time and effort on maintaining the fish stocks, on feeding, on disease control, and on the control of emergency situations such as daybreak oxygen depletion, sudden lowering of temperature, etc. Without this additional effort, a low production or mass dieout can occur. We were fortunate that no such adverse events happened during our experiment. In part, this can be attributed to my Chinese field coordinator, who was very capable and took good care of stocking and harvesting the fish, coordinating field members, supervising maintenance staff and advising them of the appropriate fish feeding schedule, and warning them of possible adverse developments in ponds.

The problem that I found most frustrating in carrying out this research was the frequent interruption of electric power. Even when power was available, the voltage could be extremely unstable. Many instruments and the microcomputer were adversely affected by problems related to power supply. As a result, computer circuits and laboratory instruments were burned or damaged, and computer hardware failed earlier than its expected lifetime. Two sets of instruments were usually needed to prevent interruptions in the experiments. A set of data might have to be entered into the computer several times, since each time the power was interrupted the information entered but not yet stored was lost.

The Chinese have a long history in integrated pond culture practice, and have used these techniques with great efficiency. The experience working with them and learning their way of attaining high yields in fish production is unique and not obtainable elsewhere. At the same time, the information and ideas that we provided to them, as well as the American approach to conducting research, has had a gradual and significant effect on the way that they think and do research in aquaculture. As for this project, the new ideas and scientific accomplishments resulting from the research excited all the participants, and we are planning further joint research for 1987.

CCP History Studies at Qinghua University

Marilyn Levine

Marilyn Levine, a 1985 graduate of the University of Chicago department of history, is currently in France continuing her postdoctoral research on Chinese communism in Europe, 1919–1925. From September until December 1985 she was affiliated with the social sciences department at Qinghua University.

Introduction

My three research objectives in China in the fall of 1985 were: to read and collect material unavailable in the United States, interview surviving members of the European Branches of the Chinese Communist Organizations (the ECCO),* or their relatives, and hold discussions with Chinese scholars on various related historical issues. Due to the guidance and energetic efforts of Professors Liu Guisheng and Zhu Yuhe of the social sciences department at Qinghua University,

Liu Guisheng and Marilyn Levine at the Great Wall. Photo courtesy of Marilyn Levine.

* The ECCO consisted of a European Branch of the Chinese Communist Youth Corp (ECYC) and a European Branch of the Chinese Communist Party (ECCP). Established in 1922, these organizations included members from France, Germany and Belgium. Among the founders were Zhou Enlai, Li Weinian, Zhao Shiyan, Liu Bojian, Chen Yannian, Zheng Chaolin, Liu Qingyang, Zhang Shenfu, Yin Kuan, and others. Later members included Deng Xiaoping and Nie Rongshen, Early Marxists who were deported or left Europe before the formal organization included Chen Yi, Cai Hesen, Xiang Jingyu, Li Lisan, Luo Xuezan, and others.
over 20 interviews were conducted, including one interview with the only living survivor of the founding meeting of the ECCO, Zheng Chaolin (in Shanghai); numerous discussions were held; and a broad array of written materials were studied. All of the research and interviews were conducted in Chinese.

Social Sciences at Qinghua University

I came to China at an opportune moment, when academic relations between China and the US had really begun to flourish. In this regard, Qinghua University and the department of social sciences were gracious hosts, welcoming me with a traditional banquet, providing for my transportation needs, and giving me immediate access to materials I had requested. I discovered after arriving in Beijing that I was the first foreigner to be formally affiliated with the social sciences department at Qinghua University. *

The social sciences department at Qinghua is experiencing the first reemergence of liberal arts since the 1950s, when following the Soviet model of education, technical and liberal arts were divided, and the liberal arts departments were dispersed to other universities. Since the late 1970s the social sciences department has been rebuilt through small sections, such as the revolutionary history teaching and research materials section. The department of social sciences was finally established formally two years ago. Zhang Mujin, now the vice president of Qinghua University, had formally been the department chairman, and the department is now expanding under the leadership of Jia Guan, the current chairman.

There are over 70 faculty members teaching in the social sciences department, and they are largely involved with teaching modern Chinese and world revolutionary history. While I was at Qinghua the department sponsored a one-week seminar on the curriculum for revolutionary history, which was attended by over 100 teachers from all over China. They came to hear lectures given by the Qinghua staff and to look at materials developed for teaching. The social sciences department, which occupies the fifth floor of a modern building housing several other departments, including the architecture and computer science departments, also possesses sections on philosophy, economics, and the history of Chinese thought, as well as the revolutionary history teaching and research materials section (where I did my work). Each had its own library and section head, as well as a central departmental library. Future plans include an expansion in floor space, and possibly the growth of individual departments.

My reasons for conducting research at Qinghua University were: 1) Qinghua University had published a four-volume compendium on the ECCO, which I used for my dissertation; 2) Qinghua has two professors (it previously had three) who researched ECCO history; and 3) the revolutionary history teaching and research materials section at Qinghua has the most extensive collection of ECCO materials in existence, including reprinted material collected in France. I had established direct contact with Professor Liu Guisheng while still working on my doctorate, and after being aided by an introduction from Dr. Susanne Weigel-Schwiedrzik (University of Bochum, Köln, Germany), I was invited by Prof. Liu to conduct my postdoctoral research at Qinghua. I had originally presented him with a precis of my work (in Chinese), and had written him in specific detail about my objectives.

Written Materials

My research was aided by the centralization of CCP history materials in the revolutionary history teaching and research materials section, which was my official sub-unit at Qinghua. As access to materials was often direct and very quick, I finished looking through my requested list of materials sooner than I’d anticipated, and with Professor Liu’s advice began a second list. Wang Rongyuan, the administrative assistant of the revolutionary history teaching and research materials section, also recommended books relevant to my research and later accompanied me on several book buying expeditions. Towards the end of my stay she found a source no one else was able to locate (from the department central library), which I had especially wanted to read.

Having faculty affiliation status I was also allowed to photocopy materials (using the standard faculty forms for photocopying) with the only exclusion being materials that were obtained from other educational institutions and would have violated the terms of their accession. and of course, neibu ("internally classified") material.

ECCO Interviews

Although Prof. Liu Guisheng is currently concentrating on Ming-Qing history, his generosity in obtaining interviews for me was extraordinary. And Prof. Zhu Yuhe, who is still involved in ECCO research, performed a miracle when he went through four different levels of official authorization to obtain an interview with Zheng Chaolin, founding member of the ECCO. I should stress that both Professors Liu and Zhu had already interviewed or written to most of the interview

* The foreign population at Qinghua in fall 1985 included about 100 students, of which there were four Westerners: two from North America (in the architecture department), and two from Europe (architecture and physics). In addition, there were about 20 Westerners who taught English and lived in a separate dormitory.
subjects, and had little intellectual need to spend their
time arranging interviews or to accompany me to these
sessions (which they both graciously did).

Having researched the ECCO since the winter of
1982, it was fascinating to meet with several of the
participants who ranged in age from 85 to their early
90s. For example, I was fortunate to have several
meetings with Sheng Cheng (b. 1899), who was a
founding member of the French Communist Party
(PCF) and was the second Chinese to be awarded the
Legion of Honor medal by the French government.
Sheng Cheng (see photo), who speaks both French
and English, has the most remarkable memory, and
drew me street maps of various locations in Paris from
the year 1927! Full of vitality, Sheng is currently at
the Beijing Languages Institute researching the rela-
tionship of the Malay language to Chinese.

The most crucial interview was held in Shanghai
with Zheng Chaolin, the only survivor of the founding
meeting of the ECCO, also in his mid 80s. Because of
the sensitivity of this interview, as Zheng (a close
follower of Chen Duxiu) was only released from an
almost 30-year imprisonment in 1979, a political ob-
server from the government was present, and questions
were submitted beforehand. During the interview I
encountered my first “no,” as the political observer
would not allow me to borrow one of Zheng’s personal
manuscripts on Yin Kuan (which to be fair, was marked
neibu). In any case, I learned some important facts
and confirmed other impressions. Zheng’s mind was
lucid and sharp, and he pointed out when he was
uncertain about a fact.

Scholarly Interchange

This objective was very rewarding, as I met with
Chinese scholars who were researching the ECCO
directly, as well as scholars in other areas of CCP and
Republican history.

Being at Qinghua University had the immediate
advantage of having contact with Liu Guisheng and
Zhu Yuhe. Since I had several disagreements with
their previously published articles, we had spirited
debates. Each Friday afternoon Liu Guisheng, Zhu
Yuhe, and Liu’s graduate students Cai Lesu and Yue
Shengyang came to my room and we held historical
dialogues, ranging from the nature of history, to ECCO
matters, to the agricultural reform policy of the CCP
after 1927. Liu and Zhu have all argued in the national
press for a “depoliticization” of history, and their
compendium (published in 1979) included selections
by non-Communists. Since I only began Chinese stud-
ies in 1979, I was very ready to learn from Professors
Liu and Zhu, and I was not prepared for their open
and enthusiastic response to my ideas. They were not
just “being polite,” but really listened to my theories
and suggestions, and also gave me very valuable
feedback and encouragement.

I was very privileged to travel with Professor Liu
to Tianjin, which is the most important center of Zhou
Enlai studies, and also a center of ECCO research.
We visited the soon-to-open Zhou Enlai Memorial
Museum (at the former site of Nankai High School),
and during the evening gathered faculty from both
Tianjin University and Nankai University to brain-
storm and exchange views on ECCO and Zhou Enlai
research.

Lastly, Professor Liu also arranged for professors
from other universities and research institutes to come
to Qinghua to give me lectures on special topics
relevant to ECCO research and extended areas. This
was highlighted by two special sessions with Li Xin
(Director, CASS Modern History Institute), whose
broad knowledge I was allowed to tap through a series
of questions I had submitted.

Every interview differed in scope and objective, but
I always found something relevant to my understanding
of the ECCO and Chinese history in general.

Marilyn Levine at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.
Left to right, Hou Junchu, Li Zongyi, and Ding Shouhe.
Photo by Zhu Yuhe.

China Exchange News
Conclusions

It is my impression that resources at Qinghua University, in general, are not open to outside foreign scholars, and that access varies from department to department. Since I was not only the first, but the only foreigner at the social sciences department, I would hesitate to make any conjecture about future opportunities for researchers there. However, a few suggestions to other foreign scholars emerge from my experiences at Qinghua. First, correspond with someone who is involved in your area of specific study. Professors Liu, Zhu, and I all felt a common interest in promoting ECCO studies. Second, both before and during your research trip, make a detailed plan, week by week, with specific objectives. This way your host can more easily help you obtain your goals. Third, allow some patience with yourself. There were times when I did not understand everything, but rather than making a judgment or a comment, I waited until I began to understand the situation before I interrupted with questions.

Last, it was my impression from several discussions with other foreign scholars, as well as my own experience, that there is a trend towards more open scholarship in the PRC, as Chinese scholars are wary and yet eager to adhere to the current policy of "seek truth from facts." We also have a responsibility to the truth, and the more constructively (not arrogantly) open we can be with our Chinese colleagues, the quicker and broader will be our understanding of Chinese studies.

CSCPRC PROGRAMS

CSCPRC Announces National Program of Scholarly Exchanges With The People's Republic of China

This program offers support for visits to China by scholars and advanced graduate students in the sciences, engineering, social sciences, and humanities. The Graduate and Research Programs support American scholarly interests through sponsorship of long-term study and research in China in the social sciences and humanities. The Visiting Scholar Exchange Program provides a limited number of awards for short-term research and lecture visits for American and Chinese scholars in all disciplines, including the natural and engineering sciences. Application is open to US citizens and permanent residents regardless of national origin, race, sex, or religious affiliation. Funding is provided by the United States Information Agency, Department of Education, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Science Foundation, and the Starr and Ford Foundations.

Requires Chinese language proficiency acquired through at least three years of college-level study or its equivalent, preferably including time in a Chinese language environment such as Taiwan

Involves a minimum tenure of one academic year, beginning September 1987

Research Program

Offers support for individuals in the social sciences and humanities with the Ph.D. or equivalent at the time of application

Supports in-depth research on China, the Chinese portion of a comparative study, or an exploratory survey of an aspect of contemporary China

Supports limited research in Hong Kong or elsewhere in East Asia to supplement research within the PRC

Normally involves tenure of two months to a year, beginning no earlier than July 1987 and ending no later than December 1988

Gives preference in selection to those who have not previously participated in the program but encourages former participants to apply on the basis of publications derived from an earlier visit

Graduate Program

Offers support for individuals enrolled in a graduate program in the social sciences and humanities to do coursework in an academic discipline at a Chinese university

Offers support for individuals with the M.A. for social sciences and humanities coursework and/or dissertation research at a Chinese university

Visiting Scholar Exchange Program

Supports short-term (one- to three-month) visits for scholars in all disciplines

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