

Interviewer: Courtney Tollison

Interviewee: Dr. Edward B. Jones

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TOLLISON: Today is December 8, 2004. My name is Courtney Tollison, and today I'm talking with Dr. Edward B. Jones. Ed Jones, who is a '54 graduate of Furman, came back here in 1956 to teach, and your wife as well is a Furman graduate, she has a BS in biology, right?

JONES: That's right.

TOLLISON: That's Evans Lindsey Jones, and she graduated in 1948.

JONES: Right.

TOLLISON: From 1959 to 1961 you were at Duke [University] completing your doctoral studies and then came back and became very involved with Asian Studies here and with foreign study in general, and so we can definitely get into all the details of how Asian Studies developed here at Furman. Why don't we start off by telling me a little bit about yourself before you got to Furman as a student, where you grew up, this kind of thing.

JONES: Okay, yeah, I grew up in Saluda County, graduated from the county seat high school with a class of about 43 people, big class, went in the Marine Corp, went to China, spent about 16 months there and another lived out there two years in Hawaii, tough duty.

TOLLISON: Oh, sounds like it.

JONES: And then I came back, and I started to Furman in 1949.

TOLLISON: What made you decide to come to Furman?

JONES: I had a brother who was here before me, and he was just graduating I think that same year, and you know, I didn't know any other place to go [laughs]; he told me it was a pretty place to go, and I went.

TOLLISON: Okay, and what was his name?

JONES: Jack [Jones].

TOLLISON: Jack [Jones],

JONES: I don't remember precisely the date of his graduation, but I think it was '49.'

TOLLISON: Mm hmm, okay. So you came to Furman...

JONES: Yeah.

TOLLISON: And you said that your time here was interrupted by the Corp...

JONES: That's right, I was... I finished my freshman year here, and '49-'50, and in June of '50 the Korean War broke out. I was in the Reserves and subject to call-up. I was in summer school at the time, so we couldn't continue through, summer school started the fall term, and I got my call-up shortly after. I was also at a job, and so I asked, I just went through the formality of asking for a deferment until after the end of the term. They wrote back and said, "No." So I, you know, after [inaudible] continued going to classes until about a week before I was supposed to go, went home and visited my family, and came to pick up for football game, and in my mailbox was a note saying I was deferred for the, until the end of the term. So I had to go back and get my job worked out, and that sort of thing, but then I missed a week of classes of course, but finished out the term.

TOLLISON: This was the summer term.

JONES: Summer term, and at then end of... well, no, this was the fall term.

TOLLISON: Oh, okay.

JONES: Then the term, of course, semester went on until about the 1st of February or the end of January, somewhere in there.

TOLLISON: Because back then you all had final exams after the Christmas...

JONES: Oh, after Christmas break, yes, sir. Forgot everything you thought you knew. So then I was reported for duty in the early part of '51 and was gone until, was gone for a year, came back at the spring term second semester of the following year and then finished up after...

TOLLISON: Finished *in* '54.

JONES: '54, yeah.

TOLLISON: Okay, terrific, all right. And tell me a little bit about living on the old campus.

JONES: Well, it was very small, small campus and small student body at the time; must've been about 1,200 students at that time. I actually lived on the campus only one semester, lived in what was the Montague Hall, which is no more of course. Then I moved to a boarding house on University Ridge near there and found that more satisfactory. I was older than the other students, so naturally I didn't fit in with some things they did, so it worked out fine for me [laughs]

TOLLISON: Right

JONES: But the result was that I didn't know very many of my classmates, and also because I had split my time here, graduated in a different class from the one I started out with. But I was never conscious of classes anyway; I just went to classes and got people from all levels in those classes, so it, I never thought of it much that way.

TOLLISON: Did you major in history?

JONES: I majored in history and had a minor in political science. I think I had, oh, I think I took almost everything you can take in history but was more interested in European than American. The first history course on East Asia was then called Far East, that was the terminology at the time, was offered at the beginning of my sophomore year, so I signed up for it. The teacher was a lady named Katherine Chambers. She was a, her field was American and Latin American history, and she went over there for two summers prior to that offering to study Far Eastern history. I never was clear whether it was she who was so farsighted as to see that we needed to have something in Far East history, or if it was Dr. [Delbert] Gilpatrick who was the head of the department and sort of the linchpin of everything at that time.

TOLLISON: Was the class offered on the GWC [Greenville Women's College] campus or the...

JONES: No, it was offered on the men's campus, but of course women took classes on both, and men took classes on both campuses, mostly on the men's campus, of course.

TOLLISON: I was told that it's the men's old campus not the old men's campus [laughs].

JONES: [laughs] Well, the people who went there are old now if they're still alive [laughs]. I thought it was an extremely farsighted thing to do whether it was Katie Chambers or Dr. Gilly [Delbert Gilpatrick] I don't know, but I [inaudible] so therefore, I give them credit for really starting and laying the groundwork for the Asian Studies program. The only other thing that was offered on Asia at that time was, of course, called

World Religions in which, you know, you did a little bit of everything. It's still offered, but it's very different now from what it was then. So I took that, and the institution, that's the course, was interrupted in the middle, and I came back to the other half of it later.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm, gotcha. And you said that you were interested in China even before as a Marine you said [inaudible] you said that you were [inaudible] as a 17-year-old Marine you mentioned that your love of China developed before then.

JONES: Well, it wasn't exactly love, it's a fascination. I remember from third grade geography, can you imagine, you know, geography you took trips to some place, you know, you went to the Philippine Islands, and you went to China, and you went to Japan, you know. The ones that stuck with me were the Philippine Islands and particularly China. And so, you know, I had a sort of fascination for that, and when I enlisted in the Marines, I had no idea what anything, and of course, if somebody had given me a choice I probably would've said, Okay, I'd rather go to Europe, but of course, we didn't have that choice. In those days Europe was an army. Nobody [inaudible] Marines didn't go to Europe except for MC guards and things like that, but so first thing I did was China, and of course, this was late, 1945, just as the war was ending, and they were desperate for replacements for the guys who had been all through the Pacific war, and that's a contradiction of terms, Pacific war. And so, you know, straight out of boot camp, no advanced training or anything and from the time I was, I guess six months after I enlisted I was in China. It was a great experience.

TOLLISON: Wow [laughs], I'm sure that's a whole story in and of itself. We could probably talk about that...

JONES: Well, as a matter of fact, I'm writing a book on that, but it's... and I could give you tons of details on it if you wanted, but it's irrelevant to what you're doing.

TOLLISON: Well, I'll have to read it, and then we can put a copy in this, or include it in one of your files. So back then, you know a history major's [inaudible] so there was no particular, there was no ability, you couldn't concentrate in one field.

JONES: Well, I was [inaudible] yeah, I mean, yeah, it went by your interest. Now there were people that I knew who took as much American history as they could. I took one course in American history. You know it was terribly dumb of me, but I just thought of American history as old hat because I had had a course in American history in high school [laughs].

TOLLISON: In high school [laughs].

JONES: Li was the only history course I had in high school 'cause they didn't offer anything else, and so I took as much European and the West [?] started its Russian history course at that time. I'm sure it was about the same quality as the Far East when I taught it [laughs], but it was unusual, and it was something different, and I enjoyed it very much. Anything that was far out I enjoyed, and so I took Latin American history, you know, whatever, US diplomatic history...

TOLLISON: Did you get your Masters at Duke?

JONES: No, I got my Masters at Chapel Hill.

TOLLISON: Okay

JONES: I went from the fall after I graduated from Furman I went to Chapel Hill, had an additional half-year, semester of GI Bill, so I was able to pay for that; put my wife to work. We got married some time, about the time I was a sophomore at Furman.

TOLLISON: Oh, okay. Mm hmm.

JONES: Right after I came back from my little stint in the Reserves. And so she worked, but we, you know, we majored and took a degree in, Masters Degree, in English history.

TOLLISON: I don't know if you mentioned this on tape, but I'll just go ahead and jump on in and say that you were a Marine for four years before you enrolled at Furman

JONES: Yeah. yeah.

TOLLISON: Okay

JONES: And the additional was after that, yeah.

TOLLISON: Okay, gotcha. So you went to Chapel Hill for two years and got your Masters degree...

JONES: No, for one year. I finished everything except [inaudible] finished the degree in a year and a summer, I mean two terms and a summer. Everything was lined up except I didn't get my thesis in in-time for the fall graduation, and so I had to wait until January to get the actual diploma, whatever it's called. But I got a job teaching at a junior college in Danville, Virginia. It was called Stratford, and it was a junior college. I taught five different subjects [laughs] the first year including Old Testament history.

TOLLISON: Whoa [laughs].

JONES: I mean you know, you do things like that when you're young and stupid and naive [laughs].

TOLLISON: So how did you get back to Furman?

JONES: Well, that's a little bit of a story too. Dr. Gilly [Delbert Gilpatrick] wrote me a letter sometime in the spring or close to the end of the year

TOLLISON: Of '56?

JONES: That would've been '50, yeah '56, in the early part of '56. Yeah, '54, '54 I was in, no...

TOLLISON: You said you came back here in '56.

JONES: Yeah, well it must've been... yeah '54, '55 is when I was at Chapel Hill, '55, '56 at Stratford, and yeah, '56 it was. But he wrote me a letter, it was, you know, old-fashioned, handwritten letter [laughs, and he said [inaudible] well I almost have to give you a little background. The dean at the time was, and I recall his name because I – so you're not gonna publish this with all that kind of stuff – his name was Al Tibbs, and I didn't know much about Dean [Al] Tibbs. He was somebody I knew around campus, never had a course with him, but Dr. [Delbert Gilpatrick] Gilly was one of those imperious sorts of people who was contemptuous of whatever [Al] Tibbs he did. He did a lot of things, I don't know how to explain it. But anyway, that's enough to say about it, but the burden of what he said to me was, "Could you let us know. He said he's got this job, I'm offering you a job." He didn't say it was for a year, but I assumed it was, and he said, "Let us know as soon as you can. We want to make sure this is finalized before Dean [Al] Tibbs has a chance to go out and hire somebody we don't want," [laughs] which is a commentary on how things were done in those days if you think about it. And one of the things he said in the letter was, "We want you to teach freshmen history, but we want you to teach Far Eastern history." Well the extent of [inaudible] you know, you've been to graduate school, you know about these things how ridiculous this is. But he... at the time the extent of my knowledge of Far Eastern history is what I'd learned in the course that I'd had at Furman, never had one in graduate school, there wasn't anything offered at Chapel Hill at the time. But he thought I could teach it, and I was dumb enough to think I could [laughs], so I did. But you know, that's again a

commentary on the level of our thinking, everybody's thinking, at the time. It's just, I mean it's pretty [inaudible] shows you how far we've come [laughs].

TOLLISON: So you came back and you taught freshmen history that was just like a Western Civ.?

JONES: Yeah.

TOLLISON: Okay.

JONES: No, it was Western Civ.

TOLLISON: It was Western Civ.?

JONES: Yeah, yeah.

TOLLISON: And then a Far East...

JONES: Yeah, and of course Western Civ. was two semesters in those days, it was a full year.

TOLLISON: Okay, okay, gotcha. So you did that for a few [inaudible] how long...

JONES: Well, I did that until we moved onto the new campus. That would've been '56... we moved from the campus in the fall of '58 I think. Now there had been – somebody's probably told you there had been classes out here for one of the freshmen classes earlier, I think as early as maybe '56 – but the [inaudible] moved out here, and Dr. [Frank] Bonner asked me to be dorm supervisor for men, one of the men's dormitories over here, P[oteat] Hall. It was a way to save money on rent. I should say the rent on the new campus, on the old campus, I was in prefab [laughs]...

TOLLISON: Oh, I've heard a lot about those prefabs.

JONES: The rent was about \$25 a month, and it was probably worth that much (laughs). But anyway, this was a way to get [inaudible] have a place on campus to live that was, that came with the job, and so I did that for a year, my wife and we had by then a young daughter who was sort of the pet of the dormitory as you might expect. And after that, well the summer before I came out here, went to Duke for a summer seminar on Japan. I think I'm getting that crossed up. I believe that summer the seminar was, that's right, that was the summer [inaudible] went for a special seminar on Japan that was being offered at Duke, it was a, sponsored by some funding agency, I've forgotten. When I got there, that's what I wanted to say, I signed up for two courses, and when I got there, well, the guy who was gonna do that couldn't come, so we had one on India.

TOLLISON: Oh.

JONES: [laughs] I'd never had anything on India, knew anything about India. I took it, enjoyed it, was hooked, and I've been hooked on that ever since.

TOLLISON: That's a great story.

JONES: [laughs] The cookie crumbles some times.

TOLLISON: So this was between...

JONES: That was in the summer of '58, then in the summer of '59 I moved to Durham, and my wife and I moved to Durham. And I started on my PhD. program. At the time, we were required to take 60 hours beyond the Masters degree. They changed the rule just as, you know, for the next group coming in to 30 hours (laughs). So I had to take twice as many courses as most people did.

TOLLISON: And you still did that in two years?

JONES: Well, I did, but I mean I finished the course work in two years. By the way, my wife worked at Duke Hospital. She was in, she worked for one of the doctors who was doing a

research project on, and she was, she was a medical technologist. She supported us. I did the course work in two years, had not finished this dissertation, came back to take up teaching. In fact, I had originally asked to be off for one year, and that wasn't enough, so they let me have another year. I was on leave, and as I said, they came up and said...

TOLLISON: You got tenure when you were actually on leave to finish your doctoral studies.

JONES: And a promotion [laughs].

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: I was promoted to assistant professor at that time. Anyway, I thought well I'd come back and I could work on my dissertation and teach at the same time, and of course, you always find you can't do that.

TOLLISON: What was your dissertation on?

JONES: It was on, let's see, how is it called... it was on an English or Scottish official name Henry Duntas, who was, to put it in terms of American politics, the boss of India. He was in charge, he was overall the supervisor of a board which administered the East India companies, you know, supervised East India company in India. And so this, the imperial ideas of Henry Duntas and his policy toward India. And India in those days included everything east of Suez or east of the cape which meant China, Southeast Asia as well. I had chapters actually on the China trade, and so I did the [inaudible] it was mostly on India, on British policy in India.

TOLLISON: So what were, what were Duke's offerings in terms of Asian Studies

JONES: Duke...

TOLLISON: Far East...

JONES: The reason I went to Duke actually, the reason I chose to go there was the summer seminar attracted me, but there was one person who talked, of course, on Far Eastern history at Duke, and that was the only person, that was the only course in the whole Southeast as far as I could tell. For whatever irrational reason I thought I had to be close enough to home, so I didn't think about the places outside the Southeast. So I went there to study, and his name was Paul Clyde, and he was the author of the textbook I had studied under Katie [Katherine] Chambers, and I was teaching from it. He [inaudible] and I decided [inaudible] went specifically to study under him, but of course, you couldn't get a degree in Far Eastern history at that time, so I signed up for a degree in British history and basically British imperial history. So I kinda crept in by the back door.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm. Gotcha.

JONES: And again, you understand how that works [laughs].

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: It wouldn't work that way now.

TOLLISON: Before I move on to coming back here after you finished your doctoral course work, let's talk a little bit about your memories of President [John] Plyler as a student and then, of course, as a faculty member.

JONES: You've seen pictures of Dr. [John] Plyler, haven't you?

TOLLISON: Mm hmm.

JONES: Have you read John Shelly's article in *Furman* magazine about a religious controversy in the late 1930s?

TOLLISON: Gezork (A German exile who after giving a lecture on both sides of the virgin birth argument. Afterwards he disclosed his own belief leaned towards the validity

of the virgin birth, but could not conclusively say due to his own personal walk with God. The Furman Board of Trustees released him despite student and minister protest. He went to take a teaching position at Andover-Newton Theological Seminary and was featured in Life magazine and in the New York Times for his role in a conference at the Princeton Inn in Princeton, N.J.)

JONES: Gezork, yeah. Those are the circumstances on which he came here. He was a judge. My wife tells me that her daddy who...when he heard that he was gonna [inaudible] [whispering] “What does John Plyler know about?” [laughs] But he was a tall, very distinguished-looking man, white hair, easy to be intimidated by. He just, you know, was aloof and, you know, I’m sure he had a sense of humor, but I didn’t see it at the time. And so I didn’t have much relationship with him. When my wife and I married during my sophomore year, we moved in a couple of, in one of those prefabs down in, on the old campus. These were student prefabs, and they cost \$17.75 per month. I mean that was really expensive.

TOLLISON: Not much less than a [inaudible]

JONES: Right [laughs]. So we had a problem with rodents in that building we were in, and we, you know, did the usual things you do, but my wife went trotting up to Dr. [John] Plyler’s office [laughs]. That was awfully cheeky of her, and she said, you know, “We got rats down there,” she exaggerated. And sure enough, he got somebody down there. Dr. [John] Plyler used to always [inaudible] the thing I remember most about him is he would, even after we moved out here, he’d, you know he’d come to the faculty dinner, and you’d have your name tag on, everybody had a name tag. Dr. [John] Plyler would look over at your name tag and say, “Oh, I hired him too.”

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: [laughs] I always got the sense that he didn’t remember you at all, he just knew you were somebody he was supposed to know [laughs].

TOLLISON: It was a fairly small faculty though, right?

JONES: Oh, it was a very small faculty.

TOLLISON: So you all mostly knew each other.

JONES: Yeah, and Mrs. [Bea] Plyler, of course, was very charming. She, I’m sure, knew.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm, certainly.

JONES: Incidentally, where I lived on University Ridge as a student I was next door to their house.

TOLLISON: Okay, so you saw the boys growing up as well.

JONES: Oh, yeah, yeah. Well, Keith [Plyler] got locked out of his house one night, and I had to climb in their window to get him in [laughs].

TOLLISON: [laughs] Oh, goodness. I’m sure there are some stories [laughs].

JONES: I doubt if they would want that told.

TOLLISON: We can take...

JONES: She probably didn’t remember it.

TOLLISON: [laughs] Alright, let’s jump forward to 19-, let’s see, let’s come back to 1961, 1962 when you came back here. What kind of courses were you teaching then?

JONES: Well, shortly after that, and I don’t remember a precise year. Dr. [Delbert Gilpatrick] Gilly retired the first time, and [inaudible]well, before that actually he turned over the English history to me. I taught English history for [inaudible] that was one of the

courses I was first teaching when I first came back, and I was still teaching the Far East and the freshman history. And I did teach English history until Dr. Fagler came, [Tim] Fehler. You can look up when he came; I forgot when it was, few years before I retired

TOLLISON: Tim Fehler.

JONES: Yeah, he's great isn't he?

TOLLISON: Yes, yes he is, yes he is. In 1965, '66, I'll read the book, mentions an interdepartmental minor in the History Department in non-Western studies. Can you tell me about how that came about?

JONES: Actually, I think that's probably not accurate. We talked about an interdepartmental minor. We talked about lots of things, but I don't believe we ever brought it to fruition. Now, it is true that within the History Department they eventually...

TOLLISON: I'm going to look this up, so we can correct...

JONES: I may have remembered it wrong, but I'm not infallible either, but at some point in the History Department, we designed a major where you had to take x number of course... a minimum of x number of courses of American history, x number of courses in European, and one course in Asia, which was, you know, that was probably balanced at the time because we didn't offer very much in Asia, so you know, but at least they recognized the relevance of it, the subject, and...

TOLLISON: Now does this require a great deal of politicking on your part?

JONES: Not really, no. They were pretty enlightened about it.

TOLLISON: Okay, so the faculty here, even though they're trained in Western colleges and universities and largely Western studies, overwhelmingly Western studies, they were very supportive and recognized the importance of non-Western studies?

JONES: Well now this wasn't true of all across the board, but it was fairly true in the History Department. Again, we could go down the list, and we could name the ones that weren't and the ones that were, so but by and large they were pretty supportive and became more so as the years went on. I owed a great deal to them for the support they gave us.

TOLLISON: The students, was it a popular course?

JONES: It was not particularly popular. We had respectable numbers signing up for it, in those days, 15 or 20 or something was a pretty good number. Nowadays they're packed with 30 or something. And well, the mark of the change in the mentality among the faculty is the adoption of that requirement in the '68 curriculum. And I can give you a little background on that. The [inaudible] started working for, trying to institute more courses on Asia when I first came back from Duke or after I finished my dissertation which was in '63, yeah, that's when the degree was awarded. And I was basically lobbying, had a great deal of support from David Smith who taught the world religions course. And I don't know if you, you didn't know David Smith, did you?

TOLLISON: I know the name.

JONES: Wonderful guy. But he was extremely supportive when he didn't have to be. He taught other things, his specialty was something else, and you know, but he was very supportive. We lobbied for this, and we talked about how I used to go to the dean and pester him about it, and you know, that sort of thing. And I think the thing that turned the trigger, turned the corner for us was a letter, a memo I wrote him which concluded even Winthrop has more on Asia than we do [laughs].

TOLLISON: Dean

JONES: Yeah, and I swear I think that's what turned him around. He was the one that got the funds from the Duke endowment to provide the annual seminars.

TOLLISON: The seminars, the faculty traveled...

JONES: No, this is faculty study seminars on Asia. First year we did a series on India, second year on China, third year on Southeast Asia. The format was basically one speaker a month with in-between weekly program of discussions of readings that they were required to do or asked to do, and usually a couple of films that were available at those, at that time, of those days. The faculty who were willing to take it, they had to sign up for it. They got a book budget of; get ready for this, \$100 [laughs]. I don't know if that motivated anybody or not, but it went a long way in those days. You could buy half a dozen books at \$100 or more even, but that, as I look back on it, I don't know what I expected at the time frankly, but it, as you look back on it, it basically was consciousness-raising among the faculty. And so, you know, I got about I guess over three years probably a total 30 people that went through that and read books on it and, you know...

TOLLISON: This is pre-1968?

JONES: Yeah, this is 1963 to '67 I guess.

TOLLISON: Okay, let's talk about, before I get too, we get too far ahead of ourselves, let's talk about his support for faculty travel.

JONES: Okay, now that, I just wanna make a distinction. This is completely separate from the Asian Studies program.

TOLLISON: Right, the seminar which took place on campus here and you all invite speakers in.

JONES: Well, one more thing before we get to that. I should say that after that nice little letter about [inaudible] he appointed a committee which consisted of twelve people, anybody who, including David Smith and myself; who taught courses, and maybe somebody else, I don't remember, but then the rest were department chairmen of departments where we thought we needed something infused into the curriculum that had to do with Asia or Africa or anything in the so-called non-West, that was a term used then, and it was under the auspice of this committee that we got the money for the seminars and that sort of thing.

TOLLISON: Okay, okay. Let's talk about the. Dr. [Frank] Bonner's support for faculty travel and those grants around '63.

JONES: Well, as you've gathered, I give a great deal of credit for him as a dean and as a person who understood what education was about. It was he who really started development of the faculty. Dr. [John] Plyler was, don't you dare tell Bea I said this, but Dr. [John] Plyler was basically preoccupied with the building of the new campus. He'd bring people by the library, and I'd be up there in my carrel doing my work, I'd hear these people coming through, and I'd hear 'em say, "Where are all the books?" And Bob Tucker, who was the librarian, had deliberately put all the books up in the middle of the shelf to leave a lot of space on the edge, so it would be [laughs] [inaudible] and I always wondered if that was not why we got as much budget as we did. But anyway, [Frank] Bonner was the man who, he was pretty much given free hand to do with the faculty as he wished. He did bring in some really outstanding people. The [inaudible] I'll tell you this, and then I'll get back to your subject. The [inaudible], one of the outstanding examples of it to me was Theron Price and Casey Smith, whose names you've seen

somewhere, were hired from among the faculty at Southern Seminary who'd been fired for, basically for disagreeing with the president – that was a big controversy. I don't know how much you know about that. But this shows you the sort of man he was. He was [inaudible] anyway, as part of faculty development I think, he conceived the idea of the foreign study program. I should say, and Kerry Cranford can tell you more about this than I can, I should say that he had been on a committee, Southern Baptist Colleges, and they had been playing with the idea of trying to do some sort of cooperative foreign study program, so it was in the air at the time. He wasn't original, completely original with it. And somehow that fell through as I understand it, and again, ask Cranford cause I bet he can tell more than you want to know about it. And he decided to do something on his own, so that's when he [inaudible] well, let's see, I guess it would've been, yeah, would've been spring of '69. The travel agent who was working with him, and he had a lot of encouragement from her, apparently he worked [laughs] [inaudible] I don't know who exploited whom [laughs]. But she set up a trip for him to go to Europe and look at different places that we were talking about and thinking about. I was the third person he asked. He asked two other people before me, but I went with him. And we went to Neufchatel in Switzerland, French-speaking area, Vienna, and Madrid, places where he wanted to set up programs, and, of course, to England. And it was the following fall that we took a group to England first time, and that was the first one to go, and then the next term after that, by then it was the winter term, present calendar. Edgar Van Dyke took a few students, took some students to the Holy Land, whatever. That was the way they looked at it at the time, it was a religion thing.

TOLLISON: Sure. When did the calendar change?

JONES: '68. I guess first effective year might have been. I'm not sure if the first effective year was '69 or if it was '68. I think it was '68.

TOLLISON: Was it a pretty big, pretty big deal?

JONES: It was a big deal, yeah. It went on the debates over [inaudible] it went on and on for a long time, and of course, it was, where I was concerned, there was huge debate over whether to have a requirement for students to take a, as we like to put, a course in a culture other than their own, which left the door open for Africa, Latin America, and a whole lot of things, but that was pretty controversial until it got voted in. After it got voted in, it was fairly well-accepted. Departments had disciplinary priorities, I mean, you know, it was terribly important for philosophy to have somebody in aesthetics or whatever they have as opposed to something on Asian philosophy. So it was tough to get people to agree to that sort of thing and took many years for people to come around to that, and I think they came around to it very much on their own not necessarily because of [laughs] [inaudible] probably despite my efforts.

TOLLISON: You mentioned that it was, you know, a culture other than their own, but it was largely Asian and African right?

JONES: Yeah, it was. We called it the non-Western studies program for a long time, and we had a definition for that. We listed in order of priority, and Asia was first, that meant India, China, Japan. Southeast Asia was another priority, but it was down the road a piece, and we never got to it. And then more distant priority was Latin American, Eastern Europe. We never got to any [inaudible] well we have done something in Latin America, but it became a different thing. After '68 we decided to call it what it basically was, and that is Asian/African.

TOLLISON: When I was hear it was known as the Asian/African requirement.

JONES: That's right, yeah. And that's still, I mean that was the way it was written to start with.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm. gotcha. You traveled to India in '64?

JONES: I believe that was my, yeah, it was my first trip to India.

TOLLISON: With support from Dr. [Frank] Bonner's [?] grant?

JONES: No, again this tells us that, you know, Asian studies did not develop in a vacuum; it was going on all over the country. And the Fulbright-Hays program had instituted a series of six weeks, six to eight weeks, seminar programs in various countries including China, India, and so on. I applied for one, and I had a choice of going to "China" which meant Taiwan or India in this had been '64. And Winston Babb and I talked, Winston [Babb] was chairman of the department at the time, he and I talked about it, and I [inaudible] you know, I was teaching a course in Far East history, I wasn't teaching anything on India, had some courses in graduate school, and I said to him that I would rather go to a place you could see the real culture than to go to an offshore island where you couldn't and that I was willing to do that if he was willing for me to teach a course in it. And that's the way we ended up doing that. That was in '64. Then I got a grant from the American Institute of Indian Studies in '65 for a study grant in '65-66 which was sort of research and study grant, but it was for, it was for faculty members who wanted to develop something on India as opposed to scholars who were already a specialist on India. So he said my grants were mainly for what I didn't know as opposed to what I knew [laughs].

TOLLISON: Let's check this book, A1 Reid's book, and...

JONES: Yeah, please do. I'm sorry I got you off-subject.

TOLLISON: Oh, no, no, not at all. I would hate for someone to do this to a book I'd written, but here we go. It's all in the name of progress right?

JONES: Sure.

TOLLISON: Page 199: "Under the leadership of Edward Broadus Jones, Assistant Professor of History, the faculty also adopted an interdepartmental minor in non-Western studies effective in 1965-66. The program joined the Departments of History, Art, Religion, Geography, and Economics. [Frank] Bonner applied for a grant from the Duke Endowment to bring Asian experts to the campus in '65-66 for a series of seminars to assist the faculty in learning more about India." So this part about the interdepartmental minor in non-Western studies effective '65-66, you think that that might be inaccurate.

JONES: Well, no I [inaudible] actually I don't know. I'm not [inaudible] memory may just be faulty on that. If it's in there, they all check [inaudible] A1 [Reid] went through the papers. He went through memos and things that are, you know, written documents. I was aware of what he was doing when he was doing it. And it may be that we did approve such a thing. It must not have had much, many takers because I don't remember anything about it [laughs].

TOLLISON: [laughs] Let's get to the part about the India trip: "In addition to the five," this is on page 200, "In addition to the five grants for European travel in 1964 and 1965, [Frank] Bonner also supported travel to India via Edward Jones, David Smith, and Thomas Flowers, so they could prepare themselves to inaugurate courses in non-Western studies. [Edward] Jones and [David] Smith spent the summer of 1964 in India as Fulbright fellows."

JONES: Well, that's mistaken. David [Smith] was there in '65, and [Thomas] Flowers was there in '66.

TOLLISON: Okay, okay. David Smith was there in '65...

JONES: Mm hmm.

TOLLISON: and then Tom Flowers...

JONES: '66. Now the background [inaudible] basically these were the same grants that I had, and I was in touch with those people, and so I was looking for people, trying to recruit people who would do it. David [Smith] was my first, obviously first choice. Tom Flowers was interested in teaching a course in art history, and he was there in '66. He visited us in Delhi in fact.

TOLLISON: Is it appropriate to say here [Frank] Bonner also supported travel to India?

JONES: He did because the way those grants were written you had to, the institution had to commit something too, I think it was \$500.

TOLLISON: Okay.

JONES: But it was to show institutional commitment. Most of it was paid by the Fulbright people, Hays Fulbright, whatever that act is called.

TOLLISON: The Fulbright-Hays, actually [inaudible] have the official title of the...

JONES: In India...it's called United States Educational Foundation in India.

TOLLISON: Fulbright-Hays Summer Institute in Indian Civilization?

JONES: Mm hmm.

TOLLISON: Okay, gotcha. Okay, so post-1968 students required to take course in either Asia or Africa.

JONES: Yeah, yeah. And by the way, we formed that summer Fulbright to the hilt. We had lots of other people go to, and we had people going to [inaudible] Edmund and McKnight went to Duke one summer for something, I've forgotten what it was, but [inaudible] and not all of these worked out. I mean Todd taught some art history for a while and then stopped, you know, but you know [inaudible] that's the way it worked.

TOLLISON: This was fairly progressive of Dr. [Frank] Bonner at this point in time, 1963 wasn't it?

JONES: Yeah.

TOLLISON: So he had his eye on, definitely on the future.

JONES: Oh yeah, yeah. You know I give him all kinds of credit. He's to me, he's what is... he's the daddy rabbit of the academic quality of this school now [laughs].

TOLLISON: Let's talk about 1969. Did you [inaudible] were you in England in 1969 or no?

JONES: Well, yeah, yeah. I went there with Dr. [Frank] Bonner in March of '69 and then went back that fall with the first group of students.

TOLLISON: Was John Crabtree on that trip?

JONES: No, well, John Crabtree was involved, but he came over when it was [inaudible] you know we did the [?] part of the program and then the Stratford party came over for that.

TOLLISON: To see Shakespeare,

JONES: Yes, and so Willard [Pate] came the next year. I think frankly the best [inaudible] well, I don't know, but the [inaudible] never knew quite why he wanted to do it that way. I did [inaudible] obviously I could not go every year or even several years in a row because I had children and a wife and so on. Willard [Pate] was single as you know,

and so maybe that's one of the reasons, but she did a superb job after she started that.

TOLLISON: So you went every several years after that.

JONES: Yeah, that's right. In fact, it was probably five or six years before I went again on that program, but I went quite a bit in the more recent decades.

TOLLISON: In 1969 this was the first foreign study Furman offered for students...

JONES: Yeah, yeah.

TOLLISON: So tell me about that. Was it very popular?

JONES: It was always very popular. We had 28 who went, and you know [inaudible]

TOLLISON: Students applied to go on the trip?

JONES: Yeah, oh yeah, yeah. Well, we, you know, we went through the motions of being selective. I'm not sure how selective we were, or how selective we ever are, but you know, you at least do some screening, find out if you've got your marbles up here [laughs]. But yeah, it was very popular. I remember brainwashing 'em and telling 'em that they were representatives of [?] country, and they must behave themselves and all that kind of stuff; didn't always do it.

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: Of course, that was one case where he got two for the price of one, they got two for the price of one because my wife was extremely helpful, and we had a small child, but she, you know, she didn't mind, she [inaudible] you know she was the kind of person that students would come in and cry on her shoulder and things like that and really could tell her things, say things to her that they couldn't say to me or didn't think they could anyway.

TOLLISON: So you were over there for two and half months or so?

JONES: Yeah, yeah. We [inaudible] actually I think my [inaudible] you know how that works is after the London part of the program is over there's some clean-up things you have to do, but I don't think you have to stay any longer. We stayed, of course, until we had to come home.

TOLLISON: Right [laughs]. You were teaching history courses over there English.

JONES: That's right, yeah. The original idea... I mean the idea that... on that first year it was supposed to be somebody from English going with me, and that person opted out, not the last minute, but pretty late in the game. And I don't know for what reason [Frank] Bonner didn't select somebody to take his place.

TOLLISON: Okay, so just one course offered...

JONES: No, actually I offered two courses because we had to have three courses [laughs].

TOLLISON: Uh huh. Different time periods or...

JONES: Yeah, let's [inaudible] I'm trying to think what I actually did at that time. Well, anyway I..but no, I offered it was [inaudible] divided it according to time period, one was [?] Century England basically.

TOLLISON: Okay, gotcha. What a great trip [laughs].

JONES: Well [laughs], hard work.

TOLLISON: I'm sure, I'm sure, especially getting the startup of all of it.

JONES: Well, yeah, he had made so many of the contracts, and we, you know, sort of went...

TOLLISON: Dr. [Frank] Bonner?

JONES: Yeah, and so, but, you still had administrative details that I was not equipped to

do like, you know, paying the lecturers that you had. And he, you know, we got the advice of one of the history professors there. He told us how much to pay them, something like £12 a lecture or something like that, and it didn't take long before they realized that was way too little, you know, it became, but it was that kind of thing that I was ill-equipped to do. But, you know, it worked out fine.

TOLLISON: Gotcha, gotcha. 1973 first faculty member added in Asian studies in addition to you, and I guess could we consider David Smith as well?

JONES: Yeah, David Smith, and there were a couple of people who came and went, for example, in Economics there was a fellow named Robinson, I forgot his first name even, and he taught something on developing economics with [inaudible] we counted almost anything that we, you know, could stretch to be [laughs] you know [inaudible] and seems to me there was a guy in Sociology who was really an anthropologist at the time was, did something on anthropological development in Southeast Asia for a while. So we had those kinds of things coming and going, it wasn't just David and me. What we had been lobbying for was a full-time person who... a specialist, a specialist in some aspect of the... and the first one we got on that was Lin Chen who was in Political Science Department, stayed here for 20 years probably, was kind of a disaster. But you know, he was Political Science Department, and Ed insisted on hiring him of course, and I was consulted, but he was, he never really fit in with the [inaudible] he insisted on being a traditional Chinese, and I used to tell students, well, you know, if you can stand him, that's what you get out of him... how Chinese really did...

TOLLISON: In what sense, I'm not quite sure I understand.

JONES: Well, he expected students to stand up when he came into class

TOLLISON: Okay

JONES: He wouldn't use a textbook.

TOLLISON: Okay.

JONES: You know, there are all kinds of things that, you know, he [Lin Chen] just had this traditional Confucian mentality, and he'd been living in this country many years, he ought to have known better. His wife knew better, his wife was great, very charming and very practical. But anyway, he was kind of a disaster. They didn't get him out until, you know, recently, fairly recently, [?] the '90s, and I guess Kate is basically his replacement.

TOLLISON: Did he leave on his own, or is there something else...

JONES: He was eased out.

TOLLISON: He was eased out, okay. And then so Kate Palmer, now Kate Kaup, came in.

JONES: Yeah, I was thinking maybe somebody came in between, but I'm not sure. I think maybe Kate [Kaup] was the one who came after Lin.

TOLLISON: I think she came in...

JONES: Early '90s wasn't it?

TOLLISON: She [Kate Kaup] was new when I took her course, and that was in '97, but she could've been...

JONES: She might've been here a couple of years before that I think. I'm not sure. But anyway, she's, as you know, working out beautifully. The following year Jim Leavell was hired.

TOLLISON: In '74.

JONES: Yeah, and therein lies another tale which I can tell you or not tell you, but...

TOLLISON: Oh, please do.

JONES: Well, I had been lobbying the History Department to have somebody teach Japanese history. I, you know, realized that what I was doing was way more than anybody in their right mind ought to be doing. I had been teaching or holding classes in [laughs] [inaudible]

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: After the new, after the change of calendar we had to restructure the curriculum. We separated China and Japan into separate courses, instead of Far Eastern history it was Chinese history and Japanese history. So I taught courses in Chinese history and Japanese history, one term each, and Indian history and English history. So what do you do with your spare time?

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: But anyway, we had to have a guy that knew a little bit about Japanese history, and we [inaudible] in the History Department, his field was British history, but he knew something about Japanese, he had a course in it, and so we got him to do that for several years then he left. And after that we lobbied, I lobbied, for the department to hire somebody Japanese, and at that time, there was a hiring freeze.

TOLLISON: Why?

JONES: Oh, money. Dr. [Gordon] Blackwell was, you know, this was it, couldn't hire anybody. So we talked about this, and we had this guy, we hoped to get somebody to teach Japanese history and maybe fill-in in the Art Department cause Tom [Thomas] Flowers had had all he could take of the Asian arts, you know, somebody to do that. Well, we started looking around, and we finally went down to talk to [Gordon] Blackwell, and he listened to our tale of woe, and said, "Well, yeah, you can hire somebody on a one-year basis." I think, if I'm not mistaken, there was somebody on sabbatical that year or something, but Jim [Leavell] was identified as, you know, his. We thought, well, this guy looks like he's pretty good, but he's in Japan at the time, can't see him, talk to him. Dr. [Frank] Bonner said, "Well, I think I met this guy." He'd been over to deal with our Japan study program. I'll tell you about that if you want to. But he had been over to visit ours, and he says, "I think I've met this guy over there. He's a nice guy" [inaudible] And so we hired him sight unseen. Of course, [Frank] Bonner had never met him [laughs]. He had him mixed up with somebody else.

TOLLISON: Oh, no.

JONES: But anyway, that [inaudible] Jim [Leavell] was here, and bless his heart, he's told me many times, he said, "Boy, I was really sweating it out, I was looking for jobs, spending money all over everywhere trying to find a job for the next year." I said, "Well, we intended to keep you all the time." He didn't know it. He said, "You didn't tell me."

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: Of course, we didn't know because it was a contingency basis, and we weren't sure until pretty far into the term whether we could...

TOLLISON: Keep him.

JONES: Keep him on

TOLLISON: Right

JONES: We hardly ever could've made a better hire...

TOLLISON: Oh, that's worked unusually well [laughs].

JONES: But that's why he ends up teaching... you know he's teaching in our department,

but he also teaches in the Art Department.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm, mm hmm. So intermittently every several years or so you would add a few more members to the faculty.

JONES: Then, yeah, the others that came along were added often times at the instigation of the department. David Shaner had a predecessor, but the Philosophy Department hired some, decided on their own that they wanted to hire somebody in Asia, and we got consulted on it, but we didn't hire him. Now the reason for that is there was something in it for them, the Asian/African requirement, and if they had somebody teaching a course in it, they could draw some of that market, and for them at the time they felt like they needed more bodies, and so, you know, that was [inaudible] don't guess they would agree with that wholly, but that's my interpretation, and you ought to take it as that and then no more I think.

TOLLISON: Tell me about lobbying for a major in Asian studies, and how this came about in 1987.

JONES: Okay, the first lobbying was for language people, and I don't take any credit for this. Jim Leavell and David Shaner beat me over the head with this. They said, "If we're gonna have a good program, we're gonna have to have language." And of course, Jim [Leavell] wanted Japanese first, Chinese ought to be first, you know, we got authorization to hire somebody in Japanese language and Chinese language. Part of it came from a grant or a donation of money. But we hired Yagi and Xu, and to me that was a [inaudible]. As I said, I was the sort that had to be dragged into it, not really, but I mean it was their idea. And I think that's where we really turned the corner. Once you have the language in place, then you can talk about a major, and when [inaudible] well, two things I should say here: Maurice Cherry was Chairman of the Language Department. He was extremely supportive of getting somebody in Japanese and Chinese, but there were people in the Language Department who opposed it. They felt, or I think they were fearful, that they would take students from them, particularly in German which was not doing that well. I understand it's not doing all that well now. But anyway, that was a hurdle we had to get over, but anyway we got over it. John Crabtree was the sales dimension of it, John Crabtree was Dean. John [Crabtree], probably more through the persuasion of David Shaner than from me, John [Crabtree], and also because he had a son who went, who did something in Japan I think. I've forgotten what, he worked for a company that, John [Crabtree] decided fairly quickly that he thought we ought to have a department, and so by the time we got around to getting the major approved, we knew perfectly well that we were gonna go for a department, and there were people who opposed the major on the ground that the next thing you know you'll be wanting a department. But that was [John] Crabtree's, he ramrodded that to a considerable extent; of course, we had to do the legwork, but he was, I give him a lot of credit for that.

TOLLISON: So the Asian Studies Department came about in 1988, and you were the first chair.

JONES: Yeah, that's right. The major was approved one year, and the department the next.

TOLLISON: So how did you get to be the first, I mean it's an obvious choice, but tell me about how you became the first chair.

JONES: Well, I mean it was, it was as you say a natural kind of thing. I'd been heading up the program for a long time, and the, it was a pretty disparate group at that time, you

know, the two language guys who were new, of course, and whose main concern is language, you know, they didn't think much about, we had to educate them about a culture, and [David] Shaner and [Jim] Leavell and a couple of others besides the language people, and it was kind of a disparate group, and so I think it was kind of a choice of me or [laughs], 'cause they didn't necessarily want some of the others [laughs]. That's the way departments often work, you know, sometimes it happens that way.

TOLLISON: It's a joint appointment though, no one has a primary home per se in Asian Studies.

JONES: That's right, exactly.

TOLLISON: It's always, you know, history and Asian Studies or language and Asian Studies.

JONES: That was [inaudible] that's what you get away with, and I kind of liked that, but I must say, ever since we started the department in our fondest dreams we wanted to have somebody who was full-time Asia, and we think that would still be beneficial, but as it has evolved over the years and since I've retired, they never have had one. So everybody has a joint appointment now.

TOLLISON: Who's the chair?

JONES: Sam Britt. Again, it... well, I don't know, you know, department chair is a strange, sometimes it's a question of who's willing to do it [laughs].

TOLLISON: [laughs] Let's talk about the city of Greenville for a little, well, actually before we get onto that, let's talk about Dr. [Gordon] Blackwell, and let's talk about desegregation at Furman, your memories of that briefly. What did Dr. [Gordon] Blackwell [inaudible],

JONES: Well, my memory of it is fallacious I think in one sense. It was always my thought that Frank Bonner was a man who instituted that. Well, the other side of that story is that Blackwell said, "I will not come to Furman unless you, the trustees, agree to integrate." [Frank] Bonner had been working at it before that, he was acting president at the time, and it was my impression that he's the one who lined up the students to come in, and he farmed out of it John [Smith] [inaudible]

TOLLISON: John Quincy Smith.

JONES: [John] Smith I think. I think it was probably a combination of both, that is to say that [Frank] Bonner had pushed for it, and [Gordon] Blackwell had basically supported it and laid down this sort of ultimatum. Apparently they wanted [Gordon] Blackwell badly, so you know, that was kind of the punch card. The [inaudible] somebody told me who [inaudible] somebody who was the son of a very active supporter of Furman in those days told me that they had a meeting down at the Poinsett Club of two or three people, nobody from Furman, two or three people who were actively supportive of Furman, and they'd been talking to [Frank] Bonner, and it was about the integration, and this guy, they had a private dinner in a private room, and the bartender was over hear, it was a black man and who doubled as principal of a black school, and this guy tells me, I don't know if it's true or not, but he tells me that after the dinner was over they had closed the doors, and invited the bartender over to join them, and said, "Now, look here, what are we gonna do? [Gordon] Blackwell's not coming in 'til the second semester, and the Baptist Convention meets in November, we need to have somebody waiting in the wings to bring in, but how do we work it?" The black guy said, "Well, send him to a black school for a semester, and then let him transfer. No problem getting admitted or

anything like that.” I don’t know if that’s true or not, but it’s an interesting story.

TOLLISON: Where was this man principal, what high school?

JONES: I can’t tell you that, don’t know.

TOLLISON: Was the high school in Greenville?

JONES: Yeah, oh yeah.

TOLLISON: Do you think it was Sterling High School?

JONES: I think, might've been one of Sterling’s successors, or maybe it was Sterling, I’m not sure.

TOLLISON: Uh huh.

JONES: But anyway, the [inaudible] can give you the name of the person who told me this story if you want to talk to him.

TOLLISON: Please do. Can I get that name?

JONES: Okay, the name is Sapp Funderburk, S-a-p-p.

TOLLISON: Oh, yes.

JONES: You know, you don’t know him?

TOLLISON: I do.

JONES: Okay.

TOLLISON: I mean, I know, I know his role in all of this.

JONES: Well, the old man, this guy’s daddy, was the one who was very interesting. We used to make all kinds of jokes about him around here, but this man is in his, probably in his 60s.

TOLLISON: This Sapp Funderburk.

JONES: This Sapp Funderburk, yeah. But he told me that story whether [inaudible] you know, it’s a story... he’s passed down from his daddy I’m sure ‘cause his daddy was involved in it.

TOLLISON: I’ll have to check that out. That’s interesting.

JONES: Do you know Neal Rabon, by the way?

TOLLISON: [laughs] Yes, I do.

JONES: Okay, I don’t know if you plan to interview him or not, but...

TOLLISON: I already have.

JONES: Okay, good.

TOLLISON: I spent all morning with him actually [laughs],

JONES: Well, I don’t know what he told you, but I give Neal [Rabon] credit for the separation of the Baptists, or at least he and a couple of other guys about his age, all Furman grads.

TOLLISON: Yes, I thoroughly enjoyed talking to him.

JONES: I’m delighted you’ve interviewed him [laughs],

TOLLISON: [laughs] Oh, yes, it was a good interview.

JONES: He’s a nice guy.

TOLLISON: Tell a little bit about [inaudible] know that you’ve been very active with India association here in Greenville and several other cultural, specifically cultural organizations here in Greenville, and of course, the City of Greenville has become increasingly multicultural in the past probably decade, decade and a half or so, can you talk a little bit about this change?

JONES: Yeah...

TOLLISON: What it’s brought to the city.

JONES: The first Indian I ever laid eyes on was a sheik...

TOLLISON: A turban...

JONES: Who was a student [inaudible] no, he didn't have a turban, that was the point. He came here when I was a student, and he was, he had short brush haircut, no beard, nothing. You wouldn't have known he was a sheik if you [inaudible] if I'd known what a sheik was supposed to look like, but he was the first Indian I ever knew. Anyway, he was...

TOLLISON: He was a student here.

JONES: He was a student at Furman for [inaudible] Lord knows why I can't tell you how he got here, but anyway...

TOLLISON: Do you remember his name?

JONES: No, I don't. I remember the first Latin American student we had. I do remember his name, Rene Castillo. He was from Chile.

TOLLISON: In the mid '50s?

JONES: Would've been, yeah, or early '50s probably.

TOLLISON: I think I've seen a photograph of him.

JONES: Okay, but that tells me that there were [inaudible] just weren't any foreigners in this area of any kind. There's a guy who used to be a columnist for the afternoon paper here...

TOLLISON: Piedmont?

JONES: Yeah, named Gil Rowland, don't know if you ever [inaudible] you're too young to remember him. Gil [Rowland] was one of these gadflies who loves to get interested in all kinds of unusual things, and literally every time somebody from, almost from out of state but certainly if he was out of the country, came in this area, he made it a point to go and interview 'em, and he would invite 'em to his house, and he'd invite his friends over or people that he thought were interesting to discuss things, and they'd sit there and talk, and Gil [Rowland] would direct the conversation. He said, "I want you to tell us what you think," [laughs] and you know, Gil [Rowland] was a favorite in the Indian community when they first started coming. The first Indian family was Surrender Jane. He came, my wife can tell you when. I'm not sure exactly, but he's been here over 30 years, he went back to India to marry his wife and brought her back, and she was a, they were both from wealthy families. And the Indian community has gradually grown since then, and of course, as you know, other Asian groups as well, and Lord knows plenty of Latinos, they've outnumbered everybody now. And it's hardly unusual to see Germans and Europeans of various sorts. So it really has changed enormously in the 40 years or so of my, 50 years I guess I've been in Greenville. But I, you know, I don't have anything else to say, but if you look at it [inaudible] if you look around Greenville, you think of the restaurants, for example, that's just something that's...

TOLLISON: No, we didn't used to have Thai, we didn't used to have Indian restaurants or...

JONES: Anything.

TOLLISON: Uh huh. Of course, this is connected largely to industry, international industry...

JONES: That's exactly right, exactly.

TOLLISON: Hitachi for instance, you know, bringing lots of Japanese and, of course, their families and their children and then, you know, the impacts are a good one from

there. So do you feel that the City of Greenville has been aggressive in these pursuits, not only for economic but for cultural reasons as well or primarily economic?

JONES: I think it's primarily economic. I honestly don't think that we're that enlightened culturally. I think we've been rather slow, but one of the things that's happened in the mix is not just foreigners, it's foreigners from up North [laughs],

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: I mean this has changed a fraction of Greenville enormously, and the, you know, they look just like us, and so, you know, they sort of fit in, and you don't think about 'em as being foreign, you know, after a few generations, you don't think of 'em as being foreigners. I think Southerners generally are less region-conscious than they were, I know than they were when I was growing up. You know it's just one of those nice evolving kinds of changes that is so healthy.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm. Were you involved in recruitment of foreign students to Furman?

JONES: No, not really. That has, I mean obviously we've always wanted to have 'em here, but that was not my primary concern. I was preoccupied with all those other things.

TOLLISON: Now all these trips that you've led to India, how closely associated was this with Furman, and how [inaudible].

JONES: Well, the first time I led a group was a faculty seminar for, sponsored by the Office of Education, and it was in 1973...

TOLLISON: The Office of the US Department of Education?

JONES: Yeah, US Office of Education [inaudible] it was called the Office of Education, and it was called the Department of Education.

TOLLISON: Okay.

JONES: They had a series of grants for that purpose, and we had a grant to take... I have to back up. In 1965 I think, but in the mid '60s, we, a group of people from various colleges in the Carolinas and Virginia, got together and decided to organize a, an association for, to enhance or to boost Asian Studies. It was actually [inaudible] we got together because of the initiative of a guy from Davidson, and at that time they were trying to promote South Asian Studies...

TOLLISON: What was his name? I think it's in the book.

JONES: No, Fred Gage. Fred [Gage] and he had a dean by the way who was a real stem winder in this sort of thing, I could think of his name if I gave it a little time, but anyway, the focus was on South Asia at that time. We later, and I was on the, whatever the steer committee I guess at the time, and we later translated that into the Southern Atlantic States Association for Asian and African Studies which included a whole umbrella of things, and we got grants for [inaudible] it gave us, it was a chance not only to interact with one another and learn from one another but also, which we did, you know, we met twice a year or something, but it also gave us kind of a framework to apply for grants. And this was one of those grants, so it was for faculty members and member institutions, and we were able to take, I think we took David Smith and Rudy Bates from here as well as myself, and it was like a six-week study program for India. We traveled around various places, went to see various cultural sites and had lectures from Indian universities. So it was that kind of [inaudible]

TOLLISON: So that was the first one.

JONES: Yeah.

TOLLISON: So how often did you go on these [inaudible]

JONES: Well, I never did actually do another one of that sort. I took a couple of just civilian groups in the, oh, I guess in the early or middle '80s, '83 and '87 I think [inaudible]

TOLLISON: It's become very well-known in Greenville, you know, if you want to go to India, you gotta get on Ed Jones [inaudible]

JONES: Well, that's... actually, I take 15 or 18 trips, groups to from... there's more demand for China frankly, but that was a vehicle for my own education. I, you know, learned things that I wouldn't have [inaudible] to see places that I wouldn't have had a chance to see.

TOLLISON: But and then a lot of Furman people have gone like Betsy [inaudible] for instance...

JONES: Yeah, right, and well some of them were actually affiliated with Furman in the sense that maybe they were sponsored by continuing education. I think one of them or maybe more than one was by the Alumni Association.

TOLLISON: Oh. okay.

JONES: Yeah, Gordon Herring was one of those, and Ravenel Curry, who recently gave us something, now he probably gave that money despite that trip rather than because of it 'cause he wasn't very, he wasn't a terribly happy camper on that trip, but a lot of people...

TOLLISON: [?]ses ever travel?

JONES: They weren't with us, no.

TOLLISON: Okay

JONES: But we, we made so many friends that way, and of course, it's a way to spread the word. It's like missionary instinct.

TOLLISON: [laughs] Well, I think that about covers what I had hoped to talk about today. Do you have anything that you feel that we've, that we have left out that is historically significant?

JONES: Well, the mention of that South Asian, Southern Atlantic States group, is one thing that I think we should probably mention that, and I've got that in this little article I've got somewhere, but we've been members of several corporate groups like that with other, affiliating with other colleges. The one that's current, there was one organized for this state for a while, and then [inaudible] but the one that's current now that Jim Leavell is working on and does a great deal with is the ASIA Network. He probably told you about that.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm. I've got some material on it here.

JONES: But I consider these [inaudible] these are extremely important for, when you've got a group, when you've got a small [inaudible] of faculty who are interested in Asia on a small campus like Furman is, it is terribly important for them to have somebody to talk to and literally to talk to, and you'd be amazed at how many ideas you can pick up from what other people are doing and what they would like to do, you pick up all kinds of things. And then you can do the cooperative thing as well. So we've done a lot of that. Jim [Leavell] has taken groups, Japan or whatever, and [inaudible] oops...

TOLLISON: We need to switch sides. Yes, he's doing some neat stuff with videoing himself over there and showing it I've seen some of his video clips, those are really...

JONES: He loves...

TOLLISON: He's into technology [laughs].

JONES: [laughs] He's into technology.

TOLLISON: We've bonded over that. That reminds me of my excitement over my new little digital toy here.

JONES: Yeah, right.

TOLLISON: People 15 years from now are gonna think we're crazy to be so excited about, "Ooh, digital [inaudible]" [laughs]. I have an excerpt here from one of the ASIANetwork. spelled, of course, A-S-I-A-N and then etwork, and of course it has a brief history of the Department of Asian Studies here at Furman. Does that name ring a bell from David [Smith]...

JONES: I told you of course, Joe Thomas was my co-director for the India [inaudible] he as you know, he is an Indian, he is from South Asia, Joe Thomas, because that's a Christian name, but he is a South Asian, few South Asian Christians...

TOLLISON: Christians, uh huh.

JONES: Yeah, and he teaches at Davidson or maybe, I don't know if he's retired yet.

TOLLISON: Okay, and you said the India Association, is that what you said? We can look here...

JONES: Oh, no, not... he's at Davidson.

TOLLISON: Right, then you said he was your co-chair.

JONES: He was a co-director of the seminar in India.

TOLLISON: Okay, okay, I gotcha, I gotcha. And then you were formerly the executive director of the Southern Atlantic States Association for Asian and African Studies.

JONES: Yeah, I was [inaudible] served a term in that [inaudible] and of course, the other thing is professional organizations that Asia must go to, main one is the Southeast, but there's also a national one.

TOLLISON: And you're former president of the Southeast, or were you...

JONES: Yeah, I was president of Southeastern one time. They just pass that around.

TOLLISON: [laughs]

JONES: You know, you stay around long enough, you get [inaudible]

TOLLISON: [laughs] You're being modest.

JONES: But the national, both of the [inaudible] this along with the regional consortia that we've been into are tremendously important in keeping faculty members informed and in touch with what's going on in the profession and it's, you know, you couldn't function very effectively if you were isolated.

TOLLISON: Now are you talking about the Southern Consortium that Furman is a part of, or are you talking about the Southern Atlantic...

JONES: All of them, all of them, yeah, all of them, yeah. I mean the professional organization that's the scholarly organization, national and regional, but then these consortia like SAS, South Atlantic States, and the ASIANetwork, these are consortia of colleges, not of individuals, but colleges that are cooperative, cooperating.

TOLLISON: Okay, gotcha.

JONES: So those have been tremendously important.

TOLLISON: Well, great. I think that about wraps it up unless you have anything else that you would like to add.

JONES: Well, you can also say I taught history [laughs].

TOLLISON: [laughs] In your spare time, right? [laughs] Well, thank you very much for talking

to me today.

JONES: Well I'm glad to do it.

TOLLISON: I appreciate it. I've enjoyed it.

JONES: Well, thank you.

TOLLISON: I've learned a lot [laughs],

JONES: What are you gonna do with it now?

TOLLISON: Well, let me go ahead and turn the tapes off first, and then I'll answer that question.

TOLLISON: Tell me, you were talking about the development of [laughs] [inaudible] postscript [inaudible] of some of these foreign study programs [laughs] [inaudible] just realized we ended this, and now we're starting up again. You mentioned that in the '80s the Stratford program was suspended for a few years, and that you would take people from England, for about a month or so, you would take people to China.

JONES: Yeah, we just, you know, flew from London to Hong Kong and then to China.

At that time I had contact with an organization called the Hong Kong Student Travel Agency, this was a travel agency, but it was, they usually handled things for us, and we did basically a tour with lectures as I, you know, whenever I could on the fly, and you know, we, one of those we came back by the way of Hawaii, and made a trip around the world, but the, that was kind of a modest thing as far as the China program. Len, excuse me. Long Xu was instrumental in developing the program in China, the Shanghai program. I was there. I went there in '91, I went to, I was in Hong Kong for a conference, and I went on over to Peking and talked to people at the Beijing Language Institute, which was his preference, and that didn't work out. They were asking for things that we couldn't give. They wanted, basically they wanted [inaudible] well, it doesn't matter what they wanted, but they wanted things that we couldn't give. And so we couldn't work anything out from that. After that Long [Xu] just took the bull by the horns himself and went to Shanghai, which, of course, he knows very well. He's from there, and his father taught English in Shanghai, very respected man, and so Long [Xu] just went. He knew everybody on the campus, he set it up, and that's the story of that.

TOLLISON: Okay, and that was in the '90s?

JONES: That was in the 90s. I think Long took two or three programs there, fall terms there, and then I was there in the fall of '95 shortly before I retired, and others have been since obviously.

TOLLISON: What about Japan?

JONES: The Japan program, that's a different story. I don't know if you [inaudible] we actually developed the Japan program before Jim Leavell came, but it was an outgrowth of something that Dean [Frank] Bonner had found out about, and again, it was through one of these consortia that Furman belonged to, not one that I was related to, the Asian Studies related to, but anyway, the Consi[?] was a campus basically for foreign students, and they brought in foreign students from all kinds of universities around the country, and [Frank] Bonner thought this would be a good thing for us to be affiliated with, and so we started out by sending maybe one or two students, and it was, in a way it was sort of like a transfer program, you transfer to that institution for a semester, and then they can come back, or a term. But it was a growing concern [inaudible]. Jim Leavell came, and I think gave it a tremendous boost by his, you know, his classes and, you know, things of that nature. He was very persuasive, and he got, he was made responsible for it, he you know, recruited for it, and he screened, and you know, he did all the work and got no

[laughs] benefit from it because he didn't get to go. I think he did go once or twice for, you know, on our behalf, but he did a lot of work for very little reward. But now you need to talk to Willard [Pate] about the development of foreign study program in general, of course, you know she's very [inaudible].

TOLLISON: She's very involved.

JONES: Yeah, and she, you know, we've developed... a lot of departments have taken initiative and said, "We need to develop a program," biology for example, and Costa Rica and...

TOLLISON: Galapagos.

JONES: Galapagos.

TOLLISON: Ever any talk of an India...

JONES: Yes, it is under discussion right now, and it would be my fondest dream to do it, but we, I think it's gonna be a question of just not "if" but "when" we're gonna do one I'm sure. Lot of schools have, but again, for reasons that are not clear to me, culturally India simply is not as attractive as China and Japan. We don't have the association with them or whatever it is, I don't know, but [inaudible] or maybe we just think they're all poor, poverty or whatever, but it, to me it's culturally the most rewarding of all.

TOLLISON: Certainly the one I would be most interested in joining [laughs]. Think you'll have to hop on that one if you're still around.

JONES: Well... a great program at Jodhpur, which is in Rajasthan, and I thought for a while we might be able to sign on with them, but we couldn't [inaudible] you can't create a program unless you can get enough people that wanna do it, and that's gonna be a problem. But you see, you've got all these people from India, you've got Savita [Nair], and you've got several others who are in Indians, Ken Peterson, practically Indian, isn't he?

TOLLISON: Dr. [Kailash] Khandke.

JONES: Khandke, of course, he, [Kailash] Khandke is great, isn't he?

TOLLISON: Mm hmm.

JONES: And he actually has done recruiting programs to India, [Bill] Lavery's, hospices...

TOLLISON: Well, hopefully that will work out soon.

JONES: By the way, [Bill] Lavery was the one who took the initiative on the Soviet Union and Baltic, as you know, and that has worked out beautifully.

TOLLISON: Mm hmm, it's a great trip, mm hmm. All right, terrific.

JONES: Okay.

TOLLISON: All right, thanks.