

Association for Asian American Studies  
NEWSLETTER

March 2008

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NEWS

Association for Asian American Studies  
Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting  
Chicago, Illinois  
April 16-20, 2008

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008

Japanese American Internment History and Chicago Resettlement  
Location: Japanese American Service Committee, 4427 North Clark Street, Chicago  
9:00am – 2:30pm (includes lunch)  
A special collaboration with the Newberry Library

This seminar for middle and high school educators provides a multi-faceted opportunity to learn about Japanese American internment during WWII with a special focus on the resettlement of Japanese Americans in the Chicago metropolitan area after leaving the camps. A tour of the Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) featuring the exhibit “Origins of Now: Rebuilding Community,” as well as a community mural and archival material from the JASC Legacy Center, will provide perspectives on community development today. The JASC offers quality social services, innovative art and culture programs and public events to the Japanese American and greater multicultural community in the Midwest. Seminar participants will consider the impact and relevance of internment history to our contemporary social and political context. In addition, they will engage with broader theoretical concerns connected to the curricular inclusion of diverse Asian American histories and

experiences. Credits toward certification renewal are available for Illinois teachers (for the morning session as well as the afternoon portion).

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Presenters:

- William Yoshino is the Midwest Director of the Japanese American Citizens League, the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights/education organization in the United States.

- Kevin Kumashiro is an Associate Professor of Education and the Coordinator of Asian American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the founding director of the Center for Anti-Oppressive Education. He is the author or editor of seven books, including most recently, *The Seduction of Common Sense: How the Right Has Framed the Debate on America's Schools*.

- Jean Fujii has been the Executive Director of the Japanese American Service Committee since 1997. Ms. Fujii holds a Masters degree in Social Work and over 20 years of professional experience in special education administration and clinical social work.

- Debbie Mieko Burns, MA, MLIS, CA is the Archivist at the JASC Legacy Center, a community-based archive and library. Prior to the JASC, she worked in archives at the National Gallery of Art, the University of Minnesota, and the Chicago History Museum.

Advanced registration required by March 15. \$100 workshop fee includes lunch. Teachers from the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) as well as from Chicago area member schools of the Newberry Teachers' Consortium (NTC) do not pay a fee. Credits toward re-certification are available for Illinois teachers (for the morning session as well as the afternoon portion).

Contact Karen Su (karensu@uic.edu) or 312-413-7696 for more information or to register.

**On-site at McCormick:**

**\$20 one-day registration fee for pre-conference workshops**

**9:00am – 3:00pm | Overcoming the Stigma of Disability and Mental Health in Asian American Communities**

This full-day pre-conference workshop is designed to give participants an opportunity to examine critical and complex issues in disability and mental health that face Asian American communities in the United States. Participants will gain an integrated understanding of cultural influences on disability/mental health and of the health seeking behaviors and practices of various sub-groups of Asians as well as various health models, health and risk behaviors, and institutional barriers. This interactive session will help participants to understand the gaps in provision that face unserved and underserved Asian American communities and the different constituency groups (community leaders, service providers, advocates, spiritual healers) who serve this group. We hope to bring together educators, researchers, practitioners, advocates, and family and community representatives engaged in various fields of disability and mental health in Asian American communities. As a group, we hope to use this workshop to generate ideas and strategies that bring disability and mental health issues to the forefront, both locally and globally.

**Presenters:**

Grace Hou is the Assistant Secretary for the Illinois Department of Human Services. Prior to this position, she served as the Executive Director of the Chinese Mutual Aid Association (CMAA), a comprehensive, non-profit social service agency serving Chinese immigrants and refugees on Chicago's North Side and Western Suburbs. In addition to managing the growing \$2.6 million agency, Ms. Hou is an advocate for Asian American and immigrant and refugee issues across the city and is a member of numerous Boards of Directors and Advisory Councils of non-profit and governmental bodies.

Rooshey Hasnain is a visiting Research Assistant Professor at the Center for Capacity-Building on Minorities in Disabilities Research at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is interested in developing community-centered advocacy and leadership initiatives that relate to Asian Americans and immigrants and refugees with disabilities and their families/communities. She has more than sixteen years of experience in the disability and rehabilitation fields. She has served as a liaison with grassroots multicultural agencies, advocacy groups, policy makers, academic institutions, and funders in developing new and innovative initiatives to reduce disparities and to promote cultural competency efforts in disability and rehabilitation service systems, locally and internationally.

Jae Jin Pak is a sexual violence prevention specialist with Community Counseling Centers of Chicago (C4) Quetzal Center. He conducts trainings and develops curricula addressing sexual violence issues. He has been active in domestic and sexual violence work since 1989 as an advocate, crisis counselor, educator and ally. He co-chairs the Latino Coalition for the Prevention of Sexual Violence and is active in several Domestic Violence Subcommittees in Chicago that work to raise awareness of domestic violence and related issues to many different communities.

Rahnee K. Patrick is the Youth and Education Team Leader at Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago where she is highly involved in the disability rights movement. Currently, Rahnee serves as the co-leader of Chicago ADAPT; is an active member of Not Dead Yet and co-founder of Feminist Response in Disability Activism (FRIDA). In 2006, she organized the first national ADAPT Youth Summit, an initiative to ensure that youth struggling with disabilities use direct action tactics and to keep ADAPT alive in the next generations of disability rights.

Yanling Li is a Ph.D. student in Disability Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago studying issues of disability from a Chinese perspective. Born in Zhangjiakou, Hebei Province, Yanling was diagnosed with polio at age 2. She has a Master's

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Degree in Linguistics and Applied Linguistics from the College of Foreign Languages in the University of Shanghai for Science and Technology (USST) in China and globally.

Debjani Mukherjee is the Associate Director of the Donnelley Family Disability Ethics Program at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC). She is a licensed clinical psychologist and her research and practice are informed by over 16 years of clinical experience, working in 8 hospital settings (in Buffalo; Boston; Urbana; Chicago; Paris, France; and Kolkata, India). Debjani received a Fulbright Scholar Faculty Research Award in 2006-2007 to examine long-term adjustment to Traumatic Brain Injury in Kolkata, India.

Joanna Su is a second-generation Chinese American. She is a co-founder and President of the Board of Directors of the Asian American Suicide Prevention Initiative (AASPI), which mobilized in 2004 after six Chicagoland Asian Americans died by suicide within one month. Joanna has worked and volunteered extensively in the AAPI community. Currently, she is a Project Manager for the Asian American Institute (AAI), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower the Asian American community.

Maria Ferrera is a second generation Filipina American who is a doctoral candidate at the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. She has served for twelve years as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the fields of child welfare, medical social work, and community service.

### **9:00am – 11:30am | Engaging Muslim, Middle Eastern, Arab, and South Asian American Images and Communities in the Chicago Area**

This workshop is being organized for high school teachers who are interested in engaging Muslim, Arab, Middle Eastern, and South Asian American issues, histories and experiences in the classroom and as part of the curriculum. The workshop organizers recognize that these communities present unique challenges in today's classrooms, challenges that are made more difficult without the tools to address the stereotypes that students sometimes bring to our classes. The half-day workshop brings together academics and educators with expertise in these Asian American-related issues to present and discuss material that greatly impacts high schools and student communities in the Chicagoland area. Additionally, the presenters will address what is seen as a growing divide between Asian immigrant students and Asian American students. The workshop will draw attention to new arrivals, including Middle Eastern and Muslim students, and work to demystify the belief that all Asian American students are alike. This portion of the workshop will focus on Chicago's Asian American populations, surveying the needs of Asian and Asian immigrant students. Credit toward certificate renewal available for Illinois teachers.

#### **Presenters:**

- Khyati Y. Joshi, Assistant Professor in the School of Education at Fairleigh Dickinson University, who has written and taught extensively on religion, race, and ethnicity in America and multicultural education.
- Yvonne Lau, who has long studied the needs of Asian American students for K-12 education in the Chicago area and is a pioneer of Asian American studies in the Midwest
- Manuel Medina, past officer of Language and Cultural Education for Chicago Public Schools

### **12:30pm- 2pm | Adoptee Children's Literature**

Representations of transnationally/transracially adopted Koreans began appearing in American children's books in 1955, with at least one new book appearing every few years since. This workshop provides an analysis of how American children's books reflect transracial adoption from Korea, adult adoptees' reactions to those stories, and the ideological challenges of representing transracial adoption within the conventions of children's literature. We provide an overview of the children's literature and one of our panelists suggests what the children's books should and must contain to help not only the child, but also the families and other readers to better understand the unique challenges in raising transracial children. Specifically, we discuss who writes stories, who they address, and what kind of stories they tell through both text and illustrations. One of our panelists also emphasizes that these books must and should address the realities - the "adoptee truths" - adoptees face as

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children and as adults: that being an adoptee never stops; that transracial adoptees generally have heightened experiences and perceptions around the intersections of race and family; that adoptees need to address these very real feelings in child-accessible ways because this heightened awareness starts at a very young age. This presentation will help guide readers to make critical choices in consuming children's literature in an effort to support vibrant, high quality, and socially just literature.

Presenters:

- Laura Ganarelli, a Korean adoptee, is the founder of Paper Lantern, a Chicago-based resource center for all transracial adoptees and their families.

- Sarah Park is a PhD Candidate in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her dissertation critically analyzes representations of transracially adopted Koreans in American and Korean children's literature <<http://www.sarahpark.com>>.

- Sun Yung Shin is the author of *Cooper's Lesson* (2005), an illustrated bilingual (English/Korean) book for children, as well as a co-editor of *Outsiders Within: Writing on Transracial Adoption* (2006) and the author of a collection of poems *Skirt Full of Black* (2007). She is a 2007 Bush Artist Fellow.

### **2:30-4pm | Mixed Asians**

The Mixed Asian Workshop will present an overview of key issues for mixed Asian people in relation to both the Multiracial Movement and to Asian American communities. Issues to be covered include authenticity/legitimacy, colorism, identity development, creation of community through culture (i.e. "Anomaly," "Part Asian, 100% Hapa, Hapa Soap Opera) and debates over language (should we use "Hapa," Eurasian, Afroasian, mestiza/o, etc.). Presenters will discuss community organizing and activism, as well as the specific resources of the Mavin Foundation's Mixed Heritage Center website and a proposed professional association for Mixed Race Studies Scholars.

Presenters:

- Wei Ming Dariotis is Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies at San Francisco State University, with emphases on Asians of mixed heritage and Asian Pacific American literature, arts, and culture.

- Eric Hamako is a multiracial organizer and doctoral student in Social Justice Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

- Farzana Nayani, Program Manager, Search to Involve Pilipino Americans

Farzana Nayani administers educational programming and conducts small business counselling at Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA). A multiracial researcher originally from Vancouver, Canada, she has conducted research on the communication patterns of multiethnic Filipino families in Hawai'i (UH Press, in press) and cross-cultural training (Sage, 2008). Farzana is a designer of culturally relevant content including the Filipino American Centennial online curriculum for the Smithsonian Institution (2006) and incorporates her expertise with the Asian-Pacific community into her work. Farzana is currently based in Los Angeles and is a board member for organizations that serve the multiracial community throughout North America.

*The Mixed Asians Workshop is sponsored by The Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU.*

*Portions of the AAAS pre-conference workshops have been made possible by funding from the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Asian American Studies Consortium. The CIC brings together 12 world-class research universities, advancing their missions by sharing expertise, leveraging campus resources and collaborating on innovative programs.*

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## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008**

#### **7:00 pm | Theatre, Film Screening, “Moral Debt: The Postwar Battle of the Veterans” by Martin Rossetti**

During World War II, over two hundred and fifty thousand Filipinos were inducted into and fought on behalf of the United States armed forces. Following the end of the war and the independence of the Philippines, the United States Congress passed the Rescission Act of 1946, effectively denying the Filipinos eligibility for naturalization in the U.S. Today, over sixty years later, the Filipino veterans (Veteranos), are still struggling to be seen as equals in the eyes of the U.S. government. Through interviews with politicians, activists, and the Veteranos themselves, this documentary tells the story of sacrifices made, loved ones lost, and hardships endured by the Filipinos as a result of their entanglement in WWII. We celebrate the pride and loyalty these men and women exhibit, even in the face of betrayal and racism, and hope that by telling their story, we can move the country to settle a debt overdue.

Martín Rossetti grew up in the world of filmmaking and has worked in many capacities, from production assistant to director, to writer and producer. Working in both the television and film industries for many years, he has been working on projects from around the world including the United States, Argentina, Mexico, and South Korea. Martín got his training from the prestigious school of Broadcasting at San Francisco State University receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2007. In his final year of school, he got his big break with a grant from SFSU to direct and produce his first documentary, “A Moral Debt” which has received awards including a National Award of Merit which will be given by the current Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco in May 2008. Since producing “A Moral Debt,” it has been a non-stop roller coaster ride with the founding of a production company (with four other partners), the Vivo Media Group, where they have been producing music and corporate videos as well as writing for future political documentaries. Website: <http://veteranosdoc.com>

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2008**

#### **12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | Literary Reading: Linda Furiya, “Bento Box in the Heartland: My Japanese Girlhood in Whitebread America” (Seal Press, 2006)**

While growing up in Versailles, an Indiana farm community, Linda Furiya tried to balance the outside world of Midwestern America with the Japanese traditions of her home life. As the only Asian family in a tiny township, Furiya's life revolved around Japanese food and the extraordinary lengths to which her parents went in gathering the ingredients needed to prepare the meals. As immigrants, her parents approached the challenges of living in America---and maintaining their Japanese diets---with optimism and gusto. Furiya, meanwhile, was acutely aware of how food set her apart from her peers: She spent her first day of school hiding in the girls' restroom, examining her rice balls and chopsticks and longing for a PB&J. Author Linda Furiya will read excerpts from her book and discuss her experiences with assimilation and racism. Her reading will be followed by a Q&A, and book signing. Her book will be available for purchase. Learn more about her at <http://www.lindafuriya.com>.

#### **4:30 PM - 6:00 PM | Film Screening: Who Killed Vincent Chin?**

A screening to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the landmark documentary by Christine Choy and Renee Tajima-Peña chronicling the brutal killing of a Chinese American by two white men in the Detroit area. Who Killed Vincent Chin? has served as a foundational text for Asian American Studies and has played a central role in raising awareness of the problem of anti-Asian violence. Through its documentation of the national Justice for Vincent Chin movement, the film has introduced thousands of student and community activists to the concept of panethnic community organizing.

#### **6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | Panel: Re-reading “Who Killed Vincent Chin?”: Voices From Detroit**

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Chair: Scott Kurashige, University of Michigan  
Discussant: Renee Tajima-Pena, Independent Filmmaker

Frank H. Wu, Wayne State University  
Detroit and the Death of the American Dream

Grace Lee Boggs, Independent Scholar  
From Civil Rights to a New Concept of Citizenship

Scott Kurashige, University of Michigan  
The Chin Case and the Politics of Urban Space

Touching the lives of thousands of viewers and inspiring a generation of Asian American activists, *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* demonstrates in powerful fashion the Asian American community's relationship to the struggle for civil rights. This panel featuring three presenters who live in Detroit, study the city, and are connected to a range of multiracial political organizing activities will highlight how greater attention to the issue of place can enhance the meaning of the Vincent Chin case for scholars and activists in the twenty-first century. While Detroit often functions as a symbol of American economic woes and racial scapegoating, this panel will deepen our perspective of Detroit's multiracial history and politics. To link our campaigns for racial justice to a movement for social transformation, Asian Americans must understand and confront the social crises stemming from deindustrialization, extreme racial segregation, and urban abandonment that have ravaged Detroit and other "rust belt" cities.

**5:00 PM – 6:00 PM | Literary Reading: Don Lee, "Wrack & Ruin"**

Don Lee will read from his new novel, a farcical comedy called *Wrack and Ruin* (April 2008, W.W. Norton). It returns to Rosarita Bay, the town in his first book, *Yellow*, and is about two brothers, Lyndon and Woody Song. Lyndon was once a famous sculptor in his youth, but walked away from the art world to become a Brussels sprouts farmer. Woody was once a financial planner, but squandered all of his clients' money, including their parents', and is now a fledgling movie producer. He visits his brother over Labor Day weekend and wreaks havoc on his life. Don Lee is the author of the novel *Country of Origin*, which won an American Book Award, and the story collection *Yellow*, which won the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction. He recently received the Fred R. Brown Literary Award from the University of Pittsburgh. Formerly the editor of the literary journal *Ploughshares*, he now teaches creative writing at Macalester College in St. Paul.

**6:00 PM – 7:30 PM | Committee on Institutional Cooperation / University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Reception**

The reception co-hosted by University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign has two goals. The first goal is to celebrate the ongoing progress being made in the Asian American Studies Program at the university and to help disseminate information about these developments. The second goal is to welcome conference participants from across the country to the midwest, which is often stereotypically seen as a cradle of mainstream conservatism (read white). However, this conference and the growing Asian American Studies Programs in this region will attest to the contrary - there is a vibrant critical ethos that is emerging and circulating. Hopefully, this critical ethos will provide new models and alternative formations for the development of the field.

The Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) is a consortium of 12 research universities, including the 11 members of the Big Ten Conference and the University of Chicago. The CIC-Asian American Studies Consortium would like to celebrate the accomplishments of its faculty, staff, and students working in Asian American Studies, and to welcome our colleagues and friends to the annual meeting of AAAS in Chicago.

**9:00 PM – 1:00 AM | HIPHOISTAN: South Asian Hip Hop Showcase and After Party**

HIPHOISTAN, a showcase featuring national and international South Asian hip hop artists, highlights new diasporic expressions of politics, art, and community that emerge across linguistic, national, and ethnic boundaries. Asian youth across the globe have adopted this particular expression of black popular culture to voice their understandings of their world and to locate themselves within it. The hip hop show features six MCs representing Los Angeles (Chee Malabar), New York

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(Abstract/Vision), Boston, and Malaysia, followed by an afterparty with DJ Rekha spinning hip hop, bhangra, and reggae music. The show and afterparty, held at the McCormick Center, are open to the public.

## **FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008**

### **10:15-11:45 pm | Midwest Writers Showcase**

Readings by Midwest writers Susan T. Layug, Bryan Thao Worra, and Timothy Yu

### **12:00-1:30 pm | Visual Arts Showcase - Visual Identity: School of the Art Institute of Chicago**

The multimedia performance and installation, organized by Korean students at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, will explore the comprehensive identity of participants by presenting conceptual and experimental new media artworks. The concept of identity can be viewed and characterized by the notions of territory and boundaries, which can be figuratively translated into visual objects of lines and strings. This show provides the internally and externally or domestically and internationally divergent perspectives of ethnic identity defined by and exhibited in diverse media such as TV, film, and video, while questioning various Asian and American viewpoints.

### **12:00 PM - 1:30 PM | Poetry Reading: For a New Century: Emerging Voices in Contemporary Poetry**

Jennifer Chang, University of Virginia  
Lee Herrick, Fresno City College  
Joseph O. Legaspi, Co-Founder of Kundiman  
Purvi Shah, Executive Director of Sakhi for South Asian Women  
Sun Yung Shin, College of St. Catherine

Curated by Jennifer Kwon Dobbs, University of Southern California

### **12:00-1:30 pm | Round Table/Brown Bag: South Asian Hip Hop**

South Asian Hip Hop artists from the previous night's event, Hiphopistan, will be on hand to discuss their music, art, and craft. Meet these artists and hear their views on how they see themselves, their politics, and their chosen form of expression.

### **12:00-1:30 pm | Film Screening: Center for Asian American Media presents WET SAND**

Filmmaker Dai Sil Kim-Gibson explores the aftermath of the 1992 LA Civil Unrest in her film *WET SAND*. Her groundbreaking 1993 documentary *SA-I-GU* stands as one of the crucial texts to offer a Korean American perspective on the events surrounding the Los Angeles riots – an invaluable discussion tool for promoting better understanding of the socio-political factors that played into one of the grimmest moments in United States race relations. With *WET SAND*, Kim-Gibson revisits Los Angeles to learn what changes have occurred since then, only to discover that living conditions have deteriorated and that few remedies have been administered to the communities most stricken. Through interviews with a multi-ethnic set of first-hand witnesses, this essential follow-up probes deeper into the racial and economic issues that not only shaped the climate of 1992 Los Angeles, but continue to affect all Americans today.

### **5:30-7:30 pm | Theatre: A-Squared Theater Workshop presents a staged reading of excerpts from *The Wind Cries Mary* by Philip Kan Gotanda**

A reworking of Henrik Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*, *The Wind Cries Mary* explores timeless themes of power and gender politics set against the backdrop of San Francisco's rock scene and the Civil Rights Movement. Philip Kan Gotanda transforms Ibsen's "Hedda" into "Eiko," a Japanese American woman of vast gifts and intelligence burdened by the constraints of gender and tradition in 1968.

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A-Squared Theatre Workshop is a new Chicago-based collective which aims to create an artistic environment of risk taking and growth for Asian-American theater artists. A-Squared will produce *The Wind Cries Mary* in the summer of 2008. For more information, visit <http://myspace.com/asquaredtheaterworkshop>.

**6:00 PM – 7:30 PM | Center for Asian American Studies at the University of Texas, Austin Reception**

Join us in celebrating the stabilization and growth of the Center for Asian American Studies at UT Austin and explore the institutional and intellectual possibilities of locating Asian American Studies in Texas and the south. We will be honoring the AAS pioneers, Him Mark Lai and Sucheng Chan, with a brief ceremony heralding the publication of *Chinese Americans and the Politics of Race and Culture* (Temple University Press, 2008) which was co-edited by Sucheng in honor of Him Mark. We will also be congratulating Patrick Rosal, a lecturer in English at UT, for receiving the AAAS Poetry Award for *My American Kundiman* and Eiichiro Azuma, for receiving a Harrington Fellowship to conduct research at UT during 2008-09.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008**

**12:00-1:30 pm | Literary Reading: Kali Plomin, Mary Anne Mohanraj, Sugi Ganeshanathan and Desilit**

DesiLit is pleased to present three South Asian diaspora stories of love and marriage. Sugi Ganeshanathan will be reading from her debut novel, *Love Marriage*.

**12:00-1:30 pm | Film Screening: Eric Byler**

**12:00-1:30 pm | Round Table/Brown Bag: Chicago Asian American Arts featuring Tatsu Aoki's Asian American Jazz Festival**

**7:00 PM – 10:00 PM | AAAS AWARDS BANQUET**

The Association for Asian American Studies invites you to the closing banquet and awards ceremony. Community, Lifetime, and Book Awards will be given. Tentative location: Three Happiness Chinese Restaurant 2130 S Wentworth Ave, Chicago 60616. Banquet tickets: \$5.00. Tickets available on-site at the Hyatt McCormick throughout the duration of the conference.

**MEGA SESSIONS**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2008**

**10:15 AM – 11:45 AM | Faith in a Time of Empire: Religion and Asian America**

Chair: Pawan Dhingra, Oberlin College

Moustafa Bayoumi, Associate Professor of English, Brooklyn College  
Prema Kurien, Associate Professor of Sociology, Syracuse University  
Paul Spickard, Professor of History, University of California, Santa Barbara

Religion is a central issue in the cultural lives, in the public discourses, and in the national and transnational politics regarding Asian America. Yet, it remains under-theorized relative to other social issues on the community. These panelists represent various perspectives, across the humanities and social sciences and across religious groups, and will further the conversation on how to analyze the role of religion within Asian America.

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**11.1 | Guantánamo Bay and the Conscience of Asian American Studies**

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM | CC 12 A &amp; B

Chair: Rajini Srikanth, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Anant Raut, Counsel, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. House of Representatives  
*Defending Detainees: Why, How, and For How Long?*Gitanjali Gutierrez, Center for Constitutional Rights  
*Guantánamo Detainees at the Edges of Law*Marc Falkoff, Northern Illinois University College of Law  
*Poems from Guantánamo: The Uses of Empathy*

There is remarkably little coverage of the continued questionable detention of over 300 men of Muslim heritage in the legal no-man's land of Guantánamo Bay. Occasionally, the American public reads of the military tribunals that are held there, legal hearings in which many fundamental and basic principles of law are ignored. These are men whose existence is used symbolically to discipline the nation into accepting the overreaches of executive power and submitting to the arbitrary authority of the state. But what of the men themselves—their complex identities, their truncated lives? The presenters on this panel, all of whom serve as defense counsel for different groups of detainees, will illuminate for us the netherworld of Guantánamo Bay and, in the process, chart the conscience of Asian American studies: What are the possibilities and limits of our responsibility as scholars, educators, citizens, and Asian Americanists?

**FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008****3:30 PM – 5:00 PM | The Heart(land) of Asian American Studies: Approaches in the Midwest**

Chair: Pawan Dhingra, Oberlin College

Victor Jew, University of Wisconsin Madison  
*Asian American Studies and Critical Regionalism: The Midwest as the Site of Racialized Governmentalities*Erika Lee, University of Minnesota  
*Making Asian American History in the Midwest*Mark Chiang, University of Illinois at Chicago  
*Asian American Studies Among the Cornfields: From Community Control to Cultural Capital*

The role of geography within Asian American Studies has been problematized at least since the founding of the “East of California” consortium. Yet, the “Heartland” often remains represented as a homogenous space. The panelists discuss how the growth in the number of both Asian Americans and Asian American Studies programs in the Midwest impacts the dominant paradigms and teachings of the field at large.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008****3:30 PM – 5:00 PM | Beyond the Maiden Voyage: Exploring Queer Studies in Asian America Now**

Chair: Martin F. Manalansan IV, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dana Takagi, Professor of Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz  
Gayatri Gopinath, Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies, New York University

It has been more than 15 years after embarking on a journey to establish a queer studies research agenda within the field

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of Asian American Studies. From Amy Ling convening a panel in the Ithaca conference in the early nineties to pioneering anthologies by Russell Leong, David Eng and Alice Hom, Asian American Studies has been a hospitable place for a systematic and sustained queering of knowledge formations. This mega-session/plenary is an attempt to take stock and look back at the accomplishments, sift through the existing gaps and promising works, and chart a critical future for scholars in both fields.

## **OFF-SITE PROGRAMS MARCH 10 - APRIL 25, 2008**

**Everyday Runway: Asian American Street Fashion Exhibit and Fashion Show C33 Gallery, Columbia College  
Chicago**

**33 E. Congress Parkway 1F**

**Hours: 9 am - 7 pm Monday - Thursday and 9 am - 5 pm on Friday**

Nowadays, the cutting edge of fashion often emerges from "the street." Although Europe is still looked upon as the fashion center of the world, more and more people including fashion designers and even pop star Gwen Stefani are drawn to Japanese street fashion for its fast-forward, bold and creative mix of East and West, high and low, couture and homemade and everything that comes in between. Join us as we take a photographic journey through the streets of Asia and America and meet the people who have embraced, remixed and continued to influence the global fashion today. Through photographs, garments, accessories, videos, fashion magazines and the illustrated personal stories, this exhibit aims to provide a snapshot of the fast-changing look of street fashion in Asia and America while reflecting on the formation, display and performance of Asian urban aesthetic and youth identity and its influence on American popular culture.

April 4-May 18 , 2008

**Lucky 13**

**Gene Siskel Film Center Gallery**

**161 N. State Street (at Randolph)**

**Hours: 10am-8pm daily**

Triskaidekaphobia aside, "Lucky 13" features works by 13 Asian American artists who have interpreted and drawn inspiration from the number 13 in ostentatious celebration of the 13th anniversary of the Foundation for Asian American Independent Media's Asian American Showcase.

Wednesday, April 16

Master Spotlight: Tony Award Winning Playwright David Henry Hwang

Musical: "Flower Drum Song"

April 16, 2008

Conaway Center

1104 South Wabash Avenue

For more information visit: <http://www.colum.edu/asianartsandmedia/>

Ticketing Information:

Columbia College Ticket Center

312-344-6600

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2008**

**Jennifer 8. Lee, author of Fortune Cookie Chronicles**

**& Patrick Rosal, poet and author of My American Kundiman (winner of the Association for Asian American Studies 2008 Book Award)**

**6:00 PM- 8:00 PM**

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Free Food  
Jane Addams Hull-House Museum  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
800 South Halsted

Did you know there are more Chinese restaurants in the United States than McDonalds, Burger Kings and KFCs combined?? Join us for a conversation with New York Times reporter Jennifer 8. Lee, author of a fascinating new book that explores the origin and evolution of Chinese Food in the US. Learn about the cultural roots of General Tso's Chicken, the unique bond between Chinese food and American Jewry and the trafficking of illegal immigrants into kitchen servitude.

&  
A reading with Patrick Rosal, the author of two full-length poetry collections, Uprock Headspin Scramble and My American Kundiman. His electric narratives and portraits mix the personal with the political and give expression to a compassion that permeates even the most morally ambiguous situations. Modeling poems on the kundiman, a song of unrequited love sung by Filipinos for their country in times of oppression, he professes his conflicted feelings for America, while celebrating and lamenting his various heritages. His work has been honored by the annual Allen Ginsberg Awards, the James Hearst Poetry Prize, the Arts and Letters Prize, Best of the Net among others.  
For more information, see [hullhousemuseum.org](http://hullhousemuseum.org)

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2008 AND FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008**

8:00 pm Feature Film as part of the 13th Annual Asian American Showcase presented by the Foundation of Asian American Independent Media (FAAIM) and the Gene Siskel Film Center.  
161 N. State Street (at Randolph)  
For the latest details visit [www.faaaim.org](http://www.faaaim.org) or [www.siskelfilmcenter.com](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.com)

FAAIM's mission is to promote film, video, and other media by and about Asian Americans, and to support the artists who create them and educate communities – Asian American and mainstream, local and national – about Asian American history and issues.

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008 AND SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2008**

All Day Film Screenings: 13th Annual Asian American Showcase presented by the Foundation of Asian American Independent Media (FAAIM) and the Gene Siskel Film Center  
161 N. State Street (at Randolph)  
For the latest details visit [www.faaaim.org](http://www.faaaim.org) or [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org)

## **TOURS**

### **TOUR REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2008**

Conference participants should send tour registration and payments directly to Jinah Kim. Please send your name, phone number, and email address along with a check for each tour registration. Please be sure to write a separate check for each tour. Conference participants will be notified before the start of the conference if a tour does not fill to the minimum capacity to run and checks will not be cashed for that tour.

Jinah Kim: [Jinah-kim@northwestern.edu](mailto:Jinah-kim@northwestern.edu)  
Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences  
Asian American Studies Program  
1860 Campus Drive  
Crowe Hall 1-117  
Evanston, IL 60208-2166  
(847) 467-7114

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## **AVAILABLE DAILY - APRIL 17-19**

11:00 am -12:00 pm - Chinatown tour by the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce. \$5 per person.

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16**

#### **Japanese American Service Committee of Chicago tour**

11:30am – 2:30pm - Participants will enjoy a catered lunch at the Japanese American Service Committee before joining a guided tour of the “Origins of Now: Rebuilding Community” exhibit. The exhibit portrays the historical experiences of Japanese Americans in the metropolitan Chicago area. In addition, tour participants will be able to view a community mural just completed over the summer and learn about the library and archives of the JASC Legacy Center. Founded in 1945 and incorporated in 1946, the Japanese American Service Committee of Chicago originally served the needs of the Issei and Nisei who left World War II internment camps to resettle in Chicago and start new lives. Today, the JASC is a multi-faceted community-based organization, which offers quality social services, innovative art and culture programs and public events to the Japanese American and greater multicultural community in the Midwest. Seminar participants will consider the impact and relevance of internment history to our contemporary social and political context. A bus will transport conference attendees to and from McCormick Place. \$25 includes lunch. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 17**

#### **Hyde Park/Archives tour**

9:30 am – A bus will be available to take conference attendees to the Special Collections Research Center at the University of Chicago’s Regenstein Library. There, researchers will be able to examine the library’s holdings that might be of interest to researchers of Asian American history. Available for examination will be selections from the Ernest Burgess Papers, including research by Paul C.P. Siu and others who studied Chicago’s Chinatown. While in Hyde Park, visitors may also take a brief tour of the campus, visit Frank Lloyd Wright’s historic Robie House, or browse the labyrinthine rooms of the Seminary Co-op Bookstore, the country’s largest academic bookstore. The bus will leave from 57th St. in front of the Regenstein Library at 11:30 pm, returning to McCormick Place by 12 noon. \$10. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

#### **CBO & Neighborhood tour: Uptown/Argyle St. Area**

12 noon – a bus will leave from McCormick Place to take conference attendees up to the Argyle Street area, where participants will be able to sample authentic Vietnamese food and visit two community based organizations and see one of Chicago’s thriving ethnic neighborhoods. Sometimes known as Chicago’s “Northside Chinatown,” Argyle Street is home to a wide variety of stores and restaurants, many of them run by immigrants from Southeast Asia. The bus leaves at 3:30pm to return to McCormick Place, but those wishing to remain in the neighborhood and be on their own for dinner could easily take the Red Line back to the Cermak/Chinatown stop near the hotel. \$25 includes lunch. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 18**

#### **CBO and Neighborhood Tour: Lawrence Avenue Area**

10:00 am – a bus will take conference attendees to the Northside to visit two community-based organizations and tour the Lawrence Avenue area, which is known for its concentration of Korean shops and restaurants. This tour will feature a visit to the Korean Resource and Cultural Center, a stop at the Cambodian Association of Illinois and its Museum (the only one of its kind in the country), and then a stop for lunch at one of the area’s Korean restaurants. \$25 includes lunch. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

#### **Chinese American Service League and Chinese American Museum**

2:00 pm – Participants will be taken by bus to the heart of Chicago’s Southside Chinatown, where they will have a chance to explore the Chinese American Museum and visit the Chinese American Service League, a social service agency in Chinatown. A community reception is being planned to follow this tour. \$12 includes museum admission and snacks. A

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minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 19**

### **CBO & Neighborhood Tour: Rizal Center, Indo-American Center, and Devon Ave.**

10:00 am – a bus will take conference attendees to two community based organizations on the Northside and end with a group lunch at a South Asian restaurant on Devon Avenue, the bustling business district at the heart of Chicago's South Asian community. The first leg of the tour will include a stop at the Jose Rizal Heritage Center, established in 1974 by the Chicago Filipino American community. From there, visitors will be taken by bus to the Indo-American Center, followed by a tour of Devon Avenue and then lunch. The bus returns to the Conference Center by 1:30 in time for the afternoon panels. \$25 includes lunch. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

### **Pilsen Neighborhood and Mural Tour**

2:00 pm – a bus will take participants from the conference center to the National Museum of Mexican Art in the nearby Pilsen neighborhood. From there, a guide will lead participants on a walking tour of the neighborhood, which features a variety of murals depicting scenes from the Mexican-American community. Returning to the Museum, participants will have an opportunity to explore exhibitions in this gem of a cultural institution, which is the only museum of Latino art accredited by the American Association of Museums. \$20. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

## **SUNDAY, APRIL 20**

### **Chinatown Tour and Dim Sum Lunch**

10:30 am – participants will be taken by shuttle to Chinatown for a tour by the Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce. The tour ends with a group meal at a dim sum restaurant in the neighborhood. \$20. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

### **Asian American Chicago**

1:00 pm - Participants wishing to participate in a lengthier tour of Asian American Chicago may sign up for this tour. This tour will take participants to various neighborhoods and sites, culminating in a meal at a local Asian restaurant. The tour ends at 5pm. \$25 includes meal. A minimum of 15 people is needed to run this tour.

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Q: Will badges and program booklets be mailed?*

A: No, badges and conference programs will not be mailed in advance of the conference. Prior to the event, you will find the schedule and events available on the website at [www.aaastudies.org](http://www.aaastudies.org).

*Q: Where and when do I pick up my badge?*

A: You can pick up your badge and conference materials at the on-site registration desk on-site beginning Wednesday, April 16, 2008. You can also pay registration and membership fees directly on-site at the conference.

*Q: When will registration be open?*

Wednesday, April 16, 2008: 1:00PM - 5:00PM  
Thursday, April 17, 2008: 8:00AM - 5:00PM  
Friday, April 18, 2008: 8:00AM - 5:00PM  
Saturday, April 19, 2008: 8:00AM - 12:00PM

*Q: How can I get a formal invitation letter for my VISA application?*

A: You can request this letter from AAAS by contacting [vm54@cornell.edu](mailto:vm54@cornell.edu) or [ssh13@cornell.edu](mailto:ssh13@cornell.edu).

*Q: What are the registration requirements for presenting at the conference?*

A: To be eligible to present a paper or participate in a roundtable or plenary at the conference, you must be a member of the Association. Membership forms will be available when you check in on-site. In addition to being a member, you must also register for the 2008 conference. Registration forms will also be available on-site. Cash, personal check, and credit cards (VISA, MC, American Express, Discover) are all accepted.

*Q: What is the cancellation policy?*

A: All registrants who cancel prior to the conference or do not attend the conference forfeit their entire registration fee. Once you submit your registration you are not entitled to a refund. Please remember that canceling your conference registration does not automatically cancel your hotel and travel arrangements, individuals are responsible for canceling their own hotel and travel reservations.

*Q: What is the Anita Affeldt Graduate Fund and why should I donate?*

A: The Anita Affeldt Graduate Fund was officially begun in 2004 in honor of Anita Affeldt. The Secretariat of the Association for Asian American Studies has been located in Cornell University's Asian American Studies Program for many years. Anita Affeldt, the Administrative Manager of the Asian American Studies Program, also took on that function in relation to the business of the Secretariat. Her enormous contributions to AAAS over more than a decade were recognized through the creation of this fund. The fund

defrays financial expenses for graduate students each year by covering hotel expenses and waiving the conference registration fee. Donations made to the fund are tax deductible, and may be given in any amount. A separate area exists on both the conference registration form and membership form to donate to the fund. Payments can also be made to: AAAS, Cornell University, 420 Rockefeller Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853-2502.

*Q: If I am unable to attend, how can someone take my place at the conference?*

A: Substitutions are allowed by email request submitted to the 2008 Program Committee Chairs. You may submit your request via e-mail, fax or regular/overnight mail; e-mail: [vm54@cornell.edu](mailto:vm54@cornell.edu); fax: 607-254-4996; AAAS, Cornell University, 420 Rockefeller Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853-2502.

## Travel and Housing Questions

*Q: Where can I find information on the conference hotel?*

A: The Hyatt McCormick Place Hotel is the officially endorsed hotel for 2008. Please visit: <http://mccormickplace.hyatt.com/groupbooking/chimcdaaa2008> for more information.

*Q: What is the address and phone number of the Hyatt McCormick Place Hotel and how do I reserve a room?*

A: Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, 2233 S. Martin Luther King Dr., Chicago, IL 60616; Tel: 312-567-1234

It has come to our attention that hotel rooms at the Hyatt McCormick Place Hotel have sold out for the nights of Wednesday, April 16 and Thursday, April 17. You may still reserve rooms at this property but will not receive the special group rate of \$189 single, but instead \$299 single. Rooms are still available for Friday, April 18 and Saturday, April 19. We apologize for the inconvenience this may have caused. Please see our website ([www.aaastudies.org](http://www.aaastudies.org)) to see a list of alternate hotels in Chicago. The rates provided are estimates for April 16 and 17 and are subject to change.

*Q: Is transportation available to and from the airport?*

A: NOTE: When making flight arrangements, the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place is closer to Midway Airport.

From O'Hare Int'l Airport (23 miles):

Take Kennedy Expressway (I-90/94) East to Stevenson Expressway (I-55) North. Exit at Martin Luther King Drive. At light, turn left to hotel.

From Midway Airport (10 miles):

Take Cicero Ave. north to Stevenson Expressway (I-55) North. Exit at Martin Luther King Drive. At light, turn left to hotel. TAXI: approximately \$25.

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**FROM O'HARE INT'L AIRPORT:**

**AIRPORT EXPRESS-** 1-800-654-7871 or 312-454-7800  
 Ticket counters are located across from baggage claim areas of terminals 1, 2 & 3 and outside US Customs in terminal 5.  
**COST:** \$25.00pp (1 person)  
 \$18.00pp (2 people)  
 \$14.00pp (3 people)  
 Children 6-12 years of age \$12.00 one way, 5 years and under are free.

Private van service is available for up to 10 passengers for \$130.00 one way. Service runs 6:00am-11:30pm daily. Vans depart airport approximately every 10 minutes. Vans depart hotel at 10 after the hour and 40 after the hour beginning at 4:40am. The last run is at 10:10pm. Vans are blue and white with red lettering. For more information call 800-654-7871.  
 \*\* Service for physically challenged is available. Reservations are requested 1 day in advance for this service.

**LIMOUSINE SERVICE:**

Please contact the Guest Services Department at 312-528-6513 for reservations.

**TAXI SERVICE:**

Located on the lower level of each terminal, taxis are available at the taxi staging area. A ride from O'Hare to Hyatt Regency McCormick Place takes approx. 45 minutes and costs between \$40-\$45.

**FROM MIDWAY AIRPORT:**

**AIRPORT EXPRESS-** 1-800-654-7871 Pick up in baggage claim area by Southwest Airlines.

**COST:** \$20.00pp (1 person)  
 \$14.00pp (2 people)  
 \$ 12.00pp (3 people)  
 Children 6- 12 years of age \$12.00 one way, 5 years and under are free.  
 Vans depart hotel at 10 minutes after the hour and 40 minutes after the hour. first run at 4:40am and last run at 10:10pm. Vans are blue and white with red lettering. For more information call 800-654-7871.  
 \*\* Service for physically challenged guests is available. Reservations are needed 1 day in advance for this service.

**AMERICAN LIMOUSINE:**

Provides shared-ride and private Limousine service between Midway Airport and Hyatt Regency McCormick Place. Price is \$46 one-way for shared ride and \$65 one-way for private service. Advance reservations are highly suggested at (630) 920-8888.

**INSTRUCTIONS WHEN ARRIVING AT AIRPORT:** After retrieving luggage, phone 1-800-762-6888. Provide agent with the name and limo reservation number. Agent will

instruct where to meet the limo and car number. American Limousine accepts all major credit cards.

**TAXI SERVICE**

Taxis are located in front of the main terminal. A cab ride from Midway Airport to Hyatt Regency McCormick Place costs between \$20-\$2

*Q: What types of local transportation exist?*

A: Chicago has the second largest transit systems in the USA and quite surprisingly it is very reliable. Two main transit systems in Chicago are: The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) including buses and trains (locally referred to as the "L") and Metra, which caters to the Chicagoland area and suburbs. While in Chicago, there is no better way to get around, visit the countless ethnic communities, go shopping, and visit Chicago's finest museums. To learn more about the two transit systems visit:

**CTA**

<http://www.transitchicago.com/>

**Metra**

<http://www.metrarail.com/>

The current CTA Fares are as follows:

One Way Ticket \$2.00 (\$1.75 with the "Chicago Card")  
 One Day Unlimited Pass \$5.00  
 Two Day Unlimited Pass \$9.00  
 Three Day Unlimited Pass \$12.00  
 Five Day Unlimited Pass \$18.00

*Q: Is parking available?*

A: Parking is not included in your registration fee, and is not included for guests staying at the Hyatt McCormick. The hotel offers parking for local day attendees at \$15.00. This rate does not apply to any overnight guest rooms.

**General Conference Questions**

*Q: What is the expected attendance?*

A: Attendance for 2008 is expected to exceed 600 attendees.

*Q: What types of A/V are available for panel sessions?*

A: If you requested any audio-visual equipment in your initial proposal, it will be available for your panel in the designated room. AAAS provides TV/VCR/DVD, overhead and slide projectors. We have a limited number of LCD projectors for panels. Please note that the deadline to request use of these projectors has already passed. If you did not contact the Secretariat about your request for an LCD projector, these will not be available for your session. If you would like to bring your own equipment, please contact the Secretariat for pricing arrangements. The hotel does not allow attendees to use their own equipment unless prior

arrangements are made with the in-house A/V company. A set-up and operational fee is charged for personal equipment in the meeting room.

*Q: Are meals included in the cost of registration?*

A: Lunches will be available for purchase at the conference during the afternoons on the days of the panel sessions. In addition, food will be served at the Committee on Institutional Cooperation/University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign reception on Thursday, April 17, 2008, the University of Texas, Austin reception on Friday, April 18, 2008 and at the Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 19, 2008.

*Q: When, where, and how much is the 2008 Awards Banquet?*

A: The 2008 AAAS Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 19, 2008 at 7:00 - 10:00 pm. The event will be held at Three Happiness Restaurant, 2130 S Wentworth Ave, Chicago, 60616. Tickets for a 10-course meal are \$5 per person, and can be bought on-site during the conference from Thursday, April 17 - Saturday, April 19. Entertainment will be provided by Tatsu Aoki's MIYUMI Ensemble. Come join us for this festive event!

#### **Programming Questions**

*Q: When are the caucus and committee meetings scheduled?*

#### **THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2008**

**7:30 AM – 8:30 AM**

East of California

Committee on Institutional Cooperation

#### **FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008**

**7:30 AM – 8:30 AM**

Queer Asian American Issues

Transnational Adoption

Graduate Students

Public Policy

Education Studies/Information Studies

#### **SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008**

**7:30 AM – 8:30 AM**

Filipino American

Korean American

South Asian

Mixed Race

Southeast Asian

\*Note: At the time of the program going to print, only those listed below made specific requests for caucus meeting space and have been assigned breakout rooms. Others who wish to hold caucuses may do so in an unofficial capacity in the hotel

reception area or off-site. The AAAS offers a bulletin board at the registration desk to post announcements for those who wish to host caucus meetings but have not made official arrangements with the Secretariat or the Program Committee.

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### **AAAS AWARDS**

The Board would like to thank the book award committees for their participation in the process and to congratulate the recipients of the following awards:

#### **Book Awards**

History: Kevin Scott Wong (Chair), Davianna McGregor, Augusto Espiritu

##### History Winners

##### **Moon-Ho Jung**

*Coolies and Cane: Race, Labor, and Sugar in the Age of Emancipation*

(Johns Hopkins University Press)

##### **Linda Espana-Maram**

*Creating Masculinity in Los Angeles's Little Manila: Working Class Filipinos and Popular Culture, 1920s-1950s*

(Columbia University Press)

##### Honorable Mention:

**Yuji Ichioka (eds. Gordon Chang and Eiichiro Azuma)**

*Before Internment: Essays in Prewar Japanese American History* (Stanford University Press)

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Prose/Poetry: Victoria Chang (Chair), Monica Chiu, Nora Okja Keller

##### Prose and Poetry Winners

##### **James Janko**

*Buffalo Boy and Geronimo*

(Curbstone Press)

##### **Patrick Rosal**

*My American Kundiman*

(Persea Books)

Cultural Studies: Martin Manalansan IV (Chair), Kandice Chuh, Gayatri Gopinath

Cultural Studies Winner

**Allen Punzalan Isaac**

*American Tropics: Articulating Filipino America*  
(University of Minnesota Press)

Honorable Mention:

**Grace Hong**

*Ruptures of American Capital: Women of Color, Feminism, and the Culture of Immigrant Labor*  
(University of Minnesota Press)

Social Science: Lok Siu (Chair), Edward J. W. Park, Yen Le Espiritu,

Social Sciences Winner

**Monisha Das Gupta**

*Unruly Immigrants: Rights, Activism, and Transnational South Asian Politics in the United States*  
(Duke University Press)

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**2008 Lifetime Achievement Award Honorees**

**Paul Takagi  
Muriel Bell  
Barbara Posadas**

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**2008 "Heart of Asian American Community Award" Honorees**

*To Be Announced at the AAAS 2008 Conference*

**Anita Affeldt Graduate Travel Fund Winners**

**Linda Ho Peche**

University of Texas, Austin

**Ming-Jung Kwak**

University of British Columbia

**FROM THE SECRETARIAT**

**Election Results**

**President-Elect**

Josephine Lee  
University of Minnesota

**Graduate Student Representative**

Ligaya Domingo  
University of California Berkeley Graduate School of Education

The term of office will begin at the Twenty-fifth Annual Conference, April 16-20, 2008 in Chicago, Illinois. Thank you to all who ran in this year's election.

**UPCOMING AAAS CONFERENCES**

**2009 AAAS Conference**

**2009 AAAS Annual Meeting**

**Honolulu, Hawai'i**

**April 22-26, 2009**

*Tentative Location:*

Waikiki Hilton Prince Kuhio Hotel  
2500 Kuhio Avenue

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815-3696

1-808-922-0811

www.WaikikiPrinceKuhio.com

\$200.00/single or double

## **2010 AAAS Conference**

**2010 AAAS Annual Meeting**  
**Austin, Texas**  
**April 7-11, 2010**

### **Omni Austin Hotel Downtown**

700 San Jacinto at 8th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701  
Phone: (512) 476-3700  
<http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/AustinDowntown.aspx>

\$185/single or double

## **REGIONAL UPDATES**

### **Northeast/New England**

Regional representative: Robyn Magalit Rodriguez, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

#### **Documentary:**

*"Hearts Suspended"* - Losing who you were. Losing who you could become.... (27 minutes, English)  
Hearts Suspended traces the filmmaker's personal journey as she reveals how educated South Asian immigrant women struggle with depression, loss of self-identity, strained marital relations and other issues in the US on H4 (dependent spouse) visas, which deny them work-authorization. Through turmoil emerge spiritual strength, resolve and hope for change. The director, Meghna Damani, grew up in Ahmedabad and Mumbai. She has a Masters in Marketing and has been a journalist, model, and advertising executive. Unauthorized to work in the US since 2002, her struggles inspired her first film. A Documentary Film Graduate of the New School in Manhattan, she lives in Jersey City.

#### **Resources: FOCUS ON MASSACHUSETTS**

I am trying to provide a snapshot of a different Asian American university- or community-based resources, institutions, organizations or groups for every newsletter issue. Again, this is not an exhaustive list!

- 1) Institute for Asian American Studies, UMass, Boston: <http://www.iaas.umb.edu/>
- 2) Asian American Center at Tufts: <http://ase.tufts.edu/asian-nam/>
- 3) Five College Asian Pacific America Studies: [http://www.fivecolleges.edu/asian\\_pa/](http://www.fivecolleges.edu/asian_pa/),
- 4) The 2007 Massachusetts Asian Pacific American Directory was published last fall and is now available for purchase!

The Directory lists over 300 Asian American organizations in the state (and New England). [Please see attached form for ordering instructions.] The year's Directory was co-produced by the Institute for Asian American Studies and the Asian American Resource Workshop.

#### **For Students (of interest to all regions)**

The APALA Organizing Institute is a three-day program intended to train student leaders and community allies to become effective union organizers. Established in 1993, this once a year training has become the single most effective method to identify, train and grow the number of qualified APA organizers around the country. Visit [www.apalanet.org](http://www.apalanet.org) to download an application.

Logistics: When: May 2-4, 2008; Where: UCLA Downtown Labor Center

## **CONFERENCES**

**Creating a Community of Scholarship on Asian Pacific American Issues"**  
**2008 ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN NATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE**  
**Tolman Hall**  
**University of California, Berkeley**  
**April 4-5, 2008**

Registration is highly recommended. We hope to see you at the conference!

Current scholarship on Asian Pacific American issues is expanding beyond traditional disciplinary and regional boundaries, signaling a movement toward establishing new paradigms of understanding aspects of APA experiences. This conference highlights the emerging graduate studies scholarship on issues pertaining to the Asian Pacific American community that will help shape the future of the field. What new projects or research questions are emerging? What are new communities of study, modes of analysis, pedagogies, and possibilities for collaboration and comparative research? We hope that interested graduate students will use this conference to become familiar with each other's research themes and methodologies and come to challenge traditional notions of research in Asian Pacific American scholarship.

We believe this conference will be an excellent way to build a community of scholars because graduate students working in the field of Asian Pacific American studies are most often scattered in different departments at every university. This conference will provide a space for interdisciplinary and intercollegiate exchanges through the presentation and discus-

sion of cutting-edge projects in the field. Following University of Illinois Urbana Champaign in 2006 and University of Illinois Chicago in 2007, this conference marks the third year of organizing efforts specifically in support of graduate student-centered scholarship and research in Asian Pacific American studies.

Sponsored by the Critical Filipino/a Studies Working Group, the Asian Cultural Studies Working Group, the Graduate Asian Pacific Islander Collective, the Asian Pacific American Studies Working Group, Beatrice Bain Research Group, Center for Race and Gender, Gender and Women Studies, Asian American Studies Program, and Student Opportunity Fund Committee at the University of California, Berkeley, University of California, Davis Asian American Studies Graduate Student Group, and the Association for Asian American Studies.

#### PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Friday, April 4, 2008

1-2pm

REGISTRATION

2-4

Keynote Panel - The history of Asian Pacific American Studies and the potential for the future

Professor Michael Omi,  
University of California, Berkeley, Ethnic Studies  
Professor Colleen Lye,  
University of California, Berkeley, English  
Professor Sunaina Maira,  
University of California, Davis, Asian American Studies

4:15-5:45

Session I 1.1-1.3 (3 panels)

6:00

RECEPTION

Saturday, April 5, 2008

9-9:30 am

REGISTRATION, BREAKFAST & OPENING REMARKS

9:30-11:00

Session II 2.1-2.3 (3 panels)

11:15-12:45pm

Session III 3.1-3.3 (3 panels)

12:45-2:00

LUNCH

2:00-3:30

Session IV 4.1-4.4 (4 panels)

3:45-5:00

CLOSING SESSION and REFRESHMENTS

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### **THE GLOBAL SOUTH 4.2 (August 2010) Cavaliers in Paradise: The U.S. South and the Pacific Rim**

*The Global South* is an interdisciplinary journal, published by Indiana University Press. Focusing on the literatures and cultures of those parts of the world that have experienced the most political, social, and economic upheaval, and which have suffered the brunt of the greatest challenges facing the world under globalization, it serves as a signifier of oppositional subaltern cultures ranging from Africa, Central and Latin America, much of Asia, and even those "Souths" within a larger perceived North, such as the U.S. South, the Caribbean, and Mediterranean Europe. The journal equally emphasizes those populations marginalized within the U.S. as it increasingly becomes the face and voice of globalization: immigrants, women of color, and other vulnerable minorities. The global cataclysms of the last decade have amply illustrated that it is the marginalized that bears the brunt of the suffering under globalization, and as globalization conquers the planet, the South, as a synonym for subalterity, transcends geographical and ideological frontiers. Each issue of *The Global South* will contain original work by some of the foremost scholars from around the world, addressing the most vital political, cultural, and material issues of our time.

This *Newsletter* is published quarterly in March, May, September, and November for members of the Association for Asian American Studies. Deadlines for receipt of copy are February 15, April 15, August 15, and October 15, respectively. Direct correspondence and inquiries to its editor: Sunn Shelley Wong, Asian American Studies Program, 420 Rockefeller Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-2502, (607) 255-3320. We do not assume responsibility for the truth or accuracy of the information provided to us by our contributors. We reserve the right, however, to edit copy for clarity and consistency. *The editor* acknowledges with thanks the support of Cornell's Asian American Studies Program.

The current Call for Papers is for a special issue on the U.S. South and the Pacific Rim.

The Pacific Rim was a central contact zone in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American trade, militarism, and expansionism, as Arrell Morgan Gibson's study *Yankees in Paradise: The Pacific Basin Frontier* argues. The U.S. South has had its own complex relationship with the Pacific Rim, one that recent investigations of the global South have made visible. From Asian goods in plantation homes to Chinese labor during Reconstruction; from Vietnamese fishermen to Indian motel owners; from Southern soldiers in Asia to refugee immigrants in Atlanta; the Pacific Rim has engaged with the U.S. South in conflict, in cooperation, and of necessity.

*The Global South 4:2: Cavaliers in Paradise*: The U.S. South and the Pacific Rim will feature explorations of the U.S. South and the Pacific Rim as a distinctive, and understudied, contact zone. The editor of this special issue, Jaime Harker (University of Mississippi), invites high-quality original essays. As consistent with the journal's interdisciplinary scope, I welcome submissions from scholars working in all areas of Asian, Asian American, American, and Southern studies. Possible topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- "Origins" and Cultural Contacts
- Relations with Asian Laborers
- Chinoiserie and Plantation Decor
- Legacies of Vietnam and the U.S. South
- Asian Immigrants in the U.S. South
- "Coolies" and Southern Racial Dynamics
- Film and U.S. South/Pacific Rim Encounters
- Black/Asian Coalitions
- Literary Legacies of U.S. South/Pacific Rim Encounters
- Asian American Studies and the New Southern Studies
- Buddhism and the U.S. South
- Queer Studies and U.S. South/Pacific Rim Encounters
- The U.S. South and Asian Diasporas
- Asian Cultural Imports in the U.S. South
- Globalization and the U.S. South/Pacific Rim Contact Zone
- Evangelism and U.S. South/Pacific Rim Encounters
- Southern/Asian Hybrid Identities

This Special Issue of *The Global South* is scheduled for publication in August 2010. Please submit abstracts along with a short bio by May 30, 2008, final drafts of essays by December 30, 2008, and inquiries to Jaime Harker, [jlharker@olemiss.edu](mailto:jlharker@olemiss.edu). Essays should be 25-35 double-spaced pages long and should follow the MLA style.

You can read more about *The Global South* at <http://inscribe.iupress.org/loi/gso>

## CALL FOR PAPERS

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*Chinese America: History and Perspectives* is published annually by the Chinese Historical Society of America.

The journal invites original contributions on all aspects of Chinese American history and culture. Manuscript should not exceed five thousand words in length (excluding end-notes) and should follow the format outlined in *The Chicago Manual of Style*. A CHSA style sheet will be sent upon request. Authors shall forward six copies of initial submissions of manuscripts to be considered for publication. When manuscripts are accepted, authors shall send in two hard copies of the final revised version together with a CD containing an IBM PC- or Macintosh-compatible file of the manuscript input by a commercial word-processing program (Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, Wordstar.) Authors will each be sent a copyedited manuscript for revisions or approval before publication. Upon publication, contributors will receive two complimentary copies of the journal.

Please send manuscripts to:  
CHSA H&P Journal  
Chinese Historical Society of America  
965 Clay Street San Francisco, CA 94108

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## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS: Transnational Women Warriors: From Asia to Asian America

I am seeking contributions for a collection of essays on how certain heroines in Asian cultures are transformed and re-imagined in Asian American context. For example: the image of babaylan originated in rebellions and rituals in the Philippines has played a significant role in the Filipino communities in the U.S.; the Trung sisters have been recreated to represent new political and critical agendas in Vietnamese American texts; some female characters in traditional Japanese myths have been adapted into warriors; the legendary Chinese heroine Mulan has become a global figure as a result of Kingston's *The Woman Warrior* and Disney's animated films. I am looking for scholarly articles that examine (but are not limited to) identity politics, cultural locations, gender, and ethnic communities. Novel perspectives and interdisciplinary approaches are welcome.

Submission Deadlines: Please send a 500-word abstract and 2-page CV to Lan Dong ([ldong4@uis.edu](mailto:ldong4@uis.edu)) by August 31, 2008. Full-length articles (6,000-8000 words, MLA style) are due May 31, 2009.

Restrictions: Please do not submit works that are under consideration elsewhere or have been published previously.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center and Department are very pleased to share the wonderful news that Dr. Grace Hong has been promoted to Associate Professor, Step II with tenure in the Department of Asian American Studies and the Interdepartmental Program in Women's Studies at UCLA. She is also an active member of the Faculty Advisory Committee of the Asian American Studies Center.

Professor Hong's research and teaching interests include women of color feminism, comparative racialization, Asian American literature and culture, and women and work in the global economy. She is the author of *The Ruptures of American Capital: Women of Color Feminism and The Culture of Immigrant Labor* (University of Minnesota Press, 2006), which examines women of color feminism and racialized immigrant women's cultural production as constitutive contradictions of U.S. liberalism, in both its 19th- and early 20th-century mode organized around possessive individualism and its late 20th-century formation as manifest in the "flexible" organization common to global capital. She has also published a number of articles in journals such as *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism, American Literature*, and *Diaspora*. She was a University of California President's Post-Doctoral Fellow in 2001-2002.

Dr. Hong is currently at work on a second monograph project which explores the cultures of people of color in the U.S. as knowledge-producing institutions which contradict or disorganize the ideological mechanisms by which certain lives are rendered unrecognizable or illegible as protectable and valuable. Looking at film, art, and literature by Asian American, African American, and Chicano/a authors and artists, this book traces the ways in which these texts give us access to the heterogeneous, and productive modes of "life" that proliferate in this condition of vulnerability to death. She is also co-editing a collection entitled *Strange Affinities: The Gender and Sexual Politics of Comparative Racialization*, under contract with Duke University Press.

Born in Seoul, South Korea and raised in Los Angeles, Professor Hong received her B.A. in English with a minor in Asian American Studies from UCLA and went on to earn an M.A. in Asian American Studies from UCLA as well. She did her Ph.D. work at UCSD in the Department of Literature. Prior to joining the faculty at UCLA, she held positions at Princeton University and at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

## OPPORTUNITIES

*The Institute of Communications Research at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign* seeks a fulltime professor for its Ph.D. communications program and undergraduate media studies program. Interested candidate can find details at <http://www.comm.uiuc.edu/icrprofessor.html>.

To ensure full consideration, please send curriculum vita, three letters of reference and a letter of application by April 14, 2008, to: Fulltime Faculty Position, Clifford Christians, Director, Institute of Communications Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 228 Gregory Hall, 810 S. Wright St., Urbana, Illinois 61801, [cchrstns@uiuc.edu](mailto:cchrstns@uiuc.edu)

*The U of I is an EEOC employer.*

*The Asian American Studies Program at the University of California at Davis* welcomes applications for its part-time and full-time lecturer pool to staff courses (such as Asian American history, community and ethnic policy studies, health, queer studies, critical race studies, cultural and performance studies) in Asian American Studies for the 2008-2009 academic year.

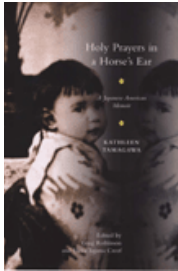
Candidates should have a Ph.D., an M.A., or is an ABD doctoral student in the field or related fields and have a record of high quality teaching in Asian American Studies or related courses. College level of teaching experience preferred. Salary will be commensurate with candidate's training and experience.

Submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae with names and contact information of 3 references, teaching evaluations, and sample syllabi to: Professor Wendy Ho, Asian American Studies Search Coordinator, University of California, Davis 3102 Hart Hall, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616 Phone: (530) 752-3625, Fax: (530) 752-9260

Complete applications should be received by June 30, 2008 or until positions are filled.

*The University of California, Davis and the Asian American Studies Program are interested in candidates who are committed to the highest standards of scholarship and professional activities, and to the development of a campus climate that supports equality and diversity. The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. This position is covered by a collective bargaining agreement.*

## NEW RELEASES



**Holy Prayers in a Horse's Ear: A Japanese American Memoir**  
by Kathleen Tamagawa  
edited and with an introduction  
and textual notes by Greg Robin-  
son, Elena Tajima Creef, Shirley  
Lim, and Floyd Cheung (ISBN:  
1592137520)

Originally published in 1932, Kathleen Tamagawa's pioneering Asian American memoir is a sensitive and thoughtful look at the personal and social complexities of growing up racially mixed during the early twentieth century. Born in 1893 to an Irish American mother and a Japanese father and raised in Chicago and Japan, Tamagawa reflects on the difficulty she experienced fitting into either parent's native culture.

This edition, which also includes Tamagawa's recently rediscovered short story, "A Fit in Japan," and a critical introduction, will challenge readers to reconsider how complex ethnic identities are negotiated and how feelings of alienation limit human identification in any society.



**Chinese Americans and the Politics of Race and Culture**

edited by Sucheng Chan and  
Madeline Y. Hsu  
paper EAN: 978-1-59213-753-4  
(ISBN: 1592137539)  
\$27.95, Mar 08, Available  
cloth EAN: 978-1-59213-752-7

Sucheng Chan introduces this valuable new anthology with a commanding discussion of the field of Chinese American studies, in which she examines its history and points the way ahead. Here she and Madeline Y. Hsu have brought together leading-edge scholarship from a new generation of thinkers, as useful for scholars as it is for undergraduate readers.

The contributors address a broad range of issues, from the activism of left-wing and Communist Chinese immigrants to the U.S. in the 1920s and early 1930s and humanitarian relief during the Sino-Japanese War to the construction of new Chinese regional identities in New York.

"Covering a wide range of historical and contemporary issues in Chinese American life, this anthology is vastly informed and filled with fresh research drawing on archives or documents that hitherto have not been accessed. The ideas contained in the essays are so original and comprehensive that together, they constitute both a theoretically and empirically engaging challenge to tradition-centric concepts in Chinese American studies. I find few existing scholarly works that can match the scope and depth of this volume's broad and thought-provoking coverage of Chinese American history." ~Xiao-huang Yin, author of *Chinese American Literature since the 1850s*.

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