



The Graduate College

Book Award:

Professor Jiayan Zhang (Full Professor)

Professor of History

College of Humanities and Social Science

Department of History and Philosophy

Professor Jiayan Zhang joined KSU in Fall 2004 and is a tenured full professor. He received his Ph.D. in History from UCLA and his M.A. in Agrarian History from Nanjing Agricultural University. He has numerous refereed journal articles in English and Chinese, which focus on agrarian history, environmental change and peasant studies.

The Foundation Book Award: “[R]equires applicants to demonstrate she or he has authored a book reflecting a ‘significant contribution to the academic community’.” His book, entitled *Coping with Calamity: Environmental Change and Peasant Responses in Central China, 1736-1949*, is published by UBC Press and has been purchased by least 147 university libraries, including Harvard, Princeton, MIT, Stanford, McGill and Oxford. It represents two and a half decades of work, and offers a new pattern (called the “Jiangnan pattern”) to the studies of Chinese history.

The significance of the book is best summarized by one of his colleagues, who states: “Coping with Calamity has established Dr. Zhang’s position as a leading scholar in the field of Modern China. I have no doubt his future publications will be equally influential.”