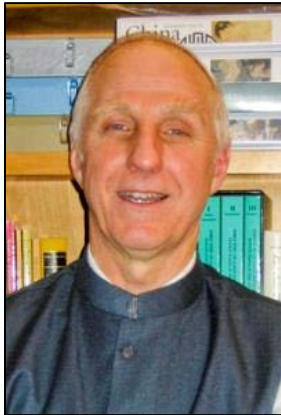


## Victor Mair To Receive Distinguished Asianist Award at 46<sup>th</sup> Annual MARAAS Conference

On Saturday, Oct. 7, 2017, surrounded by dining colleagues all with a shared interest of Asian studies, Dr. Victor Mair will be honored with the Distinguished Asianist Award at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual MARAAS Conference. Following the receipt of his plaque, Dr. Mair will deliver a speech titled, "The Domestication of Tea and Its Spread as a Steeped Beverage."

Dr. Victor H. Mair is Professor of Chinese Language and Literature at the University of Pennsylvania. He spent the first 21 of his career working on Dunhuang manuscripts,



particularly the earliest vernacular narratives called *bianwen* ("transformation texts"). Mair is the author or editor of more than two dozen books, including a translation of the Mawangdui manuscripts of the *Tao te ching* through Bantan Books in 1990; the *Zhuang Zi* or *Wandering on the Way* with Bantam Books in 1994 and the University of Hawai'i Press in 1994; and the *Sun Zi* through the Columbia University Press in 2007, taking into account the Yinqueshan manuscripts. He has also written more than one hundred articles and over three hundred

reviews. Mair is the editor of *Sino-Platonic Papers* and is on the editorial boards of several other Sinological journals. He is the founding editor of the *ABC Chinese Dictionary Series* at the University of Hawai'i Press and the *Encounters with Asia Series* at the University of Pennsylvania Press. Among his many interests are Sino-Indian and Sino-Iranian cultural relations, the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age of Eastern Central Asia, and the origins and evolution of the Chinese script.