



T'ang Studies Society

Founded in 1983
Website: www.tangstudies.org
EIN: 35-1534995

President: Anthony DeBlasi
Treasurer: Manling Luo
Secretary: Jonathan Skaff
Journal Editor: Nicholas M. Williams

January 30, 2025

Dear T'ang Studies Society Members:

I am writing to report on the activities of the Society during 2024 and alert you to upcoming events in 2025. During the past year the Society has undertaken most of our usual activities. In addition, the Board of Directors and Society's officers have been actively engaged in planning ambitious events for this coming year. Before getting to those activities, I would like to share the very good news that once again we reached a new record of 182 members. So, let me welcome our new members and express my gratitude to our long-term members for their continuing commitment to the Society.

As is traditional, I'll begin my round-up of the year with the results of last spring's election. The Society continues to have a committed membership, which once again translated into members willing to stand for election to the Board of Directors. We welcomed three members to the Board. Two are serving their first terms on the Board: Jenny Chao-Hui Liu and Imre Galambos. And returning to the Board is the former editor of *Tang Studies*, Chris Nugent. I also extended the Society's gratitude to James Benn, Megan Bryson, and Michelle Wang for their service as their terms on the Board came to an end.

The Tang Studies Society Annual Meeting and Reception at AAS in Seattle was as well attended as ever. I was glad to have the opportunity to see so many of you and converse with you on matters both serious and fun.

The core activity of the Society remains the publication of the journal. Issue 42 appeared this past November, so it is now available on Project Muse. For those of you receiving the hard copy, it should have reached your mailboxes by this point. If you paid dues for 2024 and have not received your copy of the journal, please email the secretary as soon as possible (admin@tangstudies.org), so we can remedy the situation.

The Society's commitment to supporting scholarly activities also continued during 2024. Thanks to the continuing generosity of the Elling O. Eide Center and the Tang Research Foundation, we are again running all our grant programs for 2024: Research Grants, Scholarly Production Grants, and Conference Travel grants. The Call for Proposals went out a bit later than usual, so please consider submitting an application if you have an eligible project since the deadline has not yet passed.

In addition to the grant programs, the Board has devoted significant organizational work to its full-field conference that will be held at the Eide Center in Sarasota, Florida at the end of the April this year. The conference theme is "Questioning Boundaries: Contemporary Approaches to Tang China." We are exceedingly grateful for the very generous support of the Tang Research Foundation for the conference as well as the continuing support of the Eide Center. The program will be distributed in the coming weeks with registration information for those of you who are interested in attending to hear the presentations of research.

The 2025 TSS Annual Meeting and Reception will once again be held in conjunction with AAS, this year in Columbus, Ohio. We will meet during our traditional Saturday night slot: Saturday, March 15, 2025, from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. in the Charles Massey meeting room of the Hilton Columbus. If you will be in Columbus, I hope to see you there. This year, the Society is also sponsoring two panels at the conference: "Middle Period Manuscript Poetry in Chinese: Verses from the Margins of the Canon" (Thurs, March 13, 7 pm, Hyatt, Madison Rm.) and "Literary Work: The Poetics and Rhetoric of Bureaucracy in Tang China" (Sat., March 15, 8:30 am, Conv. Center Rm. 240/241). I encourage you to attend both if they fit your schedule.

Address: Anthony DeBlasi Humanities 244 Department of East Asian Studies
University at Albany 1400 Washington Street Albany, New York 12222 USA

Before the Annual Meeting, there is another important contribution you can make to the Society. Member participation in the election of the Board of Directors is crucial to our work. This year we will once again use an all-electronic voting procedure. The election will employ the secure ElectionRunner online election website. To help you prepare for voting, I am including with this message the candidates' short biographies for your reference. You will receive an email notification at the beginning of the voting period. As usual, please choose THREE candidates (there is also space for write-in-candidates) and submit your vote. The election will run from Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00 a.m. until Wednesday, February 12 at 11:55 p.m. Eastern time. Please be sure to cast your vote before that end date. If you have any questions, feel free to email the Secretary, Jonathan Skaff at admin@tangstudies.org.

As always, we ask that you please consider submitting your work for publication in *Tang Studies*. The Society's website has submission guidelines and procedures: <http://tangstudies.org/Journal.html>. Submissions should be sent to Nick Williams at editor@tangstudies.org. If your institution's library does not currently subscribe to the journal, please encourage it to do so. Information on institutional subscriptions with JHUP can be found at the following URL: <https://www.press.jhu.edu/journals/tang-studies>. Remember that all current members have access to the journal's contents online. Members will receive instructions for activating their account along with the 2025 online access code when they renew their memberships. As always, we ask that you respect the copyright interests of the Society and its publishing partners by not sharing your username and password.

We are now also beginning the collection of dues for 2025. Timely renewal of your membership enables us to maintain contact with you and provides for uninterrupted access to the benefits of the Society, including your journal subscription, eligibility for grants, and the opportunity to participate in Society elections. Please take a few moments at your earliest convenience to renew your membership for 2025, which will also ensure that you receive volume 43 when it is published toward the end of the year. Also, if you have colleagues or graduate students working in the field who are not members, please encourage them to join the Society now. The larger the membership, the more vibrant the Society will be and the more it can do to promote the field. If you are not sure about the current status of your membership, please email Secretary Jonathan Skaff.

Dues may be paid via PayPal, using the link on the Society's website, or checks drawn on U.S. banks via mail. Regular membership is \$35 per year, and student membership is \$20 per year. Regular members can opt to renew for one, two or three years. Of course, Life Memberships remain an option if you can consider that. Because of U.S. banking laws, we cannot accept checks or money orders drawn on non-U.S. banks, so most non-U.S. members will want to use the PayPal option. If your contact information has changed, be sure to notify us. For more information on membership and payment, see:

<http://www.tangstudies.org/Membership.html>

Dues payments by check should be mailed to the Treasurer, Manling LUO, at the following address:

Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Indiana University
355 North Eagleson Avenue, GISB 2058, Bloomington, IN 47405 USA

If you choose to renew by mail, please also send an e-mail to the Treasurer (luom@indiana.edu) to alert her of that fact so we can process your renewal and get your online access to the journal registered as quickly as possible. Check processing time can be a bit slow, and we do not want your membership delayed by that fact.


As with last year, members who would prefer to limit their access to the digital platform and forego the hard copy may choose "Digital Only" in the Journal Option drop down menu when paying their dues via PayPal. If you are paying by check, you may indicate "Digital Only" on the check memo line.

Other correspondence and inquiries should be sent to the Secretary, Jonathan Skaff, at the following address:
History/Philosophy Department, Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257 USA jkskaf@ship.edu

You can also reach us at admin@tangstudies.org

Once again please note the date of the upcoming Annual Meeting on March 15, 2025, at 9:00 p.m. We strongly encourage you to attend to learn more about the activities we have planned for the coming year (not to mention spending convivial time with colleagues). We will send a reminder as the date approaches. We hope to see you all there!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony DeBlasi". The signature is written in black ink and includes a stylized flourish at the end.

Anthony DeBlasi
President