

HRIC IN ACTION | MARCH–OCTOBER 2008

ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

MARCH 10–15

United Nations Human Rights Council | GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

HRIC Law Program Director Elisabeth Wickeri and Program Officer Carol Wang met with and briefed UN special mechanisms staff who work on the mandates of:

- the independence of judges and lawyers,
- the rights of minorities,
- violence against women,
- arbitrary detention, and
- religious freedom.

Ms. Wickeri and Ms. Wang also collaborated with other non-governmental organizations attending the session.

MARCH 12

European Parliament Tibet Intergroup | STRASBOURG, FRANCE

Program Officer Carol Wang presented “Countdown to the Olympics: Treatment of Tibetans in the Context of Increasing Repression.” Ms. Wang contrasted the Chinese repression of Tibetans over the past year with China’s Olympic promises of improving human rights and highlighted incidents of harassment, detention, and censorship of groups such as petitioners, environmentalists, journalists, and human rights activists. HRIC provided the Intergroup with recommendations on how to help make the impact of the Olympic Games a positive one.

In Tibet the consequences [of official information control] are often more serious because of the increased level of sensitivity regarding nationalism and state unity. This is exacerbated by the Party’s tendency to label all peaceful expression of cultural or religious identity or concerns as political issues of ‘separatism.’ As a result, this creates a culture of fear, where Tibetans live under conditions of heightened repression and sharp restrictions which further undermine their ability to participate in the political arena.

—HRIC, March 12, 2008

APRIL 6–9

World Movement for Democracy: “Making Democracy Work: From Principles to Performance” | KYIV, UKRAINE

Executive Director Sharon Hom attended the five-day event that included more than 500 democracy and human rights activists from around the world. Ms. Hom participated in a number of sessions that focused on new strategies for the promotion of democracy, and the practical needs of civil society actors working on democracy and human rights issues. She also served as a rapporteur for the session “Securing Civil Society Space: How to Respond to Violations of Conventions, Treaties, and Declarations?”

APRIL 11

Tällberg Conversation: “In Search of Common Sense—Leadership Beyond the Conflicts of Interest” | NEW YORK CITY

Executive Director Sharon Hom participated in this discussion at the Scandinavia House to help develop the themes of the annual Tällberg Forum in Sweden, at which leaders and thinkers from around the world gather to explore the opportunities and challenges of global interdependence. She spoke as part of a panel discussion titled, “Responsibilities that leadership must assume,” along with James Hansen, the director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, Nayan Chanda, the author and editor of Yale Global Online, Yale Center for the Study of Globalization, and Franziska Seel, the executive director of the Global Youth Action Network.

APRIL 18–19

World Press Freedom Committee Conference: “Beijing Olympics 2008: Winning Press Freedom” | PARIS, FRANCE

Program Associate Charlie McAteer and Executive Director Sharon Hom attended the event, which was co-sponsored by HRIC and a coalition of press freedom organizations. Ms. Hom spoke on and moderated the panel “Trading with China: What risks, responsibilities, opportunities?” The panel focused in particular on Internet censorship and surveillance in China. HRIC also submitted a white paper, “Beijing’s Legal Obligations as Olympics Host: A Human Rights in China Briefing Paper.”

From the beginning of its Olympics bid, China set high expectations. Promises made by government officials and Olympics organizers were influential in Beijing’s successful bid. . . . These promises represent a range of commitments to the IOC, the Chinese people, and the international community, including commitments on human rights, social and economic development, and press freedom. Yet, since then, the Chinese authorities have changed their tune, stressing “sovereignty” and that the “Games are only about competition and athletes.” . . . Reflecting irresponsible historical amnesia, the IOC, corporate sponsors, and even foreign governments are echoing this official Chinese line. With the billions of dollars already invested in or expected as profit from the Games, it is clear that changing the rules mid-game has become rhetorically—and politically—acceptable.

—Beijing’s Legal Obligations as Olympics Host: A Human Rights in China Briefing Paper
<http://www.beijing2008conference.com/articles.php?id=38>

MAY 27

European Parliament Subcommittee on Human Rights Hearing | BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Executive Director Sharon Hom participated via teleconference in a hearing of the Subcommittee regarding the outcomes of the EU-China Summit and EU-China Dialogue. She noted in particular the problematic message sent to the Chinese authorities when the EU, under pressure from the Chinese government, did not invite civil society organizations focusing on human rights issues in China to the EU-China Human Rights Seminar.

SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS

JUNE 4

Nineteenth Anniversary of the June Fourth Tiananmen Crackdown | HONG KONG

The HRIC team distributed its June Fourth special resource packet at a candlelight vigil in Victoria Park that gathered approximately 48,000 people, commemorating the sacrifices of the Tiananmen Square protesters nineteen years earlier.

MONTH OF JUNE

United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention | NEW YORK CITY

HRIC submitted two cases to this independent international body of human rights experts, to bring attention to the arbitrary detention of these individuals in violation of their human rights. HRIC builds on decisions by the Working Group to push for the release of individuals and raises their cases with governments that participate in human rights dialogues with China, including the European Union (EU), EU member state governments, and the United States (U.S.) government.

JUNE 17

National Endowment for Democracy (NED) 2008 Democracy Award | WASHINGTON, D.C.

Executive Director Sharon Hom participated in a roundtable discussion with leading rights defenders and activists on “Laws, Rights and Democracy in China: Perspectives of Leading Advocates.” She also attended the NED 2008 Democracy Award Ceremony that recognized Chinese human rights activists imprisoned in China, including Chen Guangcheng, Zhang Jianhong, Yao Fuxin, and Hu Shigen.

REACHING OUT TO EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

APRIL 9

NYU Law School Panel: “Behind the ‘Great Firewall’: Internet Restrictions & Chinese Law and Society” | NEW YORK CITY

HRIC Law Program Director Elisabeth Wickeri participated in this panel with Professor Jonathan Zittrain and Ms. Stephanie Wang of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society, and Chinese law professor Donald Clarke. Ms. Wickeri focused on HRIC’s E-Advocacy Project as one example of how to promote freedom of expression through technology.

APRIL 25

Columbia University’s Fourth Annual China Symposium: “Defining Chinese Modernity: Information, Economy, and Environment” | NEW YORK CITY

Executive Director Sharon Hom spoke on contemporary developments in China on the “Regulating Economy and Society” panel. HRIC distributed copies of the “Human Rights in 2008: China’s Olympic Year”

calendar, HRIC's State Secrets report, and copies of *China Rights Forum* to an engaged student and faculty audience of about 400.

One point that could really be a tipping point [in China] for advancing into the future is to begin, as a society and as a government, to address the massive past abuses. And that include: the Anti-Rightist campaign, Cultural Revolution, and June 4, '89 (Tiananmen). When we can look back in time and address those abuses and have the healing that needs to happen, the truth-telling and the investigation to come out from that, then I think that's a major tipping point about accountability and protection of rights. Because you can't protect rights in the present if massive past abuses have not been accounted for.

—Sharon Hom, April 25, 2008

APRIL 30

American Federation of Teachers President's Seminar on International Affairs

| WASHINGTON, D.C.

Executive Director Sharon Hom participated in a panel entitled "China: The 800-Pound Gorilla," which examined labor rights in China and related issues before an audience of approximately 30 educators and union members.

COUNTING DOWN TO THE OLYMPICS

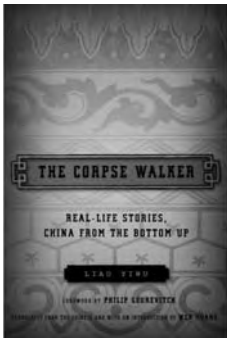
JUNE 19, JULY 2

Panel discussions on the book *China's Great Leap: The Beijing Games and Olympian Human Rights Challenges*, edited by Minky Worden, Media Director, Human Rights Watch | WASHINGTON, D.C.; NEW YORK CITY

Executive Director Sharon Hom participated in two panel discussions. Ms. Hom contributed the chapter, "The Promise of a 'People's Olympics'," which examines the role of the International Olympic Committee and Beijing's obligations as host city. Ms. Hom discussed the themes of the book at a panel organized by the National Endowment for Democracy in June, along with Minky Worden, Sophie Richardson (Asia Advocacy Director, Human Rights Watch), and Han Dongfang (HRIC board member and founding director of China Labor Bulletin); and at Barnes and Noble in New York in July, with Ms. Worden and R. Scott Greathead (HRIC board member and CEO of World Monitors Inc.).

JULY 24**New York City Bar Association Panel: “‘One World, One Dream’ and Many Opinions: Freedom of Expression at the Beijing Olympics” | NEW YORK CITY**

Executive Director Sharon Hom spoke as a panelist, along with Paul Steiger (chairman of the Committee to Protect Journalists) and R. Scott Greathead, to an audience of attorneys and law school students regarding freedom of expression—particularly media freedom—in China in the run-up to the Olympic Games.

SPECIAL EVENTS**JUNE 24****Discussion and Book Signing: *The Corpse Walker: Real Life Stories, China From the Bottom Up* by Liao Yiwu | NEW YORK CITY**

Executive Director Sharon Hom and translator Wen Huang discussed the contents of *Corpse Walker*, which contains the stories of people who live and work at the margins of Chinese society. The event was co-sponsored by Pantheon, the publisher, with opening remarks from Philip Gourevitch, editor of *The Paris Review*. Approximately 75 people attended the event held at the National Arts Club in New York.

JULY 22**HRIC Talk: “Media Censorship and the Sichuan Earthquake” | NEW YORK CITY**

Dr. Peter Kwong—Professor of Asian American Studies and Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College, Professor of Sociology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, and author of many books and articles on Chinese Americans and modern Chinese politics—presented a lunch talk at the HRIC New York office on his experiences filming a documentary in Sichuan province in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake. He spoke about the impact of the earthquake, the obstacles—official restrictions—faced by journalists reporting in the region, and the actions taken by local authorities against Dr. Kwong and his team for filming in the province.

I have never seen that many domestic news sources [reporting events]. . . . There was an extremely aggressive, dynamic reporting going on [in Sichuan]. Even though [the reporters] knew they couldn't go very far . . . They were pushing the envelope from the very beginning. Right after the earthquake, the Central Propaganda Ministry basically ordered no reporters to go to Sichuan, but most agencies ignored the order and sent people in anyway. Once they sent back the story, and when the public read it, there was an overwhelming response, and by that time, the government could not stop it. So in a sense, the government was a reluctant player.

But the initial stories were not damaging to [the government]: the initial stories about the tragedy, about the rescue, about the heroic stuff . . . were really . . . good PR [for the government.] But you could see

very clearly [that] by the second week, the news became more homogenized . . . [and focused] more and more [on] positive things, so [the authorities were] controlling in that sense.

When the parents of those kids who were killed came out, that [was] the first most threatening news that [brought] negative press, and that's when they cracked down. . . .

The freedom of the press in China at this point is very limited. They could map out parameters [where] you could go, but beyond certain parameters there is no freedom of the press possible. That is because freedom of the press exposes all of those problems that [the authorities] don't want to be exposed. You can't just [say], "let's deal with why this thing collapsed," [because] then you'd get into all kinds of corruption issues. Who is dealing with [the issue]? Why this thing happens? Who is responsible? That's just not an issue that the Chinese [Communist] Party would want to deal with. So, as soon as you hit that, that's the end.

—Dr. Peter Kwong, July 22, 2008

POST-OLYMPICS ASSESSMENTS

This fall, HRIC will organize or participate in a number of events and briefings, including the following, to assess the human rights impact of the Beijing Olympic Games:

OCTOBER 21

"China: Post-Olympics Reflections," New York City

Presentation by Executive Director Sharon Hom, hosted by the New York City Bar Association Foreign and Comparative Law Committee.

OCTOBER 27

"Promoting human rights in China: Post-Olympics Legacy and Opportunities," HRIC Brussels office

Panel discussions on environmental, security, media, and social development issues. Co-sponsored by Human Rights in China (HRIC), International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), and International Campaign for Tibet (ICT).

HRIC SPEAKS

In the period before the Beijing Olympics through the close of the event, HRIC actively engaged the media by:

- Issuing press releases and statements about human rights issues related to the Olympics, breaking stories, and updates on individual cases; and
- Speaking with the print and broadcast media on many Olympics-related topics.

PRESS RELEASES, STATEMENTS, CASE UPDATES: JULY AND AUGUST 2008

July 1, 2008: Rights Lawyers Prevented from Meeting U.S. Congressmen

Beijing authorities prevented prominent rights defense lawyers Li Baiguang (李柏光), Teng Biao (滕彪), and Jiang Tianyong (江天勇) from attending a dinner with U.S. Congressmen Chris H. Smith and Frank R. Wolf.

July 1, 2008: Activist Hua Huiqi and Family Beaten

Beijing public security and state security police, accompanied by more than 30 additional people, broke into the home of Beijing-based house church activist **Hua Huiqi** (华惠棋). threatened him, and beat his family members.

July 8, 2008: Rights Crackdown Intensifies a Month before the Games

The Chinese authorities significantly escalated and broadened their systematic crackdown on rights defense activities, religious and cultural expression, and critical voices. Their efforts to maintain control included targeting health care activists, religious practitioners, and parents grieving for their dead children.

July 9, 2008: HRIC July Take Action: Support Religious Freedom and Cultural Rights for Ethnic Minorities

HRIC highlighted **Tenzin Delek Rinpoche**, a renowned and popular Tibetan Buddhist leader, who is serving a life sentence for “crimes of terror and incitement of separatism.”

July 18, 2008: Detained Rights Activist Huang Qi Formally Arrested

Huang Qi (黄琦) was formally arrested by Sichuan police on Friday, July 18 (detained since June 10). Huang had travelled to the Sichuan earthquake zone and published news about the plight of parents who lost children in the disaster.

July 22, 2008: Crackdown Worsens on Eve of Beijing Games

Just over two weeks before the Olympic Games opened in Beijing, Chinese authorities continued to intensify their efforts, under the banner of a “peaceful Olympics” (平安奥运), to suppress rights activists and other individuals speaking out against repression, including:

- Changsha dissident **Xie Changfa** (谢长发): detained, June 25.
- Datong railway workers rights activist **Liu Jianjun** (刘建军): detained, June 28.
- Tianjin-based dissident **Lü Honglai** (吕洪来): detained, July 9.
- tianwang64.com founder **Huang Qi** (黄琦): arrested, July 18.
- Shanghai-based rights defense lawyer **Zheng Enchong** (郑恩宠): questioned by police for eight hours, July 20, 2008.
- Hubei Internet dissident writer **Du Daobin** (杜导斌): detained, July 21.

July 23, 2008: Wife of Jailed “Barefoot Lawyer” Chen Guangcheng Addresses Open Letter to President Hu Jintao

Yuan Weijing (袁伟静) wrote an open letter to President Hu Jintao—released to Human Rights in China—calling on him to remember the plight of her husband, **Chen Guangcheng** (陈光诚), who is serving a four-year-and-three-month sentence for representing rural peasants to protect their rights.

July 25, 2008: Security Forces Detain Rights Activists Huang Xiaomin and Wei Zhenling

State security forces detained **Huang Xiaomin** (黄晓敏) and **Wei Zhenling** (魏桢凌) on July 25, 2008. Huang and Wei are the heads of the Sichuan and Zhejiang branches, respectively, of the Pan-Blue Alliance (泛蓝联盟), an online group of political and rights activists.

July 26, 2008: Imprisoned Activist Ye Guozhu's Release Delayed on Eve of Olympic Games

Jailed housing activist **Ye Guozhu** (叶国柱), due to be released on July 26, 2008, was put under criminal detention for suspicion of gathering a crowd to disturb public social order.

July 28, 2008: Authorities Denied Bail and Medicines for Detained Activist Huang Qi

Authorities denied permission to detained rights activist **Huang Qi's** (黄琦) wife, **Zeng Li** (曾丽), and mother, **Pu Wenqing** (浦文清), to bring Huang medicine or submit an application for his release on bail.

July 29, 2008: Press Release: Family Visits Still Denied to Sichuan School Teacher Punished after Quake-Zone Visit

Liu Shaokun (刘绍坤), a Sichuan school teacher who photographed collapsed school buildings in quake-affected areas and posted his pictures online, was ordered to serve one year of Reeducation-Through-Labor (劳动教养) (RTL).

August 1, 2008: In Name of "Petitioners Relief Campaign" Local Authorities in Guizhou Deceive Petitioners in Death Case

Under the banner of the nationwide "Petitioners Relief Campaign," authorities in Liupanshui City, Guizhou Province, tricked petitioning couple **Ding Fayou** (丁发有) and **Chen Hong** (陈红), who were seeking redress for Chen's brother who was shot dead by a policeman in May 2006.

August 1, 2008: HRIC August Take Action: Support the Right to Housing in China and Say "No" to Forced Evictions

HRIC highlighted the case of 76-year old **Shuang Shuying** (双淑英), an evictions petitioner, house church activist, and outspoken opponent of the RTL system who is currently serving a two-year term as the oldest inmate in Beijing Women's Prison for "intentional damage of public and private property."

August 6, 2008: Political Prisoner He Depu Writes to IOC President Jacques Rogge

He Depu (何德普), a veteran dissident serving an eight-year prison sentence, appealed to International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Jacques Rogge in a letter released to Human Rights in China by his family. In his letter, He Depu told President Rogge that prison conditions in China had worsened as a result of the Olympic Games, especially for political prisoners.

August 7, 2008: Human Rights Situation in China Worsens as Bush Calls for a More Open Society

The Chinese authorities continue to detain, harass, coerce, and monitor rights defenders and dissidents in different parts of China.

August 11, 2008: In Hiding, Beijing House Church Activist Hua Huiqi Appeals for Help

In an open letter to Human Rights in China, Beijing house church activist **Hua Huiqi** (华惠棋) detailed his abduction on Sunday, August 10, by state security police and appealed for help. Hua was seized on his way to a church service also attended by U.S. President Bush but managed to escape from his captors.

August 19, 2008: Two Beijing Residents Sentenced to Reeducation-Through-Labor After Applying for Permits to Demonstrate in Olympics "Protest Zones"

Beijing petitioners **Wu Dianyuan** (吴殿元), 79, and **Wang Xiuying** (王秀英), 77, were ordered to serve a one-year term of RTL after repeatedly applying for permits to hold demonstrations in the Beijing "protest zones" during the Olympics.

August 24, 2008: 2008 Beijing Olympics: The Price of National Glorification

HRIC examined the social and environmental costs and individual sacrifices resulting from the the Beijing Olympics.

August 26, 2008: Imprisoned Democracy Activist Hu Shigen Released

Chinese authorities released long-term political prisoner and veteran democracy advocate **Hu Shigen** (胡石根), who served sixteen years of a twenty-year sentence.

August 29, 2008: Authorities Relent on Reeducation-Through-Labor Sentence for Elderly Women who Applied for Protest Permit

The Beijing Municipal Reeducation-Through-Labor Decision Committee rescinded its decision to sentence two elderly women, **Wu Dianyuan** (吴殿元), 79, and **Wang Xiuying** (王秀英), 77, to a year of RTL for applying for permits to demonstrate in the officially designated “protest zones” during the Beijing Olympics.

HRIC SELECT INTERVIEW QUOTES | JUNE–AUGUST 2008**On Huang Qi's arrest**

“This is another illustration of how a person who is only trying to help might find himself snared by China's state secrets laws. . . . This use of the law as a sword hanging over rights activists, such as Huang Qi, contradicts the reported ‘new media openness’ in China following the Sichuan earthquake.”

“Chinese human rights website founder arrested,” *The Guardian*, June 17, 2008, <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/jun/17/china.humanrights>.

On increasing crackdown on the eve of the Olympics

“In June, what you saw was an intensification of detentions, of threats, of crackdowns, and of shutdowns of web-sites. That should be of great concern to [Nicolas] Sarkozy as both the president of France and as sitting president of the European Union, and I would imagine to anyone who cares about a stable, open, prosperous China.”

“Sarkozy and China: Playing Games?” *France 24*, July 9, 2008, <http://www.france24.com/en/20080710-debate-china-olympic+games-sarkozy-politics-france&navi=DEBATS>.

On Chinese authorities denying visas to former Olympians

“By denying visas and entrance into China, the government is choosing to lose face in a small way . . . If these people do protest [in Beijing] and garner international attention, [China] would lose face in a big way. There's a lot of anxiety about that.”

“China Denies Visas to Former Olympians,” *ABC News*, August 6, 2008, <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/story?id=5520718>.

On pressing Beijing to fulfill its Olympic promises

“First of all, what the Olympic Committee should do is release the host city contract so there would be some transparency of Beijing in hosting the Olympics. And secondly, the IOC should ensure that the host city complies with the public promises that Beijing made when it was awarded the Olympics.”

“Opening Ceremonies at the Beijing Olympics,” *KCRW's To The Point*, Public Radio International, August 8, 2008, http://www.kcrw.com/news/programs/tp/tp080808opening_ceremonies_a.

“It was the Chinese government and authorities who made promises pre-2001. And they made promises to the International Olympic Committee, to the international community, and to its own people that it would be a green Olympics, a high-tech Olympics, a free and open Olympics, and a People's Olympics. And they meant that it should improve democracy and human rights, and not only for the 15.8 million people in Beijing, but for all of the billion people in China.”

“World Have Your Say: Did China get away with it?” *BBC*, August 25, 2008, <http://worldhaveyoursay.wordpress.com/2008/08/25/on-air-did-china-get-away-with-it>.

On the legacy of the Beijing Olympics

“Part of the story is not finished. So that in October it will depend on whether the foreign media rights, for example, are extended. Will they be extended to domestic journalists? Secondly, we will have a legacy of the infrastructure of the venues. It might be a white elephant that they can’t continue to support. And finally, what I think the biggest legacy will be, is that the security infrastructure that has been built will leave a state-of-the-art surveillance capacity.”

“Beijing - Open for the Olympics?” *Pulse*, *RTHK*, August 8, 2008, <http://www.rthk.org.hk/rthk/tv/thepulse/20080808.html>.

On the sentencing of two elderly petitioners to one year of Reeducation-Through-Labor

“Punishing Wu [Dianyuan] and Wang [Xiuying] after they applied for protest permits and actively petitioned the government demonstrates that the official statements touting the new Olympics ‘protest zones,’ as well as the permit application process, were no more than a show.”

Ariana Eunjung Cha, “Protest Application Brings Labor-Camp Threat, Woman Says,” *Washington Post*, August 21, 2008, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/08/20/AR2008082001095.html>.

HRIC ORGANIZATIONAL NOTES

HRIC welcomed several new staff members over the course of this year:

Mi Ling Tsui joined HRIC as Communications and Media Director. Mi Ling brings to HRIC a journalist's passion for getting the story out and a deep concern about China's human rights situation and its future. Prior to joining HRIC, Mi Ling was a producer and writer of television documentaries with 20 years of experience in U.S. network and public television. Many of her projects were China—or Asia—related. Most recently, from late 2006 to early 2008, she was a specialist researcher on a documentary on China's judicial system for the BBC. She has an MS degree in journalism and MA degree in English literature from Columbia University.

Chen Yu-Jie is HRIC's New York University School of Law 2008 Robert L. Bernstein Fellow in International Human Rights. Yu-Jie received an LL.M. from the NYU School of Law, where she participated in a corporate accountability project with Human Rights Watch and the NYU Law International Human Rights Clinic. Prior to enrolling at NYU, she worked as an attorney for 18 months at Lee and Li, the largest law firm in Taiwan, where she specialized in civil law, construction disputes, and transnational disputes. She was awarded a Master of Law for Civil Law Studies from National Chengchi University in Taiwan, and an LL.B. with honors from the same school in 2000.

Erynn Sarno joined the team as Grants Manager. She earned her B.A. in art history and Asian studies from SUNY New Paltz, and an

A.M. from Harvard University's Regional Studies-East Asia program. She also studied at Middlebury College's Chinese School. She spent three years teaching English in China and interned at a modern art gallery in Beijing. She was a teaching fellow at Harvard University and an adjunct professor in the history department at SUNY New Paltz. Prior to joining HRIC, Erynn worked with several non-profits in New York and the Netherlands.

Hannah Zhao, a Publications and Marketing Associate, obtained her degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Management with a minor in Literature. While in college, she was a columnist for and the editor-in-chief of the campus magazine, and worked for *CITY Magazine* in New York City.

HRIC hosted seven interns over the summer in its New York and Hong Kong offices:

Tiffany Wang is pursuing a J.D. at the University of Michigan Law School. She is a board member of the Student Network for Asylum and Refugee Law and worked in the Cambodian Women's Crisis Center in Phnom Penh last summer as a Cambodian Law Fellow. She received her B.A. in History and Politics at New York University. While at NYU, she studied abroad in London and Prague.

Jane Zhang is pursuing a J.D. at Syracuse University College of Law. She is a Vice-Chair of the International Law Society and a member of the International Law Firm Program. She has worked as a corporate paralegal at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, and interned at Human Rights Watch. She received

her B.A. in Political Science from Barnard College.

Carlton Forbes is a rising senior at Harvard University. He spent the spring of 2008 studying in Shanghai, and has previously interned at the Virginia Supreme Court and at the Legal Aid Justice Center in Richmond, Virginia.

Vincent Hsia is a candidate for a dual master's degree at American University and Korea University, focusing on Asian Studies and International Security. Before graduate school, Vincent taught English to migrant workers in Guangdong and assisted development in rural Anhui. A former freelance journalist, Vincent was a regular commentator at National Public Radio. He holds a B.A. in literature from the University of California at San Diego, and has studied economics at Fudan University in Shanghai.

N.Q. recently earned her B.A. in Chinese and International Relations from Leeds University in the United Kingdom. She has worked as an English tutor in Hong Kong and served as a translator for various companies visiting or operating in China. In the summer of 2007, N.Q. taught English to children aged 3–18 years old in Binzhou, Shandong Province.

E.Y. graduated in 2005 from the College of the Holy Cross with a B.A. in Economics and Chinese Language and Civilization, and is currently a student at Suffolk University Law School in Boston. As an undergraduate, he studied abroad at the Harbin Institute of Technology in Harbin, China, and in 2006 was awarded a fellowship by the Taiwan Ministry of Education to participate in the International Chi-

nese Language Program at the National Taiwan University. E.Y. has interned for a law firm in Hong Kong and for an asset management corporation in Beijing.

P. H. H. graduated in 2007 from the University of Amsterdam with a LL.M. in International and European Law. He then returned home to Taiwan, where he worked as a research assistant and interned with the Taiwanese Association for Human Rights. He will begin an LL.M. in International Human Rights and International Justice at Utrecht University in the Netherlands in Fall 2008.