 as a resource for further study.

With current prospects of a slowdown in growth of the world’s capacity to feed itself, coupled with continuing projected growth in population and demand for food, UCD Agricultural Economist Julian M. Alston has been investigating the role that various models of agricultural research and development will play in ensuring technological change leading to increasing productivity in agriculture. By investigating national R & D systems in a range of countries, Professor Alston’s team has compiled and made available, for the first time, a comprehensive set of data concerning institutional models of agricultural R&D, for the benefit of policy makers who must build new institutions for research and development to sustain growth in agricultural know-how to feed ever larger populations. The project has also resulted in a volume, Paying for Agricultural Productivity, published by the Johns Hopkins University Press in 1999.

UC Santa Cruz anthropologist Nancy N. Chen organized a conference in late 1997 to address the difficulties in doing fieldwork in Chinese cities, where recent transformations have changed the face of urban society. As the walled compounds of state-owned work units and single story residences give way to skyscrapers, department stores and high-rise housing, and as huge migrations alter rural/urban demographics while entire field-sites disappear, anthropologists have found their traditional methodologies to be inadequate. Attended by over 70 researchers, the conference yielded a volume, Ethnographies of the Urban in 1990’s China (forthcoming from Duke University Press), a collective effort of thirteen researchers to come to grips with China’s rapid urbanization. Contributors present multiple readings and conclusions about culture in contemporary urban China, treating such disparate realms as fashion modeling, maternity practices, sex tourism, television programming, marriage introduction agencies, rock music and other intersections of consumer culture, each within the framework of socialist/market-driven China. The influx of transnational culture, capital and people that now characterizes China’s cities is examined, and ethnographies are presented in such a way as to suggest and maintain the sense of instability of spatial and social realms that has resulted from rapid urbanization.

Eastern Art, Medicine and History at UC San Francisco

Prior to 1963, the UCSF Special Collections, a fascinating assemblage of medical antiquities dating back to the 11th century, had been limited in only one respect — it focused entirely on the history of Western medicine.

But under the direction of Atsumi Minami, the Japanese-born librarian at the time, the University gradually began to diversify, procuring 19th century art, artifacts and classic texts from China, Japan and Korea. Today, the East Asian Collection contains more than 10,000 volumes that chronicle the history of medicine in the East.

This aesthetic and academic treasure was guarded under lock and key for more than 30 years in a library vault, until five years ago when library administrators converted an otherwise antiseptic hallway into a miniature art museum. The collection is now accessible to the public every day of the week.

Triptych panel, dated 1830, by Kuniyoshi, depicting a renowned doctor "removing" the poison of an arrow from Kuan Yu, the famous Chinese warrior, canonized as the God of War.
The Program offers three types of research grants:

**RESEARCH PROJECTS** The regular grant program provides an average of $29,000 (up to a maximum of $60,000) to University of California faculty and graduate students.

**WORKSHOP AND PLANNING GRANTS** The workshop and planning grant program provides up to $15,000 to University of California faculty and graduate students for conferences, workshops, and collaborative publications. These applications are reviewed first by campus committees, then by the PRRP Executive Committee. Campus deadlines vary from December to early January.

Please note that PRRP Campus Development grants are longer available.

**MINI-GRANTS** Small grants are available to support promising Pacific Rim-related research. Up to $1,000 can be provided on short notice, if funds are available and the request meets PRRP guidelines. To apply, contact your campus PRRP Executive Committee member listed on page ten.

For deadlines and application guidelines, please see the Call for Proposals and Guidelines, available on the worldwide web at [http://www.ucop.edu/research/pacrim/](http://www.ucop.edu/research/pacrim/) or from your PRRP campus liaison, listed below.

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