New OSU club appeals to Asian film fans

By Hsien-feng Li
Lantern arts writer

The Asian Cinema Club, a new student organization founded this quarter, attempts to grab the hearts of Asian film fans at Ohio State.

“Our primary goal is to provide an environment in which both American and Asian students have a chance to see some great Asian movies,” said William Ferguson, president of the Asian Cinema Club.

“We also try to change some people’s perceptions of what Asian films are supposed to be and try to present what Asian films are in general,” he said.

Ferguson said after attending a similar movie club’s meeting, he found a good number of people at OSU are fans of Asian films.

“I certainly think people will be willing to come and watch these films for a whole night as long as you show good movies,” he said.

“By working on the rotated basis, we try to work with another similar movie club to increase our audience rather than compete with it for the same audience,” said Richard Snyder, vice president of the Asian Cinema Club.

Ferguson said that in recent years, Asian films have become increasingly popular in the United States, especially Hong Kong’s action movies.

“As compared with American films, many action movies from Hong Kong put great emphasis on the choreography in fight scenes. Visually, they are much more interesting to watch,” Ferguson said.

“The stories are compelling as well.”

“The combination of comedy, action and genius is probably the main reason that makes some Hong Kong films popular with certain audience,” said Kirk Denton, professor of East Asian Languages and Literatures, as well as adviser of the Asian Cinema Club.

“Initially, we will focus on a lot of popular Japanese and Chinese movies,” Ferguson said. “For the long-term goal, we will try to run different types of movies, not only show the action movies.”

The showings will be featured every other Friday night from 6 p.m. to midnight. For more information, call William Ferguson at 688-9756.