Ching-chih to reveal China’s past via videodisk

The National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Project in Libraries, awarded $219,245 to the Graduate School of Library and Information Science of Simmons College, with a matching grant of $58,659, for “Project Emperor-I: China’s Treasure Revealed Via Videodisc Technology.”

Dr. Ching-chih Chen, professor and associate dean of the school, is the principal investigator and director of the project, which intends to apply the latest in videodisk technology in order to present and interpret a major historical/archaeological period of China’s past. The site and artifacts to be recorded are from the period of the first Emperor of China (Ch’in Dynasty).

During the first Emperor’s brief 15-year reign, he instituted a unified written alphabet, completed the Great Wall, unified warring states and built his magnificent tomb near Xian. The Ch’in Shih Haung-Ti tomb is the focus of the project which will make that period come alive for the general public.

Dr. Robert Stueart, dean of the school, serves as the other principal project staff and is responsible mainly for information gathering and interpretation of the project content, specifically as it relates to an American audience. Other staff will include researchers in art, archaeology and information science.