Coming up in the New Semester

The 2012 spring semester is loaded with many exciting activities, centered on EAS launching its “three strikes”:

- Staging one cultural performance (Taiko Drumming in February–March);
- Inviting two speakers: Susan Burns of University of Chicago on March 29 and Zhu Feng of Beijing University on April 17; and
- Preparing three study abroad projects: a trip through the Silk Road to China's West; returning with an internship at Yew Wah Middle School in Shanghai after the first successful one in 2011; and the first-ever summer school at Fudan University in Shanghai, which offers Wittenberg students 6 full scholarships for studying Chinese culture, history, economics and language for five weeks. East Asian Institute is helping all three projects.

Meanwhile, EAS faculty will complete two hirings. One is an international business faculty member with an East Asia focus, partially supported by a three–year, $230,000 grant from the Japan Foundation. The other is a Korea specialist for 2012–13, supported with a grant from the Luce Foundation.

Before any of the above–mentioned events are done, faculty and students will celebrate the new lunar year with East Asian folk songs, dances, food, and games on Saturday, January 28.

Student Achievement

There are many things to celebrate at this annual EAS event, not only because of the coming of the Year of the Dragon (龙年), but also because of the accomplishments of EAS students and faculty members. In the past semester, Erica Davis (EAS and Chinese majors) and Jordan Leishman (EAS
**Student Achievement**
-Continued from page 1

major) were both awarded the CIEE / U.S. Department of Education, International Education Program Service–Fulbright–Hayes Group Projects Abroad (GPA) Project grants to study in China in the spring of 2012. These highly competitive awards were won in the wake of Bradley Roberts (class of 2011) winning first prize at the U.S. national Chinese language competition in April 2011 and third prize among 118 international university contestants at the 10th Chinese language competition in July–August in China.

**Professional Activities**

Prof. Shih–Ming Li Chang (Theater and Dance) just finished the manuscript of her co–authored book with Prof. Lynn Frederiksen of Smith College on Chinese folk dance and submitted it to the publisher (Wesleyan University Press).

On January 12, 2012, Prof. Howard Choy (Chinese Language and Culture) gave a talk titled “Food, Family and Festivals in Chinese culture” for the Global Education and Peace Network in Springfield. It attracted a large crowd that “refused” to disperse long after the talk was over (too many questions). Choy’s innovative and provocative research also got an early takeoff when his proposed panel, entitled "Cultural and Linguistic Translations: Chinese, Tibetan, and Japanese," was accepted for the March 2012 AAS annual meeting in Toronto.

Yu Bin (Political Science) managed to get several pieces published in the past month including a book chapter on the Russian military operations in the two Chechnya Wars in Andrew Scobell, ed.,

"Other People’s Wars" (Carlisle: U.S. Army War College Press, December 2011); an article, “From Sovietology to Russianology: The Agony of the Switch [转型的迷茫与困惑],” in *Russian Studies* [俄罗斯研究], vol.172, no.6 (East China Normal University, December 2011); and an article, “Between Geo–Economics and Geo–Politics” in the journal of *Comparative Connections* vol. 13, no. 3 (January 2012) by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington D.C.

**Student Notes**

Students, too, were busy in the past semester. Everyone worked very hard in making the Ghost Story Night the biggest (15 performances) and best it was ever been!

The EAS Club was also getting itself to new territories. It was able to resurrect the Radio Show on WUSO, playing Asian Music from China, Korea, and Japan and talking about music news from all three countries. It also hosted several speaking and performing activities: Rose Chen gave an "All about My Life in China" presentation to the EAS Club and Rebecca Neuman gave a shakuhachi (Japanese flute) performance.

The Martial Arts Club held their first testing/promotion for Tae Kwon Do on Halloween. Its members traveled to St. Louis to attend Japanese arts seminars (Bujinkan Budo Taijutsu) and hosted the same art seminar on Witt campus.