

Date: 7/12/04

To: Nancy Marlin, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Al Sweedler, Office of International Programs

From: Doreen Mattingly, Department of Women's Studies
Sandra A. Wawrytko, Department of Asian Studies

Re: Women's Studies/Asian Studies in China, Final Report

The following is a report on the trip to China funded by the SDSU Office of International Programs for the spring and summer of 2004. At the outset we would like to thank the OIP for their generous support of \$3000 to enable the program to materialize and be a success.

A group of 13 students and 2 faculty members from the Departments of Women's Studies and Asian Studies visited China from the 18th of May to the 6th of June 2004. Students enrolled through Extended Studies in an existing WS course (WS 530, International Women's Movements). The travel-study trip was called "Women in China" for advertising purposes. SDSU faculty did most of the work to set up the course, including making travel arrangements, designing the curriculum, and hiring Chinese guides.

The group visited and stayed in Peking University in Beijing, Sichuan Normal University in Chengdu and Shanxi Normal University in Xian. Materials used to describe the program to students are attached.

The purpose of the travel study course was to foster international understanding of women's lives and to expose San Diego State University students to issues concerning international politics and peace through direct contact with Chinese students. This three-week course was extremely successful in achieving our goals and benefited the students greatly. The highlight of the trip was the creation of cross-cultural contacts for the better understanding of U.S.-China relations.

The continuing adversarial relationship between China and the United States has contributed to ignorance and misinformation about culture, institutions, and

everyday lives in the two countries. On this trip students from both countries began to realize the depth of our mutual misunderstandings, and experience first-hand the realities of women's lives. This was done through lectures, informal get-togethers with students and faculty of Chinese Universities, as well as visits to various Chinese women-centered organizations. In Beijing we visited a prominent women's legal center along with the offices and headquarters of the Beijing Women's Federation; in Chengdu we toured a women's and children's hospital and a highly-rated primary school.

While in China, specifically Beijing and Chengdu, the students attended lectures by Chinese and American professors on the status of women in China and the USA, including Chinese-American stereotypes. Lectures also dealt with topics of education, family, migration, and governments of both countries. Issues discussed during lectures and visits to various institutions focused on women's rights as human rights, community stability, political freedoms, and specific issues related to women's empowerment in China.

We also attempted to instill a sense of the China's vast history and complex traditions through visits to noteworthy cultural sites in all three cities. We were all most impressed by the former residence of Song Qingling in Beijing, widow of China's legendary patriot Dr. Sun Yat-sen. From the well-organized displays we learned of her key role in the evolution of the People's Republic of China and vast contributions to the welfare of her people.

The trip was a momentous event for students and faculty alike. Many of our students have returned with a vastly different view of both China and the U.S. Without this program it is unlikely they would have had the opportunity to savor such extraordinary experiences on their own initiative. The prestige of the university connections, in China as well as the U.S., opened many doors to us that remain closed for ordinary tourists.

Budget

The \$3,000 award from the Office of International Programs was used to pay the expenses of the two faculty members: Sandra A. Wawrytko and Doreen Mattingly. Students were charged \$3,200 for the trip and class. Several additional sources of funding were secured to provide scholarships for the students, including a \$5,000 mini-grant from the Hansen Institute for World Peace, plus \$500 from other private donors.

Attachments: OIP grant letter
Application Packet
Information Packet sent to Students

February 26, 2004

Congratulations! You are going to the People's Republic of China for first-hand international study of women's lives. For the trip to go smoothly there are a number of details that we need to attend to. **Please read the following information carefully and do all items in bold.**

Travel documents

You must have a passport that does not expire before December, 2004 (six months after the trip). If you do not yet have a passport get one IMMEDIATELY. You can find information at http://travel.state.gov/passport_services.html.

Chinese Visas must be applied for IN PERSON in Los Angeles (this is a new policy). All forms and information can be found online at: http://www.chinaconsulatela.org/en/visa_en.html
A map and consulate office hours is in your packet. Instructions for applying for the visa are included in your packet. **I will be driving to LA on May 4 and will apply for your visa for you but you must get the following to me by April 30.**

- Completed visa application form (in packet). I have also included a sample with some general information about the trip.
- Passport-size photo
- \$50 visa fee – **MUST BE** cash or money order made out to Chinese Consulate
- Passport

Communication

We will be sending out periodic letters to the group. Some will be sent by mail but we will also be communicating to the group by e-mail. **Everyone must have an e-mail address.** If you have not already received at least one email from us please send your email address to Doreen Mattingly (MATTINGL@mail.sdsu.edu)

Fees

Fees: The total estimated cost for the trip is \$3,200. This includes university registration fees, program expenses, lodging, meals, airfare, and travel insurance.

Fees do not include: Fees for passport and visa, books, spending money, and personal effects.

March 1, 2004. All participants must pay a non-refundable deposit of \$500 in a check or money order payable to the Department of Women's Studies (send it to Doreen Mattingly). Credit cards are also accepted with an additional 2% processing fee.

April 1, 2004. A second payment of \$1000 is due in a check or money order payable to the Department of Women's Studies (send it to Doreen Mattingly). Credit cards are also accepted with an additional 2% processing fee.

May 1, 2004 If you are registering for the course, a payment of \$510 must be made to College of Extended Studies. **Instructions for Course registration are below.** If you are not registering for credit, the final \$510 should be paid to the Department of Women's Studies.

May 1, 2004. Balance of fees must be paid in full. This includes a final balance to Women's Studies of \$1190. If you received financial aid, please subtract it from this payment.

Course Credit and Registration

We are offering the course as Women's Studies 530: International Women's Movements. This will allow both graduate students and undergraduates to receive credit for the course. If you need to receive 300-level or 700-level credit for the course, please contact Doreen Mattingly. If you do not want or need course credit, you do not need to register through the university. We do ask, however, that you pay the full amount.

A College of Extended Studies registration form is included in the packet. Please complete the form and return it to Vikki Serrano Ruiz, SDSU Travel Study Director. She is located in the Gateway Building, her phone number is 594-5154 and her email is travel.program@sdsu.edu.

Waivers

Several forms and waivers from the College of Extended Studies (stapled together) are included in your packet. These must be completed, signed, and returned before we depart – the sooner the better.

Insurance

Included in the packet is an application for the SDSU study abroad student insurance plan, which the university requires of all students in a travel-study program. **Everyone must complete the form and mail it back to Doreen Mattingly by April 1.** We will pay for your insurance out of your fees. Hang on to the claim form --- it is to be used in case of illness or injury.

Health Info

This packet includes a copy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Health Information for Travelers to East Asia (<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/eastasia.htm>). We have also included CDC material on the Avian Flu and SARS. We will be checking the CDC's website for updates regularly until we leave. The CDC recommends several vaccines, although none are required. Please speak with your doctor about your decisions.

General Security Issues

We have included the most recent China travel information from the US Department of State (www.travel.state.gov).

To review, you need to take care of the following:

- Let Doreen know your e-mail address (if you haven't already sent it to us)
- Get a passport that will not expire until December 2004
- Apply for a Visa or get your materials to Doreen by April 30
- See your doctor about vaccines

- You must mail us the following:
 - Copy of Passport
 - Copy of Visa
 - Completed insurance forms by April 1
 - Completed waiver forms

We look forward to receiving your materials, and will mail you another information packet soon. Let us know if you have any questions in the meantime.

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Department of Women's Studies and Department of Asian Studies
San Diego State University
Travel Study through the College of Extended Studies

Women in China ~ May 17-June 6, 2004 (tentative)

Women in China is an intensive study of women's lives in The People's Republic of China. The program is offered by the College of Extended Studies in cooperation with the Department of Women's Studies at San Diego State University. Three 500-level SDSU credits are issued for the successful completion of the program.

Who Can Participate? Undergraduate and graduate students. Non-students can also enroll if there is room. Knowledge of Chinese language is not required.

The program will enable you to:

- Earn 3 academic credits at the 500 level
- Immerse yourself in Chinese culture
- Study with Chinese scholars of Women's Studies and meet Chinese students
- Travel through China, visiting famous sites such as the Great Wall and Xi'an.

Academic Program: You will spend one week on the campus of Beijing University, and one week on the Campus of Sichuan Normal University, studying Women's Studies with Chinese professors. The course will also include several presentations by representatives of women's programs in China, and visits to sites of interest for women. You will also have several opportunities to interact with Chinese Women's Studies students in both social and academic settings. The topics covered by the course will include: Women's Work in China, Marriage and the Family, Women in Buddhism and Women in Chinese Literature.

Included Activities: The group will take several guided tours to sites of historical and cultural interest, including the Great Wall, the Panda research center, the Dunhuang caves and the Qiu Emperor's Tomb of Terra Cotta Warriors in Xi'an.

Room and board: While visiting at the universities we will stay in dormitories on campus. At other times we will stay in hotels. The class fee includes all dormitory and hotel fees. While we are staying on campus we will take two meals a day in the dining hall. On other occasions we will eat in restaurants. Group meals are included in the fee.

Academic Credit: You will enroll in a 500-level SDSU class before leaving the United States, and will earn 3 units for this trip. Drs. Doreen Mattingly and Sandra Wawrytko will serve as program leaders. They will oversee the quality of your education, provide additional lectures and reading materials, and coordinate travel and excursions in China.

Text Books: Books will be available at KB Books and the Aztec Bookstore. The book list and assignments will be available by February, 2004.

Pre-Trip Meetings: There will be three required pre-trip meetings to provide basic background and watch videos about women in China and the sites we will visit. We will arrange the time and place once the group of students is finalized.

Required Documents: By March 1 you must have a valid passport with at least 6 months remaining before the expiration date. All students will need to obtain a visa for travel to China; visa application forms will be provided. Passport and visa fees are **not** included in the program cost.

Fees: The total estimated cost for the trip is \$3,200. This includes university registration fees, program expenses, lodging, meals, airfare and travel insurance. The breakdown is below:

<i>SDSU enrollment fees</i> (\$150 per unit, 3 unit course)	<i>\$ 450</i>
<i>Program Fees</i> (Includes lodging, all meals, travel insurance, cultural activities, and excursions)	<i>\$ 1,250</i>
<i>Air Travel</i> (Estimated cost for San-Diego-Beijing-Chengdu-Dun Huang-Xi'an-Beijing-San Diego)	<i>\$1,500</i>

Fees do not include: Fees for passport and visa, books, spending money, and personal effects.

Application and registration:

- To apply please complete the attached application form and return it by **February 2, 2004** to either Dr. Doreen Mattingly or Dr. Sandra Wawrytko (full address below).
- You will be informed of the decision by **February 16, 2004**.
- All students taking the class must pay a non-refundable deposit of \$500 by **March 1, 2004**.
- A second payment of \$1000 is due by **April 1, 2004**.
- All fees must be paid in full by **May 1, 2004**

For more information please contact:

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Department of Women's Studies and Department of Asian Studies
San Diego State University
Travel Study through the College of Extended Studies

Women in China May 17-June 6, 2004

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(subject to modification due to flight availability)

May 17: Depart

May 19-24 Beijing

Stay on the historic campus of Peking University. Our schedule will include lectures from Beijing University professors about women's status in China, presentations from representatives of Chinese women's organizations, and social gatherings with Chinese scholars. In addition, we will visit the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square, and the Summer Palace.

May 25-29: Xi'an

No visit to China is complete without a visit to the historical capital of Xi'an. Once the largest city in the world, Xi'an is linked to the West by the Silk Road. We will explore this historic city and visit the site of excavation of the vast army of terracotta warriors and horses from the tomb of China's First Emperor, Qin Shi Huang.

May 30-31 Dunhuang

This ancient city in the Gobi Dessert is located on the historic Silk Road, and is one of the most important Buddhist locations in China. It features the Dunes of the Singing Sands and the legendary Mogao Caves with colorful sculptures and paintings of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas plus depictions of social activities spanning 1,000 years, including many important portrayals of women.

June 1-June 5: Chengdu

Home of Sichuan Normal University, this city is the capital of Sichuan Province and the commercial and political hub of southwestern China. We will stay on the campus of Sichuan Normal University. In addition to lectures from scholars and meetings with representatives from women's organizations, we will travel to the Panda Research Station and visit several sites in and around Chengdu.

June 6: Return to San Diego.

Department of Women's Studies and Department of Asian Studies
San Diego State University
Women in China, May 17-June 6, 2004
Application

Name as it appears on passport: _____ Date: _____

Major: _____ Year in school: _____

Local address: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Passport? Yes No Country of citizenship: _____

Passport number if yes: _____

Asian Studies/ Women's Studies classes taken: _____

Previous travel experience: _____

Vegetarian or other dietary needs: _____

Do you need financial aid (if available)? Yes No

Attach: 500-750 word essay explaining what you expect to find in China and why you want to go.

Please return this form and your essay by **February 2, 2004** to Dr. Doreen Mattingly or Dr. Sandra Wawrytko

You will be informed of the decision by **February 16, 2004**

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