Ukai Yuichiro, *Obake*, 2017, Marker, colored pencil and ink on cardboard, 73.5 x 82.5 cm, image courtesy of Atelier Yamanami.
CHINA ACANTHOPANAX
May 2019

Dear friends,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I share with you the activities and achievements of the Harvard University Asia Center in academic year 2018-2019.

Founded in 1997-1998 “to make the University the best place, outside of Asia, for the study of Asia,” the Asia Center is one of the university’s largest international centers. The incredibly diverse regions we cover – stretching from Pakistan in the west to Japan in the east, from Mongolia in the north to East Timor in the south – are home to more than 60 percent of world population and several of the world’s largest economies.

Our current mission – building on the strong leadership of Professor Andrew Gordon, Acting Director AY16-17, developed by the Asia Center Faculty Steering Committee and full Asia Center staff at our October 2017 retreat, displayed prominently on our new website, referred to explicitly at most meetings of Asia Center faculty and staff, and directly guiding most everything we do – is Generating and sharing knowledge about Asia in transnational and transregional perspective. Fostering teaching, collaboration, and innovation across and beyond cultural and disciplinary boundaries. Recognizing that Asian nations and their peoples have been inextricably interconnected with one another and with those of other regions for much of history, and that cultural, economic, environmental, legal, medical, political, religious, social, and other phenomena in Asia regularly transcend boundaries, the Asia Center is becoming a world leader for the study of Asia in transnational, transregional, and transdisciplinary perspective.

Also shaping nearly all the transformations to the Asia Center in the last few years has been our tireless commitment to increasing transparency, accessibility, inclusion/belonging, and diversity.

Changes in AY18-19 to Governance, Community, Programming, Publicity/Presence, Outreach, Book Publishing, Faculty and Student Funding (more details, including complete lists of committee members, events, and grant recipients, can be found in the text and appendices of this Annual Report and on the new Asia Center website)

GOVERNANCE: We have completely restructured the Center’s governance, with the goal of increasing faculty participation in the Center and enabling broad faculty decision-making responsibilities concerning both academic programming and expenditures of Center funds. AY18-19 was the third year of the new faculty Steering Committee, composed of tenured faculty members from 10 Harvard schools, which meets monthly during the academic year, discusses matters of importance to the Center, and determines the Center’s priorities and policies. AY18-19 was the second year of the new Asia Center Council (ACC), which replaced the

KAREN L. THORNBER
Victor and William Fung Director,
Harvard University Asia Center
Professor of East Asian Languages
and Civilizations and of Comparative
Literature, Harvard University
former Harvard Council on Asian Studies. The ACC meets twice annually to discuss matters of importance to Asian studies at Harvard and makes decisions on the programming, activities, and direction of the Asia Center. Unlike the former Harvard Council on Asian Studies, the much larger and more diverse Asia Center Council brings together all tenured and tenure-track faculty members across Harvard schools whose primary research focus is on Asia; also unlike the former Harvard Council on Asian Studies, the ACC additionally includes numerous long-term lecturers and faculty colleagues of similar rank with deep training on/in Asia. Detailed minutes are now circulated after Steering Committee and ACC meetings so that everyone can remain informed; the ACC membership list is circulated at every ACC meeting, with colleagues encouraged to suggest additional faculty members who should be included.

In AY18-19, we completely restructured the International Advisory Committee, which provides the Asia Center with vital support and connections worldwide. Many members of this formerly 50+ member committee had long ago moved to other pursuits, so working during summer 2018 in Hong Kong with Victor Fung, the chair of this committee, we established new guidelines and expectations for giving and began creating a new committee that includes a broader range of individuals. In addition, we inaugurated the new category of Honorary Fellows, to recognize the significant contributions of former members of the IAC to the success of the Asia Center over the past 20 years. The Asia Center depends almost entirely on the generosity of its donors, and meeting so many of our supporters both during frequent trips across Asia as well as in the United States has been one of the great pleasures of serving as Director.

COMMUNITY: In the last few years, the Asia Center has created a diverse community of scholars and other professionals dedicated to working on Asia in transnational and transregional as well as transdisciplinary perspective; many of these individuals now enjoy newly reconfigured office space in the Asia Center’s suite in CGIS.

In AY18-19, we launched the Asia Center’s first Postdoctoral Fellows Program, welcoming two outstanding recent Ph.D.’s – Professor Elsa Clavé (Goethe University) as the Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellow and Dr. Xiaofei Gao (University of California, Santa Cruz) as the Victor and William Fung Postdoctoral Fellow – chosen from more than 150 applicants. In addition to giving public talks on their research, Professor Clavé and Dr. Gao participated in a range of Asia Center activities throughout the year.

The spring 2019 postdoctoral fellowship competition likewise attracted more than 150 applicants, who were vetted by nearly 70 faculty members from across Harvard; as was the case in spring 2018, final decisions were made by a faculty committee. In September 2019 we will welcome our second cohort of postdocs at the Asia Center: Victor and William Fung Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. Adhira Mangalagiri, Lecturer in Comparative Literature, Queen Mary University of London (Ph.D. 2017, University of Chicago), Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. John Buchanan, Director of Research for the Institute for Strategy and Policy, Myanmar (Ph.D. 2018, University of Washington), and Jeffrey Cheah Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. Chun Sheng Goh, United Nations University, Tokyo (Ph.D. 2018, Utrecht University).

AY18-19 was the third year of the Asia Center’s Graduate Student Associates Program (GSA), which brings together for biweekly meetings about a dozen graduate students chosen from across Harvard schools to present their transnational and transregional scholarship to a diverse audience. The Center is grateful to Professor Anne Monius for expertly directing the AY18-19 GSA program. GSA appointments are by application; decisions are made by a faculty committee.

AY18-19 was the third year of the Asia Center’s new Affiliates Program, which brings to campus a diverse group of Visiting Scholars, Associates, and Fellows who have strong support from a Harvard faculty colleague. Membership in these programs is by application, with clear deadlines, required faculty commitment to the affiliate they are nominating, and faculty committees making final decisions. Affiliates give a public talk on their work as part of the Asia Center Fellows Seminar Series; they also are frequently included in Center events.
As Harvard President Bacow noted in his March 2019 speech at Peking University, scholars and their institutions are often capable of doing things that their governments are not; we must maintain scholarly connections with our colleagues in other parts of the world, especially during times of tension among nations. The Asia Center facilitates these collaborations through many of its activities, and especially through its Affiliates and Postdoctoral Fellowship Programs; most Asia Center visitors are from countries other than the United States, and the Asia Center is committed to integrating them fully into the Harvard community.

PROGRAMMING: The Asia Center made numerous changes to its programming in AY18-19. One of my many goals as Director has been to expand the number, types, and diversity of events that we feature at the Asia Center, which now sponsors or co-sponsors more than 100 events annually. The Center no longer sponsors male-only panels, and, among other efforts, it is actively rectifying the severe gender imbalance of the Tsai Lecture, the Asia Center's keynote event.

In AY18-19, we launched four new faculty-directed seminar series. Faculty members apply for funding for these series as part of the Asia Center's faculty grants competition: Asian American Studies (Professor Ju Yon Kim), Borders in Modern Asia (Professors Sunil Amrith and Sugata Bose), Early Modern Asia (Professor David Atherton), and Science and Technology in Asia (Professor Victor Seow). In AY18-19, we also greatly expanded the popular Asia Beyond the Headlines seminar series and reconvened the Southeast Asia seminar series. Longstanding seminar series such as the Asia Center Fellows seminar series, Asia Center seminar series, and South Asia without Borders seminar series thrived in AY18-19, which likewise saw a diverse range of exhibits and films and an active Thai Studies Program.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: One of the mandates of the Asia Center is to develop the study of Southeast Asia at Harvard, and to further this goal I met with numerous donors in Southeast Asia and ensured the strength of the newly reconfigured Asia Center Southeast Asia Committee, including appointing Professor Sunil Amrith as chair of this committee; Professor Amrith skillfully led the Asia Center’s Southeast Asia Committee in AY18-19 and worked with colleagues to plan numerous initiatives for AY19-20 and beyond. The Asia Center’s Southeast Asia Committee was greatly expanded in spring 2019, incorporating all of Harvard’s junior faculty members whose work focuses on Southeast Asia. In addition, in AY18-19 the Asia Center hosted a broad range of events on Southeast Asian cultures, economies, elections/political systems, history, humanitarian crises, and other fields. We also created a new Thai Studies Committee in spring 2019; with Dr. Jay Rosengard replacing Professor Michael Herzfeld as Director of the Asia Center's Thai Studies Program, Dr. Malavika Reddy (who will join the faculty as Assistant Professor of Anthropology in January 2020) replaced Dr. Rosengard as chair of the Asia Center’s Thai Studies Committee.

PUBLICITY/PRESENCE: Following its spring 2018 debut on social media with the creation of its Facebook page, the Asia Center launched its new website in September 2018, the result of more than 18 months of planning. This is the first time the Asia Center has had a comprehensive website that makes all its funding and programming opportunities transparent and accessible to Harvard students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. The website’s interactive map feature also facilitates connections among faculty, students, and visitors. Emailed to thousands of individuals worldwide, the Center’s new Asia Center
This Week newsletter is its first publication focused on Center activities and opportunities, and it has helped the Center develop a stronger presence both on campus and further afield. This Annual Report is the Center’s first in more than a decade, and I expect it will inaugurate a regular practice at the Center.

OUTREACH: The Asia Center has long engaged in many forms of outreach to the broader community; highlights from AY18-19 are described in this report. To give one example, in spring 2018, the Asia Center transformed a system whereby it had given money to two organizations devoted to K-12 education on Asia with which the Center had longstanding ties into a system whereby we advertise our opportunities broadly and organizations apply to the Asia Center for funding. And in spring 2019, the Asia Center for the first time publicized its funding opportunities for student group trips, including service trips, with the goals not only of increasing the rigor of such programs but also of enabling a broader range of students to benefit from Asia Center resources. These changes make our funding opportunities open to all and increase inclusion and diversity.

BOOK PUBLISHING: The Asia Center stands out from the other Harvard international centers and most Asia-related centers globally with its Publications Program, which produces about 15 books annually on the East Asian humanities/humanistic social sciences. Nearly every year, one or more Asia Center books win a major scholarly prize. During AY18-19, in addition to publishing 15 new titles, we significantly restructured the Publications Program. As of spring 2019, we enjoy a new agreement with Brill that promises to expand the reach of our books, and most of our titles are now available digitally through JSTOR and Project Muse. Moreover, following current best practices in scholarly publishing, as of AY18-19, we are outsourcing most of our copyediting. This increases the capacity of the Publications Program, enabling us to publish a greater number of books. I’m particularly pleased that the Asia Center Council, Publications Executive Committee, and Steering Committee all agreed that going forward, the Asia Center will publish books on South and Southeast Asia, in addition to those on East Asia. Expanding the range of books published will bring the Publications Program more in line with the Asia Center mission and enable us to contribute more significantly to new fields in Asian studies.

We also restructured the publications faculty committees in AY18-19, guided in part by Professor David Howell’s recent successful reorganization of the Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies. Creating a new Publications Executive Committee and Publications Advisory Committee, both expertly chaired by Professor Carter Eckert, enables us to vet potential Center publications more thoroughly than in the past and thus to create a more deliberately chosen and even stronger list, while expanding faculty participation. Faculty colleagues from
across the university, together with publications staff, are encouraged to solicit books more actively than in the past, ensuring that the Center publishes the top books in Asian humanities and social sciences.

**FACULTY AND STUDENT FUNDING:** The Asia Center aims to fund all competitive faculty and student projects. To meet current needs and to increase the diversity of its community, the Asia Center has developed several new categories of competitive grants for both faculty members and students, including faculty seminar series (discussed above and later in this report) and student group trip grants (mentioned above), as well as graduate language grants. In addition, seeking to be more inclusive, we greatly reduced the amount of unadvertised funding given out on an ad hoc basis (i.e., not being vetted by a faculty committee). As of February 2019, all Asia Center faculty and student funding opportunities are advertised on our website, and all decisions on faculty and student funding are made by faculty committees, with the exception of decisions for certain undergraduate student grants, which are made by our postdoctoral fellows. Although ladder faculty members are prioritized for faculty grants, non-ladder faculty and other Harvard researchers are also eligible and regularly receive funding, including in AY18-19. It is crucial that our funding opportunities be as transparent and accessible as possible.

The Asia Center has long funded the research and conferences of tenure-track faculty members, but we have recently expanded our engagement with these scholars, opening the Asia Center Council (see above) to all tenure-track faculty members across Harvard schools who work primarily on Asia; opening our Southeast Asia Committee (see above) to all tenure-track faculty members across Harvard schools who work on Southeast Asia; actively working with tenure-track faculty members on developing events and seminar series for the Center, giving them opportunities to give public talks on their research, and inviting them to participate on Asia Center panels and in Asia Center conferences; and, perhaps most important, giving their applications for research funding top priority. The study of Asia in transnational and transregional perspective is a rapidly growing field, particularly among graduate students and tenure-track faculty members, making the support of the Asia Center especially crucial.

Harvard is distinctive in having not only the Asia Center but also exceptionally strong centers devoted to a single country or region of Asia – the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard China Fund, Korea Institute, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, Program on U.S.-Japan Relations at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, and Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, as well as centers that also engage with multiple parts of Asia – the Harvard-Yenching Institute, the Rajawali Foundation Institute for Asia at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School, and East Asian Legal Studies at Harvard Law School. Together, these and other centers, with which the Asia Center frequently collaborates, make Harvard unparalleled in the study of Asia.

The Asia Center is committed to fulfilling its mission and furthering the teaching and research missions of Harvard University, creating new knowledge and making new discoveries that will address the challenges and opportunities facing Asia and our planet. We thank the countless faculty members, staff, professionals, students, and friends who have allowed us to flourish and who continue to guide us; we look forward to your thoughts and suggestions and to your continued collaboration. Given the many ways we’ve intellectually and structurally strengthened the Asia Center in AY18-19, we’re very excited about the future of the Center as a leading center globally for the study of Asia in transnational and transregional perspective.

With warm wishes, and with thanks,

Karen L. Thornber
Victor and William Fung Director, Harvard University Asia Center
Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and of Comparative Literature, Harvard University
AT A GLANCE 2018-2019

14  - Staff Members
22  - International Advisory Committee (IAC) members
27  - Honorary Fellows (former members of the IAC)
  6  - Fellows
  4  - Visiting Scholars
  13 - Associates
  2  - Postdoctoral Fellows
  13 - Graduate Student Associates
  2  - Fairmont Scholars
  7  - Fung Fellows
  32 - Faculty Projects Funded
  85 - Student Projects Funded
  15 - Books Published
  100+ - Events
NEW SEMINAR SERIES

Asia Beyond the Headlines
Southeast Asia Seminar Series
Science and Technology in Asia
Early Modern Asia
Borders in Modern Asia
Asian American Studies
NEW SEMINAR SERIES

A complete list of 2018-2019 Asia Center events can be found in the appendices to this report; highlights appear here.

Inaugurated in fall 2017, the Asia Beyond the Headlines Seminar Series focuses on urgent contemporary issues that cut across Asia. Its first year, the series addressed topics such as the history and impact across Asia of China’s Belt and Road Initiative, continuing tensions on the Korean Peninsula, the Rohingya refugee crisis in Myanmar, and contemporary repercussions of forced migration during the partition of British India.

In 2018-2019, the Center organized nine Asia Beyond the Headlines seminars, ranging from a panel of seven speakers discussing Operation Tomodachi (lit. Operation Friends), a United States Armed Forces assistance operation supporting Japan in the wake of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami (see sidebar), to Professor Mary Brinton (Harvard) addressing gender inequality in Japan and Korea and Sreang Heng (President, PEN Cambodia) and Yee Htun (Harvard) speaking on contemporary Cambodian responses to the Khmer Rouge genocide. In 2018-2019, the Asia Beyond the Headlines series also featured panels on press freedoms in Asia (see sidebar), climate change in Asia for non-scientists, the strategic relationship between India and China, constitutional revision in Japan, challenges to democracy in Southeast Asia, and engaging North Korea.

During the 2018-2019 academic year, the Asia Center also developed an active Southeast Asia Seminar Series. Two of the highlights were Asia Center postdoctoral fellow Professor Elsa Clavé’s talk “Shaking up the Established Order: Reflections on Recent Changes in Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines” and the panel “Co-optive Engagement: Challenges to Democracy in Southeast Asia,” which also was an Asia Beyond the Headlines event, featuring Professor Jacques Bertrand (University of Toronto), Professor Puangthong Pawakapan (Chulalongkorn University and Harvard-Yenching Institute), Dr. William Overholt (Harvard), and Dr. Jay Rosengard (Harvard).

Four additional faculty-directed seminar series, inaugurated during the 2018-2019 academic year as part of the Asia Center’s new faculty seminar series grants program, addressed Science and Technology in Asia, Early Modern Asia, Borders in Modern Asia, and Asian American Studies. The Asia Center now works with faculty members to develop seminar series that provide new perspectives on Asia in transnational and transregional as well as transdisciplinary perspective.

The Science and Technology in Asia Seminar Series, convened by Professor Victor Seow of the Department of the History of Science and inaugurated in fall 2018, focuses on critical historical and contemporary issues in science and technology in East, South, and Southeast Asia. The series brings to campus speakers whose work deeply interrogates the place of the scientific and the technological in Asia and the place of Asia in our ideas and practices of science and technology.

Science and technology are often regarded as the means by which we can realize better futures. For Asian states and societies from the late nineteenth century until today, the pursuit of the scientific and the technological has held promises of progress that would elevate their country’s position in the world order. To give one example, for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), science, technology, and innovation are “powerful determinants and enablers of economic development, educational programs, and protection of the environment,” and the association has committed to developing nine areas from biotechnology to infrastructure and resource development. The Science and Technology in Asia seminar series traces the historical contingencies and contemporary factors through which science and technology became and remain so deeply intertwined with visions of wealth and power in Asia and beyond.
But science and technology are not mere stepping stones paving the way toward the teleological endpoint of modernity. They have served as tools in the subjugation of peoples, the extraction of resources, and the destruction of the natural world. The Japanese empire that once extended throughout much of East and Southeast Asia experimented with cutting edge science and mobilized state-of-the-art technology in service of its expansionist endeavors. Even when science and technology have been marshaled for nobler or at least less ostensibly nefarious goals, they have often yielded unintended consequences that have had severe human costs. The Asia Center’s Science and Technology in Asia seminar series eschews blind valorization of the scientific and technological, embracing instead a critical appreciation for how science and technology are very much implicated in the larger workings of states and societies across Asia.

Seven speakers gave talks in the series during the 2018-2019 academic year: Professor Marta Hanson (Johns Hopkins University), Professor Suzanne Moon (University of Oklahoma), Professor Soyoung Suh (Dartmouth College), Professor Jayita Sarkar (Boston University), Professor Zuoyue Wang (California State Polytechnic University, Pomona), Professor Jennifer Robertson (University of Michigan), and Professor Dagmar Schäfer (Max Planck Institute).

The Early Modern Asia Seminar Series, convened by Professor David Atherton of the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, focuses on the comparative potential of “early modernity” in suggesting a certain
Asia Beyond the Headlines
OPERATION TOMODACHI

Asia Center Fellow Lieutenant General Koichi Isobe gave an Asia Beyond the Headlines seminar series talk on October 29 titled “Operation Tomodachi: Process and Recommendations—the U.S.-Japan Alliance after the Fukushima Nuclear Accident” to a packed audience. General Isobe served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Strategy (J-5), Japan Joint Staff, during the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.

Professor Ezra Vogel (Harvard) chaired and Professor Karen Thornber moderated the panel, which featured five discussants. In addition to General Isobe, these included Professor Joseph S. Nye (Harvard), Burton M. Field (Lieutenant General [Ret.] U.S. Air Force, and former Commander, U.S. Forces Japan), Scott H. Swift (Admiral [Ret.], U.S. Navy, and former Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet), Robin Sakoda (Former Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of State and former Senior Country Director for Japan, Office of the Secretary of Defense), and Yuki Tatsumi (Co-Director of the East Asia Program and Director of the Japan Program, Stimson Center, Washington, D.C.). General Isobe reviewed the coordination process during the aftermath of the triple disaster of the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear accident. He reiterated the importance of personal relationships among members of the two governments and militaries as well as of a proactive bilateral command and control structure. General Isobe also extended, on behalf of the Japanese people, his deepest appreciation to the United States, and especially the United States military, for their tremendous support.
commensurability of experience across a diverse range of cultures. This seminar series brings together scholars from different humanistic disciplines, working on different regions of Asia, to speak with one another on shared themes in dominant discourses of early modernity. The series addresses the themes—and the very concept of “early modernity” itself—as open questions rather than as answers or definitions, and the dialogues are an invitation to compare, challenge, rethink, and possibly replace. Several key questions addressed are: How are the local, regional, and global experiences of early modernity transformed when examined in trans-Asian perspectives? Might we discover alternative models that will prove more intellectually productive? Can such dialogue across regions and disciplines produce fruitful insights?

The inaugural event of the Early Modern Asia seminar series, held in November 2018, was titled “Early? Modern? Asia?: Three Perspectives” and brought together Professor Carla Nappi (University of Pittsburgh), Professor Elaine Fisher (Stanford University), and Professor Michael Charney (SOAS) – a historian of Qing science, a scholar of south Indian religion, and a scholar of Burmese intellectual and military history, respectively. The three presenters were asked to address the seminar’s overarching themes provocatively and creatively, resulting in three very different presentations that resonated in exciting and sometimes unexpected ways around the history, uses, perils, and promise of the regional and temporal categories we use to make sense of Asia’s past.

“Early Modern [Global] Asia,” the second seminar of the Early Modern Asia seminar series, was held in March 2019 and featured Professor Ning Ma (University of Minnesota), a specialist in East Asian literature; Professor Sugata Ray (UC Berkeley), a specialist in South Asian art; and Professor Elsa Clavé (Harvard and Goethe University), a historian of early modern Southeast Asia. These individuals held a spirited dialogue on the contention that early modernity is characterized in part by the flow of ideas, objects, and people on a scale that was global for the first time in history.

The Asia Center’s third new faculty-directed seminar series for 2018-2019 was Professor Sunil Amrith and Professor Sugata Bose’s Borders in Modern Asia: Making and Crossing Imperial Frontiers and National Boundaries Seminar Series (Professors Amrith and Bose both hold joint appointments at Harvard in the Department of History and Department of South Asian Studies). There has never been a more critical time for studying borders. Contemporary political events across the world have awakened us to the direct presence of borders in our lives, be it in the construction of identity or the regulation of international travel. For scholars in the humanities and social sciences, this moment produces new challenges for conceptualizing state practices and collective identities. Given their ubiquity, borders are particularly rich sites for critically examining a variety of questions, from the global flow of capital to everyday practices of border crossing.

Borders in modern Asia geographically encompass both terrestrial and oceanic frontiers within and around the Asian landmass. The Borders in Modern Asia seminar series discusses phenomena related to these frontiers dating from the early nineteenth century to the present. The series explores the historical transformation of imperial frontiers into national boundaries in modern Asia. How, and because of which historical processes, did frontier regions of empires such as the British, the Dutch, and the Qing transform into borders of nation-states including India, Burma, or China? What political, economic, cultural, and ideological changes were associated with such transitions? These questions shed light on the move from empires to nations, a key historical change in modern Asia. Speakers in this seminar series delve into these questions, drawing on their expertise in various parts of Asia. They also bring to the table a variety of perspectives and disciplinary methodologies, including but not limited to archival work, textual analysis, engagement with visual and material cultures, and ethnography.

Speaking as part of the Borders in Modern Asia seminar series during academic year 2018-2019 were Professor Susan Bayly (University of Cambridge), Nandita Das (Filmmaker, India), Professor Sarvani Gooptu (Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata), Professor Nayanjot Lahiri (University of Delhi), Professor Charles S. Maier
The Asia Center hosted an **Asian American Studies Seminar** in April 2019, the first in a new series convened by Professor Ju Yon Kim (Department of English) in collaboration with the Committee on Ethnicity Migration, Rights and the Asian American Studies Working Group, which focuses on research, issues, and concerns in the field of Asian American studies. The April seminar featured three leading Asian American poets – Emily Yoon, Tamiko Beyer, and Paul Tran – discussing their work and the concepts of Asian American and Asian American literature more broadly. Professor Si Nae Park led a discussion with graduate students of Ms. Yoon’s poetry at lunch earlier in the day.
SIDEBAR:

PRESS FREEDOMS IN ASIA: PERSPECTIVES FROM CHINA, MYANMAR, AND THAILAND

In October 2018, the Asia Center’s Asia Beyond the Headlines seminar series brought together panelists David Barboza (business correspondent and former Shanghai Bureau Chief, *The New York Times*; winner of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting), Esther Htusan (Nieman Fellow; Associated Press reporter), and Professor Puangthong R. Pawakapan (Harvard-Yenching Institute; Chulalongkorn University). The event was moderated by Mable Chan (Fairbank Center Associate in Research and former ABC News producer and Hong Kong TVB news correspondent), and participants spoke about the increasing difficulties faced by journalists in China, Myanmar, and Thailand.

The panelists described the monitoring of journalists by the governments of all three countries. Although the work of Chinese journalists is regularly censored in China, Barboza, as a U.S. correspondent there, was not subjected to censorship. However, he was followed and threatened, and he found it difficult to communicate safely with sources. Before 2012, only state-run newspapers were legal in Myanmar, and although the censorship board was removed in 2013, local journalists are still censored regularly. Htusan received death threats after reporting on the Rohingya refugees and stressed that many journalists have stopped going to difficult areas. Censorship is also prevalent in Thai media. Pawakapan noted that if someone posts something controversial on a website in the U.S., they can be arrested upon entering Thailand, regardless of whether they are a Thai citizen. All three panelists spoke on the ways they evaluate risks in reporting, and they all agreed that the dark side to new and better technology has been an increase in the surveillance of journalists.
ONGOING SEMINAR SERIES

Asia Center Seminar Series
Asia Center Fellows Seminar Series
Asia Center Book Talks
Along with its four new seminar series, in 2018-2019, the Asia Center hosted numerous talks and other events as part of three longstanding Asia Center seminar series. A complete list of events can be found in the appendices to this report; highlights appear here.

The Asia Center Fellows Seminar Series featured a number of the Center’s affiliates speaking on topics ranging from political cultures in the Thai-Malay Peninsula; to farmers, fishermen, and socialism in Northeast China (see sidebar); to the social cost of automobiles and environmental policies in Japan and China.

The Asia Center likewise organized a number of Asia Center Book Talks throughout the year including a discussion with author Parag Khanna on The Future is Asian and a book launch for Professor Hans Pols’s (University of Sydney) Nurturing Indonesia: Medicine and Decolonization in the Dutch East Indies. Professor Philip Thai (Northeastern University) also presented on “Trans-Asian Encounters and China’s War on Smuggling,” based on his new book China’s War on Smuggling: Law, Economic Life, and the Making of the Modern State, 1842-1965.

SIDEBAR:

MAKING A COASTAL REVOLUTION: FARMERS, FISHERMEN, AND SOCIALISM IN NORTHEAST CHINA, 1946-76

Dr. Xiaofei Gao’s talk in March used archival documents and oral interviews to examine Northeast China (also known as Manchuria) in the socialist era through the spatial category of the “Yellow/Bohai Sea Rim,” an area along the coast of Manchuria between the Bohai Bay to the west and the Korea Bay to the east. Central questions were: What can we learn about Manchuria if we put oceans and seas at the center of our inquiry? And how can we link the contributions of social history, with its stress on local labor and gendered practices, to maritime studies, which often remain at the global and transnational levels?

To engage with these questions, Dr. Gao considered the Rim as an assemblage of different scales: transnational, regional, local, household, and individual, revealing both regional integration and the complexities of local societies and individual reactions. She argued that to bring revolution to a coastal area historically entwined with the Japanese empire and the postwar Soviet occupation, the socialist state adjusted its revolutionary ideologies to accommodate specific political considerations. This process brought to the fore tensions in the coastal, rural society regarding boundaries between agricultural and nonagricultural activities, and between labor performed by men and labor performed by women.
ONGOING SEMINAR SERIES

ASIA CENTER FELLOWS SEMINAR SERIES

IDEA OF SPACE AND FORMATION OF TERRITORY (17TH-19TH C.)
Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellow; Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Studies, Goethe University, Frankfurt

Friday, 2019 | 12:15 p.m.
POLITICAL CULTURES IN THE THAI-MALAY PENINSULA:
ELSA CLAVÉ
Professor Sugata Bose

ASIA CENTER FELLOWS SEMINAR SERIES

SOVEREIGNTY IN CHINA:
AND THE LONG LEGACIES OF HISTORY
Dr. Maria Adele Carrai
Follow, Harvard Asia Center; Senior Researcher, KU Leuven, Belgium

Chair:
Professor William Alford
Jerome A. and Joan L. Cohen Professor of East Asian Legal Studies; Director, East Asian Legal Studies, Harvard Law School

Commentator:
Professor Anne Orford
Visiting Professor of Law and John Harvey Gregory Lecturer on World Organization, Harvard Law School

Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies and East Asian Legal Studies, Harvard Law School

Friday, 2019 | 12:15 p.m.
ENVIRONMENT POLICIES IN ASIA:
THE SOCIAL COST OF AUTOMOBILES AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES IN ASIA:
A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON CHINA AND JAPAN
Professor Sugata Bose
Assistant Professor of East Asian History, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Chair:
Professor Ezra Vogel
Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences, Emeritus
Professor Harutoshi Matsutani
Fellow, Harvard Asia Center; Professor of Economics, Aichi University, Japan

Discussants:
Professor Andrew Gordon
Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History, Harvard University; Acting Director, Harvard-Yenching Institute

Professor Michael McElroy
Gilbert Butler Professor of Environmental Studies, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Harvard University, and Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Chair, Harvard-China Project on Energy, Economy and Environment


Friday, 2019 | 12:15 p.m.
TAKING ROOT WHEREVER YOU LAND:
THE LITURGICAL TRANSFORMATION OF POPULAR CULTS AMONG ETHNIC CHINESE IN VIETNAM
Professor Ngoc Tho Nguyen

Chair:
Professor Michael Szonyi
Frank Wen-Hsiung Wu Memorial Professor of Chinese History; Director, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University

Friday, 2019 | 12:00 p.m.
The Qing Blue Map: Courtesy of Sotheby’s

Chair:
Professor William Alford
Jerome A. and Joan L. Cohen Professor of East Asian Legal Studies; Director, East Asian Legal Studies, Harvard Law School

Commentator:
Professor Anne Orford
Visiting Professor of Law and John Harvey Gregory Lecturer on World Organization, Harvard Law School

Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies and East Asian Legal Studies, Harvard Law School

Friday, 2019 | 12:15 p.m.

Sovereignty in China: And the Long Legacies of History

May 3

Chair:
Professor Ezra Vogel
Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences, Emeritus
Professor Harutoshi Matsutani
Fellow, Harvard Asia Center; Professor of Economics, Aichi University, Japan

Discussants:
Professor Andrew Gordon
Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History, Harvard University; Acting Director, Harvard-Yenching Institute

Professor Michael McElroy
Gilbert Butler Professor of Environmental Studies, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Harvard University, and Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Chair, Harvard-China Project on Energy, Economy and Environment


Monday, May 6, 2019 | 12:15 p.m.
14TH TSAI LECTURE

The Honorable
CAROLINE KENNEDY
Reflections on My
Time as Ambassador
Nov. 27
Tuesday | 4:30 p.m. | 2018

Materializing Thai Heritage:
Chance and the Life Cycle in the New Ethnology
Tuesday
October 16, 2018
4:15 p.m.
S250, 2nd Floor, CGIS South,
1730 Cambridge St., Cambridge

PROFESSOR PENNY VAN ESTERIK
Department of Anthropology,
York University, Toronto, Canada

THAILAND’S RECKONING IN REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE
INAUGURAL SURIN PITSUWAN LECTURE IN THAI POLITICS AND SOCIETY
APRIL 11
4:15 p.m.

Professor Thitinan Pongsudhirak
Director of the Institute of Security and International Affairs,
Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok

ELECTIONS, COUPS AND CONSTITUTIONS:
THAILAND’S RECKONING IN REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE
APRIL 11
Thursday | 2019
4:15 p.m.

SPONSORED BY THE THAI STUDIES PROGRAM AT THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY ASIA CENTER

4TH STANLEY J. TAMBIAH LECTURE

Materializing Thai Heritage:
Chance and the Life Cycle in the New Ethnology
HARVARD UNIVERSITY ASIA CENTER
Sponsored by the Thai Studies Program at the
Harvard University Asia Center

NAMED LECTURES

PROFESSOR PENNY VAN ESTERIK
Department of Anthropology,
York University, Toronto, Canada

4TH STANLEY J. TAMBIAH LECTURE

Materializing Thai Heritage:
Chance and the Life Cycle in the New Ethnology
HARVARD UNIVERSITY ASIA CENTER
Sponsored by the Thai Studies Program at the
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NAMED LECTURES
The endowed **Tsai Lecture Series** has for the last decade enabled the Asia Center to bring to Harvard notable leaders in academia, government, and business, as well as other professions. The annual lecture is open to the public and offers perspectives from a range of disciplines and from different regions in Asia. In November 2018, as a continuation of the Asia Center’s 20th anniversary festivities, the **Honorable Caroline Kennedy** delivered the 14th Tsai Lecture to a capacity audience on her experiences as U.S. Ambassador to Japan. (see sidebar)

As part of its active **Thai Studies Program**, the Asia Center hosted Professor Penny Van Esterick (York University), who gave the 4th **Tambiah Lecture** on “Materializing Thai Heritage: Change and the Life Cycle in the New Ethnology.” The Tambiah Lecture was established in 2014 in honor of the late Harvard anthropology professor Stanley J. Tambiah.

The **Thailand@Harvard Lecture** was renamed in 2018-2019 in honor of the late Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, former Secretary General of ASEAN, former Foreign Minister of Thailand, and longtime friend of Harvard, the Asia Center, and Thai Studies. In April, Professor Thitinan Ponsudhirak (Chulalongkorn University) gave the inaugural **Surin Pitsuwan Lecture in Thai Politics and Society**, discussing “Elections, Coups and Constitutions: Thailand’s Reckoning in Regional Perspective.” Dr. Pitsuwan’s sons Faudi and Housni both attended the event, and Fuadi, a former Asia Center Fellow, gave opening remarks.
14TH TSAI LECTURE

Ambassador Caroline Kennedy gave the Asia Center’s 14th Tsai Lecture, “Reflections on My Time as Ambassador,” on Tuesday, November 27, 2018. Kennedy served as Ambassador to Japan from 2013 to 2017 and orchestrated President Obama’s 2016 visit to Hiroshima.

After an introduction by her son, Harvard Law School student Jack Schlossberg, Kennedy began her talk by thanking Emeritus Professor Ezra Vogel for having inspired her love of Japan and then described the early days of her ambassadorship. She joked that her two strongest qualifications were those most valued by the Japanese: that she was close to the President and that she had a famous name. However, as the first female ambassador to Japan, Kennedy experienced an outpouring of support and interest from the Japanese people, since “half of the population had never felt there was an ambassador for them.” She spoke on some of the progress that has been made for women in Japan, such as universal health insurance coverage, while noting the long road ahead toward gender equality.

The first child of a Pacific war veteran to be ambassador to Japan, Kennedy felt deeply the significance of Obama’s trip to Hiroshima. Obama’s visit and the talk he gave in Hiroshima demonstrated the power of “engaged, principled leadership” and brought support for the U.S.-Japan alliance to a new high. Japan remains America’s strongest ally, one that is “holding a place for us when we are ready.”

Kennedy’s lecture was sponsored by the Tsai Lecture Fund at the Harvard University Asia Center and co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard-Yenching Institute, the Korea Institute, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies.
CO-SPONSORED EVENTS

The Asia Center works closely with Harvard’s other Asia-related centers and centers across the university to co-sponsor a variety of events. Below are highlights of some of the larger events in which the Asia Center participated this past academic year. A complete list of 2018-2019 events and activities can be found in the appendices.

End of Concern: Maoist China, Activism, and Asian Studies: In September 2018, the Asia Center, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Korea Institute, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, and Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies co-sponsored a book panel, organized by Professor Arunabh Ghosh (Harvard), on University of Arizona Professor Fabio Lanza’s *The End of Concern: Maoist China, Activism, and Asian Studies* (2017). Lanza’s book is a provocative intellectual history of the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars, in which Harvard and figures associated with Harvard were key players. The September panel brought together scholars from Harvard, Yeshiva University, the University of California, San Diego, Columbia University, and the University of Chicago who work on different parts of Asia to reflect on the book and on Maoist activism during the late 1960s and 1970s.

Strongman Politics in the 21st Century: The Asia Center co-sponsored this collaborative event with the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation of the Harvard Kennedy School, the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. The panel, held in September 2018, focused on the trend toward autocratic leadership in a number of countries including Russia, China, the Philippines, and Turkey. Speakers included Professor Joseph Fewsmith (Boston University), Professor Ayse Kadioglu (Harvard and Sabanci University), Professor Elsa Clavé (Harvard and Goethe University), Professor Valerie Sperling (Clark University), and Thomas Vallely (Harvard) as moderator. The panel was an outgrowth of the well-received collaborative Trump and Asia Seminar Series convened by the Asia-related centers in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

Destination: World—Student Tales from Beyond the Comfort Zone: The Asia Center collaborated with ten other international centers to organize this kickoff event for Harvard Worldwide Week 2018, held in October. Harvard College undergraduates shared their inspirational stories in “Pechakucha” style (a presentation model developed by architects in Japan that features 20 PowerPoint slides, each displayed for only 20 seconds). The event opened with remarks by Dr. Margot Gill, University Marshal and Administrative Dean for International Affairs in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and the students’ presentations focused on global engagement, intellectual exploration, and personal discovery made possible through experiences abroad funded by the international centers.

Other Voices, Other Stories: Mary Margaret Steedly’s Ethnographic Legacies: The Asia Center co-sponsored with the Department of Anthropology and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs a day-long symposium in December 2018 in honor of the late Mary Steedly. Professor Steedly was a distinguished and internationally recognized scholar of Indonesian culture and history; she was especially known for her many years of research on the Karo people of North Sumatra. Steedly was fascinated by questions of memory and experience, gender and feminism, colonialism and postcolonialism, and the process of collective memory and narration through Karo spirit encounters.

Preserving Asia’s Colonial and Modern Architectural Heritage: This roundtable discussion took place in March 2019 and featured Dr. Thant Myint-U, writer,
historian, and founder and chair of the Yangon Heritage Trust, a former member of the (Myanmar) National Economic and Social Advisory Council (2011-2015), a former special adviser to the Myanmar Government for the peace process (2011-2015), and a former senior adviser to the Beyond Ceasefires Initiative in Myanmar. The event was co-sponsored by the Asia Center and the Harvard-Yenching Institute, and it included experts on architecture from across Asia.

In March 2019, to mark the centennial of Korea’s March First Movement, the Asia Center and the Korea Institute co-sponsored a panel on Revisiting the Wilsonian Moment in Asia, 1919. Asia Center Director Karen Thornber chaired this transregional panel, which featured Professors Erez Manela, Carter Eckert, Arunabh Ghosh, and Andrew Gordon from Harvard, along with Professor Heather Streets-Salter of Northeastern University. The Asia Center also funds the active South Asia without Borders Seminar Series, organized by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute.
The last two years have seen tremendous growth in the Africa-Asia Initiative, which is directed by the Center for African Studies and the Asia Center together with other centers across Harvard. The initiative focuses on three key themes as these relate to ties between Africa and Asia: Migration, Trade, and Aid; Environment, Science, Infrastructure, and Industry; and Paradigms for Cooperation in Public Health. The Asia Center, in partnership with the Center for African Studies and the other Harvard Asia-related centers, sponsored a conference at the Harvard Center Shanghai in November 2017 that brought together international leaders from a range of professions to discuss Africa-Asia interrelationships. In March 2019, a follow-up workshop was held in Johannesburg on “Africa-Asia Partnerships in Health and Healthcare Delivery for Women & Youth.”

In February 2019, Professor Annette Lienau (Harvard) organized a panel for the Asia Center on “The Transregional Politics of Literary Language: Comparative Work across African and Asian Contexts,” which brought together leading scholars of African and Asian literatures to speak on transregional reinventions of world and comparative literature.
During the past few years, the Asia Center has sponsored or co-sponsored numerous events on India-China interrelationships. In academic year 2018-2019, the Asia Center co-sponsored with the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute and the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies several talks on meritocracy in China and India that examined how talent is allocated in a society, how it has been conceptualized in both India and China, and how its definition has changed over time. Additional talks/workshops in academic year 2018-2019 on India-China addressed the historical connections among India, China, and other parts of the world; the Sikh diaspora in global Shanghai; the complex India-China strategic relationship and the prospects of the two Asian powers continuing to rise peacefully; and the nuclear triangle of the U.S., China, and India. The Asia Center also sponsored Harvard Professor Arunabh Ghosh’s conference on “China and India in the Age of Decolonization: An Analysis of the Nehru Papers, 1947-1964,” held in early June 2019.
The Asia Center (co-)sponsored a number of conferences and symposiums throughout the year on such diverse topics as “Mary Margaret Steedly’s Ethnographic Legacies,” “Eye Eye Nose Mouth: Art, Disability, and Mental Illness in Nanjing, China and Shiga-ken, Japan,” “Voice and Silence: Memory in East Asia,” “Africa-Asia Partnerships in Health and Healthcare Delivery for Women and Youth,” “May Fourth@100: China and the World 1919-2019,” “Ocean, Island, Shore: Placing the Global Pacific in the Age of Climate Change,” “China and India in the Age of Decolonization,” and “Health and Health Systems in Transition: What Can We Learn from Key Areas of Change in Southeast Asia.” These conferences are highlighted throughout the report and listed in the appendices.
ELEGY

Perhat Tursun

"Your soul is the entire world."
— HERMANN HESSE, SIDDHARTHA

Among the corpses frozen in exile over the icy mountain pass, will you recognize me?

Our brothers we begged for shelter took our clothes. Pass by there even now and you'll see our naked corpses. When they force me to accept the massacre as love

Do you know that I am with you.

After three hundred years they remember and do not know each other, their own greatness

I happily drank down poison, thinking it fine wine

When they search the streets and cannot find my vanished figure

Do you know that I am with you.

In that tower built of skulls you'll find my skull as well

They cut my head off just to test the sharpness of a sword.

When before the sword our beloved cause-and-effect relationship is ruined like a wild lover

Do you know that I am with you.

When in the market men with tall fur hats are used for target practice and a man's face draws out in agony as a bullet cleaves his brain, and

before the eyes that look to find the reason of their death the executioner fades and disappears, reflected in that bullet-pierced brain's fevered thoughts will be my form, just then

Do you know that I am with you.

In those times when drinking wine was a greater crime than drinking blood, do you know that I, Alphonse Noris, delicately drowned in wine from my blood

Do you know that I am with you.

DO YOU KNOW THAT I AM WITH YOU.

March 2006, Xihongmen, Beijing

Translated by Joshua L. Freeman

As two Cambodians residing in the United States, we live within multiple timeframes and realities. Our shared histories of dislocation bring the past into the here and now, as we grapple with a future yet to be defined.

In these bodies of work, we contribute to ongoing narratives that animate contemporary Cambodia; the politics of memory and nation building, transnationalism and the diaspora, urban and rural development, labor and migration.

Our work builds upon memories shaped by the people, places, objects, sounds and smells we associate with home. But what does home mean to us, and where do we find it? In a larger sense, ours is a politics of searching, belonging, and translating the disparate Cambodias that we inhabit.

Through these expressions, our creative and scholarly work pushes against the dualities of past and present, traditional and modern, exile and belonging that shape our experiences as Cambodians moving through this world.

Malika Leiper | Harvard Graduate School of Design '19
Chummeng Soun | UMass Lowell '20

EXHIBITS AND FILM SERIES

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EXHIBITS AND FILM SERIES

Sponsored by the Thai Studies Program at the Harvard University Asia Center
EXHIBITS AND FILM SERIES

As in past years, in 2018-2019 the Asia Center actively developed, organized, and supported a variety of art exhibits and film series. The year featured a number of student-organized exhibits, ranging from a large-scale exhibit in the CGIS Concourse to a multimedia exhibit in the Asian Centers’ Lounge. A complete list of 2018-2019 exhibits and film series can be found in the appendices.

Harvard Media and Anthropology Ph.D. Candidate Benny Shaffer and Comparative Literature Associate Scholar Dr. Raphael Koenig (Ph.D., Harvard, 2018) co-curated the expansive exhibit Eye Eye Nose Mouth: Art, Disability, and Mental Illness in Nanjing, China and Shiga-ken, Japan, which was displayed for three months in the CGIS Concourse.

Shaffer and Koenig’s curatorial project began in summer 2018 with their immersion in art workshops for people with disabilities at Nanjing Outsider Art Studio in China and Atelier Yamanami in Japan. They were given nearly full access to record and interact with artists and staff in sculpture, textile, and painting workshops, witnessing not only the creation of art but also the social benefits and opportunities for advocacy enabled by the workshops. Shaffer and Koenig’s video footage of the artists practicing their craft was a central component of the exhibition.

An important aspect of Shaffer and Koenig’s research and the exhibition was redefining the context and reception for art created by self-taught artists. Movements such as Art Brut, which first emerged in the 1940s, are still often used to interpret the works of artists with disabilities and with mental illness as “pure” or “primordial”—notions that Shaffer and Koenig find dated, essentializing, and inadequate. Their research sheds new light on these artworks by presenting them in their contemporary social and political contexts, such as the emergence of new networks of NGOs in Japan and unresolved tensions between public safety and public health approaches in China.

Dr. Joshua Freeman (Ph.D., Harvard, 2019) introduced Uyghur poetry with translations of Uyghur poets in the exhibit Three Uyghur Poets. The translations were displayed, alongside their Uyghur-language source texts, on the walls of the Asian Centers’ Lounge in February and March 2019. This exhibit was immediately followed by a week-long pop-up exhibit titled Two Cambodians—Scenes from Contemporary Cambodia. (see sidebar)

Harvard College senior Montita Sowapark organized an exhibit in the Asian Centers’ Lounge on Unexpected Thailand, featuring photographs of the country taken by Thai students at Harvard and displayed during December 2018-January 2019. Professor Michael Herzfeld (Harvard) spoke at the exhibit’s reception, one of his final duties as director of the Asia Center’s Thai Studies Program before retiring from Harvard.

The Asia-related centers at Harvard periodically spotlight some of the vast library and museum resources on Asia at the University. In fall 2018, the centers collaborated on an exhibit titled Magnificent Trees of Asia, which featured a selection of photographs by Ernest Henry Wilson of trees in Asia from the Arnold Arboretum Horticultural Library, many of which appear in this report.

In addition to the above exhibits, during the 2018-2019 academic year the Asia Center co-sponsored a series of films at the Harvard Film Archive on the new Thai cinema. Along with film screenings, the series also featured presentations by visiting directors.
SIDEBAR:

TWO CAMBODIANS-SCENES FROM CONTEMPORARY CAMBODIA.

For one week in April 2018, the Asian Centers’ Lounge was transformed into a pop-up multimedia art installation titled Two Cambodians - Scenes from Contemporary Cambodia. Organized by one of the Asia Center’s Graduate Student Associates in Residence, Malika Leiper (Graduate School of Design), and Boston-area based graphic artist Chummeng Soun (UMass Lowell), the installation invited visitors to inhabit a scene constructed from shared memories of home. Through audio, visual, and sensory provocations, their collaborative body of work contributes to ongoing narratives taking place in contemporary Cambodia about the politics of memory and nation building, transnationalism and the diaspora, urban and rural development, and labor and migration. The opening night of the exhibit was marked by Cambodian food, games, and music.

Photographs by Malika Leiper featured in the “Two Cambodians: Scenes from Contemporary Cambodia” exhibit.
EXHIBITS AND FILM SERIES

EYE EYE NOSE MOUTH EXHIBIT

Top left: Momoko, 2017
Nakagawa Momoko
Atelier Yamanami

Top right: Untitled, 2017
Sun Yue
Nanjing Outsider Art Studio

Bottom left: Tree Frog, 2016
Li Jie
Nanjing Outsider Art Studio

Bottom right: Industrial Zone, 2018
Takenaka Katsuyoshi
Atelier Yamanami
Since its founding, the Asia Center has been committed to developing the study of Southeast Asia at Harvard. It has consistently supported the appointment of faculty colleagues with expertise in the region, as well as programming and faculty and student grants for research on the region. To coordinate these efforts more effectively, the Center recently reconvened the Southeast Asia Committee, currently chaired by Professor Sunil Amrith and composed of faculty members from seven Harvard schools: the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Business School, Graduate School of Design, Divinity School, Kennedy School, Law School, and Medical School (see the appendices for a list of the members of this committee). The goal of this committee is to build a critical mass of individuals, programming, and resources that will enable the study of Southeast Asia to thrive at Harvard, and the committee spent considerable time during the 2018-2019 academic year planning for the future. The Asia Center also sponsored many talks, panels, conferences, exhibits, and film series relating to Southeast Asia (see Southeast Asia Seminars and Events in the appendices).

An important part of the Asia Center’s Southeast Asia Program is the Thai Studies Program, established in 2014 at the Asia Center by Professor Michael Herzfeld of the Department of Anthropology and Dr. Jay Rosengard of the Harvard Kennedy School. The Program organized numerous talks and seminars as well as film series and exhibits during the 2018-2019 academic year, as outlined above and in the appendices. Professor Herzfeld directed the Thai Studies Program until his retirement in December 2018; Dr. Rosengard is the current director, and Professor Malavika Reddy (Harvard) is the new chair of the Thai Studies Committee.
The Asia Center Publications Program is one of the world’s most widely respected publishers of scholarly books in East Asian humanities and social sciences. The program has published more than 500 titles since its founding in the 1950s; it became part of the Asia Center at the Center’s founding in 1998. Most of its titles are now available digitally through JSTOR and Project Muse.

In addition to making the structural changes described in the Director’s Letter, the Asia Center published 15 new titles in 2018-2019, including three simultaneously in hardcover and paperback. One of its books – Professor Michael A. Fuller’s An Introduction to Chinese Poetry: From the Canon of Poetry to the Lyrics of the Song Dynasty (2018) – won a major prize, the 2019 Franklin R. Buchanan Prize for Curriculum Materials, awarded by the Association for Asian Studies. Fuller’s textbook presents in bilingual format the major poets and poems of the Chinese poetic tradition from earliest times to the Song dynasty.

New Titles Published in 2018-19

Ang, Claudine, Drama, Poetry, and the Civilizing Mission: Chinese and Vietnamese Cultural Projects on the Mekong Plains

Cohen, Paul, A Path Twice Traveled: My Journey as a Historian of China (Fairbank Center book)

Dawley, Evan, Becoming Taiwanese: Ethnogenesis in a Colonial City, 1880s-1950s

Duara, Prasenjit & Elizabeth J. Perry (eds.), Beyond Regimes: China and India Compared

Hill, Joshua, Voting as a Rite: A History of Elections in Modern China

Kim, Hwansoo, The Korean Buddhist Empire: A Transnational History (1910-1945)

Kim, Loretta, Ethnic Chrysalis: China’s Orochen People and the Legacy of Qing Borderland Administration

Li, Hsiao-t’i, Opera, Society, and Politics in Modern China

Lippit, Miya Elise Mizuta, Aesthetic Life: Beauty and Art in Modern Japan

Owen, Stephen, Just a Song: Chinese Lyrics from the Eleventh and Early Twelfth Centuries

Schneewind, Sarah, Shrines to Living Men in the Ming Political Cosmos

Verellen, Franciscus, Imperiled Destinies: The Daoist Quest for Deliverance in Medieval China

Wang Jinping, In the Wake of the Mongols: The Making of a New Social Order in North China, 1200–1600

Ziomek, Kirsten, Lost Histories: Recovering the Lives of Japan’s Colonial Peoples

Zuo Ya, Shen Gua’s Empiricism
In 2018-2019, the Asia Center awarded 32 grants for Harvard faculty research projects, faculty-directed conferences, and faculty-led seminar series, totaling $231,000. Consistent with the Asia Center’s mission of generating new knowledge on Asia in transnational and transregional as well as transdisciplinary perspective, the Asia Center funds faculty projects that focus on two or more countries of East, South, or Southeast Asia. Because of its mandate to strengthen the study of Southeast Asia at Harvard, the Asia Center also funds research on single Southeast Asian countries. The Asia Center’s goal is to fund all rigorous faculty projects from across Harvard schools; we especially prioritize the work of Harvard’s tenure-track faculty members. We also regularly fund competitive projects by Harvard researchers who do not hold a faculty position but who apply through the regular faculty grants process. All decisions on faculty funding are now made by faculty committees.

Faculty grants are generously supported by the AB2000 Fund, the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation Fund, the Carlos Cordeiro Fund, the Victor and William Fung Foundation Fund, the Kin-chung Lam Morning Sun Fund, the O’Friel Fund, and the Dora and Y.L. Yang Fund.

**Fall 2018 Faculty Grants**

**Research**

**Professor Paul Chang, Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:**
Reinventing Family: The Rise of Non-Normative Households in South Korea

**Professor Jinah Kim, History of Art and Architecture, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:**
Paper, Pothi, and the Goddess: The History of the Devī (goddess) manuscripts in the Himalayas and Northern India

**Professor Durba Mitra, Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:**
Solidarity: Feminist Political Thought in Postcolonial Asia

**Professor Victor Seow, History of Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:**
Made in China: Manufacturing Revolutions in the Era of Reform
FACULTY PROJECTS

Professor Gabriela Soto Laveaga, History of Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Beyond Science in the Fields: Hunger and Hybrid Seeds in Mexico and India, 1966-1996

Dr. Russell Taylor, Restorative Dentistry and Biomaterials Sciences, School of Dental Medicine:
Mobile Multimedia Platforms for Diagnostic Instruction (Vietnam)

Professor Yuhua Wang, Government, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Building a Paper Tiger: The Politics Behind China’s State Development

Conference

Dr. Maria Adele Carrai, Harvard University Asia Center:
Legal Pluralism in Asia and Global Histories of International Law(s)

Professor Arunabh Ghosh, History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
China and India in the Age of Decolonization: An Analysis of the Nehru Papers, 1947-1964)

Professor David Howell, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Professor Ian Miller, History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Asia’s Pacific: East Asia and Japan in the New Maritime History

Professor Annette Damayanti Lienau, Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Arabic and its Rivals: Sacred Language, Vernacular Difference, and the Politics of (Post)-Colonial Literature

Professor Victor Seow, History of Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Making History: Technologies of Production in East Asia’s Past

Professor David Der-wei Wang, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Professor Jie Li, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
May Fourth @ 100: China and the World 1919-2019

Spring 2019 Faculty Grants

Research

Professor Rosetta Elki, Landscape Architecture, Graduate School of Design; Professor Sharon Harper, Visual and Environmental Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Imagining Retreat: Notes from the Landscape of Adaptation

Professor Wafei Fawzi, Global Health and Population, Nutrition, and Epidemiology, T.H. Chan School of Public Health:
Implementation of Ying Yang Bao to Improve Complementary Feeding among Children in China, Tanzania, and Myanmar

Professor Annette Damayanti Lienau, Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
The Impact of Operational Quality in Public Transportation: The Case of TransJakarta

Professor Jinah Kim, History of Art and Architecture, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Garland of Visions: Color, Tantra, and a Material History of Indian Painting

Professor Rema Hanna, Harvard Kennedy School:
De-escalating Conflict in Polarized Societies

Professor Satchit Balsari, Global Health and Population, T.H. Chan School of Public Health:
Post-Disaster Impact Ascertainment: A South-South Exchange

Dr. Nara Dillon, Government, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Professor Candalaria Garay, Harvard Kennedy School; Professor Elizabeth Perry, Government, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Professor Gunnar Trumball, Harvard Business School:
Food in the Global Welfare State

Dr. Xiaofei Gao, Harvard University Asia Center; Dr. Stefan Huebner, Harvard University Asia Center:
Ocean, Island, Shore: Placing the Global Pacific in the Age of Climate Change

Professor Tyler Giannini, Harvard Law School; Dr. Diane Moore, Harvard Divinity School:
Professor Nicholas Harkness, Anthropology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Roman Jakobson Annual Symposium; Inaugural Theme: Signs of Race, Racializing Signs

Professor David Howell, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Slavery in East Asia

Professor Jinah Kim, History of Art and Architecture, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Nepal Mandala in Early Modern “Global” Asia

Professor Herman “Dutch” Leonard, Harvard Kennedy School:
Confronting Disasters in an Era of Climate Change

Professor Wai-ye Li, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Jin Ping Mei and the World: Translation and Transculturation

Seminar Series

Professor Sugata Bose, History and South Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Borders in Modern Asia Seminar Series

Professor Janet Gyatso, Harvard Divinity School;
Professor James Robson, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Harvard Buddhist Studies Forum

Professor Ju Yon Kim, English, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Asian America and the Asian Diaspora: Transpacific Publics Seminar Series

Professor Durba Mitra, Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Professor Karen Thornber, Comparative Literature and East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Asian Feminisms and Sexualities Seminar Series

Professor Victor Seow, History of Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Science and Technology in Asia Seminar Series
KOREA QUELPAERT IS. CELTIS SINENSIS
In 2018-2019, the Asia Center awarded 85 student grants for winter and summer research, language learning, internships, and service work, totaling $343,550. Consistent with the Asia Center’s mission of generating new knowledge on Asia in transnational and transregional perspective, Asia Center undergraduate and graduate student research grants fund projects that focus on two or more countries of East, South, or Southeast Asia; language grants fund students whose projects engage with two or more countries of East, South, or Southeast Asia. Because of its mandate to strengthen the study of Southeast Asia at Harvard, the Asia Center also funds research on single Southeast Asian countries. Recognizing the need of many graduate students to learn multiple Asian languages, the Asia Center again began offering graduate student language grants. Moreover, the Asia Center was among the first of Harvard’s international centers to establish winter research grants to enable both undergraduate and graduate students to spend a month in Asia between the fall and spring semesters. New for spring 2019, all students looking to receive funding must submit formal applications; grant decisions are made by faculty committees. The Asia Center’s goal is to fund all competitive student projects.

STUDENT PROJECTS

Winter 2019 Undergraduate Research Grants

Chung, Eugene ’19, Government: The Development of Intercultural Competence at International Universities in China and Singapore

Kim, Jiin ’20, Sociology and Ethnicity, Migration, Rights: Elderly Individuals Experiencing Poverty in Asia

Patel, Rushi ’21, Biomedical Engineering: Evaluating Social Mobility of Dance-Oriented Careers in India and China

Poh, Yong Han ’20, East Asian Studies and Anthropology: Vietnamese Women Writing in French: Gender in the Colonial Language

Rodriguez, Sarah ’21, Social Studies and Philosophy: The Intersection between Religion and Mental Illness in East Asia

Winter 2019 Undergraduate Group Travel Grants

The Harvard Asia Center supported the Harvard Philippine Forum Service Trip in January 2019, funding the following students:

De Leon, Maria ’20, Molecular and Cellular Biology

Ekeya, Jessica ’19, Human Evolutionary Biology

Finlayson, Matthew ’21, Applied Mathematics

Li, William Tan ’19, Molecular and Cellular Biology

Meneses, Mark Theodore ’21, Engineering Sciences

Nebres, Paul ’20, Applied Mathematics

O’Donoghue, Shane ’20, History and Literature

Paek, Jonathan ’20, Sociology

Reck Rivera, Claudio ’21, Molecular and Cellular Biology

Scholer, Abigail ’21, Philosophy and Psychology

The Asia Center also helped support the Program for Scientifically-Inspired Leadership in Imphal, India, directed by Dr. Dominic Mao (Harvard)

Kessler, Samuel ’19, Computer Science

Pao, Allison ’21, Social Studies

Summer 2019 Undergraduate Research Grants

Carroll, Marie ’20, History of Science and Music: The History of Music Therapy in Japan and Korea

Choo, Adeline ’20, East Asian Studies: The Bamboo Network’s Impact on the Development of Singapore and Hong Kong

Colarusso, Anthony ’22: Harvard Summer School Program in Hong Kong

Gu, Haozhou ’20, History: History of Sino-Japan Relations

Hull, Sunday ’20, History and Literature: Vietnamese Women Writing in French: Gender in the Colonial Language

Lu, Tina ’21, Computer Science: Gender Inequality in STEM in China and Japan

Ngauv, Julie ’20, History: Oral History of Cambodian Genocide Survivors with Rural Origins, from Various Provinces in Cambodia

Ode, Anders ’21, Social Studies: Harvard Summer School Program in Hong Kong

Poh, Yong Han ’20, East Asian Studies and Anthropology: Love, Labor, Loss: Voices of Migrant Worker Poets in Singapore

Qiu, Todd ’22: Harvard Summer School Program in Hong Kong

HVIET Summer Program

The Asia Center also helped support the HVIET Program, funding the travel of the following undergraduates to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam to lead seminars inspired by the Harvard liberal arts curriculum:

Britton, Alyssa ’21, Environmental Science and Public Policy and Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Kim, Brian ’21, Government and East Asian Studies

Kim, Irene ’20, Philosophy

Leary, Jake ’22

Lee, Jaehyun ’21, Computer Science and East Asian Studies

Mardo, Matthew ’21, Neuroscience

Mohanty, Vaibhav ’19, Chemistry and Physics (continuing at Harvard Medical School)

Patel, Zeel ’22

Schaefer, John ’21, History and Science

Schumer, Ema ’22

Tran, Bethany ’22

Wong, Stephanie ’20, Chemistry
Winter 2019 Graduate Research Grants

Belluci, Aurélien, Ph.D. Candidate, Comparative Literature, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Comparative Theater, India and China

Dai, Jinyun, Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Class Formation in State-led Development: Urbanization as Social Change in China and Vietnam

De, Aniket, Ph.D. Candidate, History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Boundaries of Belonging: Border-making and Spatial Imaginations in Asia


Guo, Boya, M.A.U.D. Candidate, Urban Planning and Design, Graduate School of Design: Comparing Domestic Architectures in Japanese Danchi and Chinese Danwei Housing Units after the 1950s: State, Community, and Everyday Life

Hua, Rui, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: A Borderland Market of Laws: The Transnational Legal Culture of Manchuria, 1900-1957

Summer 2019 Graduate Research Grants

Zhao, Shanni, Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: A Comparative Study of the Government-Sponsored Matchmaking Enterprises in Beijing and Singapore

The Asia Center also funded the following Ed.D. students from the Graduate School of Education to travel to Singapore and Thailand in winter 2019 for their project A Transnational Review of Systems-Level Education in Singapore and Thailand.

Tauheerah Baker-Jones, Hassan Brown, Shahara Jackson, Leslie Jimenez, Brian Pick, Erica Jordan Thomas, Sarah Rogers Tucker, Danila Zidovsky

De, Aniket, Ph.D. Candidate, History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Boundaries of Belonging: Border-making and Spatial Imaginations in Asia

Dhillon, Hardeep, Ph.D. Candidate, History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Indians on the Move: Law, Mobility and Race in the Early Twentieth Century

Dziedzic, Peter, M.T.S. Candidate, Theological Studies, Harvard Divinity School: Contextualizing Commentaries: Al-Fansuri, al-Sumatrani, and Persian Literary Production in Southeast Asia

Eom, Gangsim, Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Locating Displacement: Koreans and Community in Indonesia since 1942

Hickman, Ashley, M.Arch Candidate, Architecture, Graduate School of Design: Metabolism in Japan and Singapore: The Transformation of Socially Conscious Building

Hua, Rui, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: A Borderland Market of Laws: The Transnational Legal Culture of Manchuria, 1900-1957

Huang, Dingru, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Forging Posthuman Kinship: Nishimura Makoto’s A-racial Automaton and Eco-Humanism in 1920-40s Japan and China

Huang, Rong, Ph.D. Candidate, Religion, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: East Syriac Christianity in Central Asia and its Interaction with Chinese Religions in Tang (618-907) China
STUDENT PROJECTS

Summer 2019 Graduate Language Grants

Chanda, Sudarshana, Ph.D. Candidate, History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Chinese language study

Copplestone, Louis, Ph.D. Candidate, History of Art and Architecture, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Sanskrit language study

Evans, James, A.M. Candidate, Regional Studies—East Asia, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Chinese language study

Hahn, Kwan Woo, A.M. Candidate, Regional Studies—East Asia, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Japanese language study

Lang, Chao, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Chinese language study

Luo, Queenie, M.T.S. Candidate, Harvard Divinity School: Sanskrit language study

Peters, Catherine, Ph.D. Candidate, American Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Hindi language study

Wittekind, Courtney, Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Burmese language study

Yang, Sungik, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Chinese language study

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Jostol, Edyth, M.L.A. Candidate, Landscape Architecture, Graduate School of Design: Falling Stands: Cryptomeria Japonica and Forest Policy in Japan and Sri Lanka

Murtaza, Natasha, Ph.D. Candidate, Government, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Building Bureaucratic Capacity: The Effect of Political Competition on Governance

Oh, Joo Hyeon, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Testing Boundaries of the Known: The Daily History from the Hall of Stone-Classics Dream and 19th Century Korean Travelers to Beijing

Ravis, Timothy, M.U.P. Candidate, Urban Planning, Graduate School of Design: Mapping the Metabolic Metropolis: Harnessing Big Data to Understand Jakarta’s Urbanization

Shernuk, Kyle, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Transculturating China: Ethnicity, Nation, and Chineseness at the Millennial Turn

Soderborg, Seth, Ph.D. Candidate, Government, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Weak Parties, Strong Bases: How Local Organizations Shape National Parties in Indonesia

Solis, Jesus, Ph.D. Candidate, History, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: American Goods, Narcotics, and Smuggling: Japan’s International Postwar Black Market

Song, Lei, M. Des. Candidate, Design Studies, Graduate School of Design: The Power of Colonialism, Nationalism and Tourism: A Comparative Study of Colonial Prisons in Japan and Taiwan

Tang, Junchao, A.M. Candidate, Regional Studies—East Asia, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Diversity and Public Goods Provision under Authoritarianism: Evidence from China

Thompson, Rachel, Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Jakarta, Sinking City: Ecologies of Belonging in a Flood-Prone Metropolis

Wang, Liang, Ph.D. Candidate, Urban Planning and Design, Graduate School of Design: Superblock and Modernity: Scale, Form, Power

Wing-Lun, Joel, Ph.D. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Negotiating Empire on China’s Miao Frontier, 1546-1911

Yi, Jongsik, Ph.D. Candidate, History of Science, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Red, Gray, Green: Socialist Agrarian Sciences in Twentieth-Century China, Vietnam, North Korea, and Cuba

Yim, Gyeyoon, Ph.D. Candidate, Epidemiology, T. H. Chan School of Public Health: Cross-National Comparative Environmental Health: The Association between Prenatal Exposure to Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals and Infant Neurodevelopment - From a Perspective of a Mixture of Pollutants

Zhang, Viran, J.D. Candidate, Harvard Law School: Filipino Domestic Workers in Mainland China: The Gravity of Illegality

Zipperer, Kristen, Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences: Sights Unseen: Political Life in Nepal’s Southern Borderland
New for 2018-2019, Asia Center hosted a community of scholars at a range of career stages from around the world who work on Asia in transnational and transregional as well as transdisciplinary perspective. Many of these individuals have office space in the Asia Center suite in CGIS South Building, and most participate regularly in Asia Center activities.

The **Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellows Program**, new in 2018-2019, welcomed two postdocs in fall 2018. Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellow, Professor Elsa Clavé (Goethe University), focuses on the political culture of Southeast Asian sultanates. Victor and William Fung Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Xiaofei Gao (University of California, Santa Cruz), is a specialist of twentieth-century maritime Manchuria. Postdoctoral Fellows are chosen by a faculty committee from a field of more than 150 applicants. The Asia Center will be welcoming three new postdocs in fall 2019: Dr. Adhira Mangalagiri, Dr. John Buchanan, and Dr. Chun Sheng Goh. (See the Director’s Letter for more details).

The **Asia Center Graduate Student Associates Program**, launched in 2016-2017, continues to bring together for biweekly meetings graduate students from across the Harvard schools who work on Asia in transnational and transregional perspective to discuss their work and receive feedback from different disciplinary perspectives. In collaboration with other international centers, the Asia Center also hosts professional development events for GSAs. The GSA Program was supervised by Asia Center Acting Director Andrew Gordon in its first year, by Director Karen Thornber in 2017-2018, and by Divinity School Professor Anne Monius in 2018-2019; Professor Monius will continue leading the GSA program in 2019-2020. GSAs are chosen by a faculty committee. There were 13 GSAs in 2018-2019; a list can be found in the appendices at the end of this report. Many of these students come from fields where single-country specialization is the norm; the GSA program in many ways legitimizes their research and provides them with a community of scholars also committed to transnational and transregional scholarship.
The ongoing Asia Center Affiliates Program, restructured during the 2016-2017 academic year, invites Harvard faculty members to nominate and host visiting fellows, scholars, and associates. Prospective Asia Center Affiliates submit a formal application and are chosen by a faculty committee. The program offers individuals from around the world the opportunity to conduct independent research with the support of Harvard faculty members. Affiliates greatly enrich the intellectual life of the Asia Center and Harvard University, participating in seminars, panel discussions, and other activities where they share their expertise and present their research. In 2018-2019, the Asia Center was privileged to host four visiting scholars, six fellows, and 13 associates from China, India, Japan, Korea, Portugal, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States. These individuals are listed in the appendices.
The Asia Center organized numerous activities throughout the 2018-2019 academic year to promote community among the University’s international centers and to reach out to individuals and groups in the greater Boston area and beyond.

In October, the Asia Center hosted its second Asian Centers’ Welcome Lunch, attended by visiting affiliates, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate student associates from all the Harvard Asia-related centers. The Asia Center published a comprehensive directory, distributed at the lunch and available on the Asia Center’s website, listing each center’s affiliates, postdocs, and GSAs, with the aim of facilitating cross-center collaboration. In late November, the Asia Center hosted its annual Holiday Party for faculty members, students, and friends, where a sumptuous buffet of Asian food was served.

More broadly, the Asia Center is one of several internationally focused centers and programs at Harvard that collaborate on educational outreach throughout New England and beyond. The goal of this collaboration is to make use of Harvard’s resources to help the general public, and especially K-12 teachers and students, better understand the complex world in which we live. Two means of achieving this goal are organizing events and programming around global themes and preparing and disseminating materials for classroom use.

The major event of this collaboration is an annual professional development workshop for teachers on a theme of global significance. The 2018 workshop – The Internet: Tangled Webs, Global Promise – brought together 35 K-12 educators from across the country and a number of academics and practitioners from Harvard and other universities around the world. “The Internet” focused on global patterns and trends and explored questions including: How does the internet make us more (or less) healthy, connected, secure, informed, educated, empowered, creative, and globally competent? Where do equity, ethics, and justice fit into the “tangled web” and promises of today’s online universe, especially for middle, high school, and community college students? How can teachers engage with these challenges and find opportunities to advance learning for youth who
think and play, and increasingly live, online? Among the conference presenters was Ms. Madeline Earp, Content/Project Manager at Security First, who spoke on “Shutdowns, Fake News, and Eye Roll Memes: Challenges and Opportunities for Internet Users in Asia.” Ms. Earp, a graduate of Harvard’s A.M. program in Regional Studies–East Asia, has studied digital rights and media freedom in Asia for the past decade.

The Asia Center also offers K-12 Outreach Grants of up to $5,000 for non-Harvard organizations to develop and implement programming that supports K-12 teachers and students in their study of East, South, and Southeast Asia as well as of the Asian diaspora. Projects include but are not limited to teacher training workshops, development of online and digital materials, and cultural events. Preference is given to projects that are multi-disciplinary in nature and that actively engage less-resourced schools. Applicants are also encouraged to make use of the Harvard community as a resource.

As of spring 2018, funding is by formal application; the results of the 2019 competition were pending when this Annual Report went to press.

Another of the Asia Center’s outreach programs, the Jeffrey Cheah Exchange Program, was established in collaboration with the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, Malaysia. This program awards grants to advance Southeast Asia-focused teaching and research by engaging Harvard University faculty members and students with Sunway University, Malaysia. The program also supports short-term visits for Southeast Asia-based scholars to interact with the Harvard community. During the 2018-2019 academic year, seven scholars from Sunway and Monash University Malaysia visited Harvard.

Fall 2018

Yap Kian Meng, Associate Professor, Department of Computing and Information Systems, Sunway University

Ashutosh Sarker, Senior Lecturer, Monash University

Spring 2019

Nur Ain Shahrier, Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics and Finance, Sunway University

Chandrajit Lahiri, Senior Lecturer, Department of Biological Sciences, Sunway University

Sha Hongxi, Master of Science in Life Science, Department of Biological Sciences, Sunway University

Alireza Zarei, Senior Lecturer, Sunway University

Kong Xin Ying, Ph.D. Candidate, School of Engineering, Monash University
Planning for the 2019-2020 academic year and beyond is well underway, as the Asia Center continues its transformation into a leading center globally for the study of Asia in transnational and transregional as well as transdisciplinary perspective.

Fall events will begin Friday, September 6, 2019 with a conference on “Legal Pluralism in Asia and Global Histories of International Law(s),” organized by Asia Center Fellow Dr. Maria Adele Carrai. This conference will be followed, on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, by a major book event in honor of Professor Ezra Vogel and his most recent publication, *China and Japan: Facing History*. On Thursday and Friday, September 26-27, the Asia Center will co-sponsor the Department of Anthropology’s Roman Jakobson Symposium on “Signs of Race, Racializing Signs,” featuring scholars of Asia and Asian American studies.

The 15th *Tsai Lecture* will take place Thursday, November 7, 2019 and will feature the Honorable Kathleen Stephens, former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea. The 16th Tsai Lecture, scheduled for 2020, will be given by Noeleen Heyzer, former United Nations Under-Secretary General and trustee of the Asia Foundation. Planning is also in progress for the 17th Tsai Lecture, tentatively scheduled for 2021, which will bring together female film directors from across Asia to speak on their work; their panel discussion will be complemented by screenings of their films. Tentatively scheduled for the spring semester 2020 is a lecture and performance by Mukaddas Mijit, the Uyghur activist, dancer and ethnomusicologist. Going forward, the Asia Center’s numerous art exhibits, film series, and similar events will come under the umbrella of the new *Asia Center Arts Initiative*.

As noted in this report, the 2018-2019 academic year saw a number of new Asia Center faculty-led seminar series. Two of these seminar series – Borders in Modern Asia and Science and Technology in Asia – will continue in 2019-2020. Several new faculty-organized seminar series will additionally be launched in 2019-2020, including Asian Feminisms and Sexualities (Professors Durba Mitra and Karen Thornber), and Asian America and the Asian Diaspora: Transpacific Publics (Professor Ju Yon Kim). The Asia Center will also co-sponsor the
Harvard Buddhist Studies Forum (Professors Janet Gyatso and James Robson). Moreover, the Asia Center will be inaugurating a Harvard Asia faculty lunch series, offering faculty members from across Harvard the opportunity to learn more about one another’s work on Asia in a format modeled after the successful GSA program.


Planning has likewise begun for a major international conference at the Asia Center tentatively titled What is Asia?, which will bring together Asia research centers as well as funding organizations and publishers from across the U.S. and abroad to discuss issues that transcend borders from transnational perspectives as well as to interrogate the meaning of “Asia” and the study of Asia more broadly and address underrepresented phenomena and fields. Included in the conference will be a discussion of the borders and boundaries of Asia. The Asia Center looks forward to partnering with a broad range of Harvard’s international centers, including the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, that focus on West Asia and Central/North Asia, respectively. Colleagues also have expressed interest in publishing a book accessible to the educated public on What is Asia, similar to the Fairbank Center’s recent The China Questions.

As part of the “What is Asia?” conference or as a separate event, the Center plans to sponsor an Asia Center Biennale, which will spotlight artists from across Asia, including renowned figures such as Indonesian artist Entang Wiharso.

Planning is currently underway for another Africa-Asia conference in 2020 as well as faculty and student grants, postdoctoral opportunities, and other programs in the rapidly growing field of Africa-Asia interconnections.

As part of its commitment to strengthen the study of Southeast Asia at Harvard, the Asia Center is developing a network of Southeast Asia scholars from across Boston and greater New England; the Asia Center will be hosting Professor Doreen Lee (Northeastern University), most likely in academic year 2020-2021. A lunchtime series for 2019-2020 featuring the current research of faculty members focusing on Southeast Asia is also being organized. In addition, the Asia Center, in collaboration with Harvard Medical School, is actively exploring the possibility of establishing an office in Southeast Asia.

Given the success of the Asia Beyond the Headlines seminar on “China and Asia in a Changing Climate: Natural Science for the Non-Scientist,” which was developed by faculty members at the Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences for non-specialists, in the future, the Center plans to host seminars accessible to a general audience on Asia-related matters of urgent concern.

Adoption of current best practices in scholarly publishing has increased the capacity of the Publications Program and will enable it to begin publishing books on South and Southeast Asia, in addition to those on East Asia. The Publications Program also is newly committed to publishing books on Asia in transnational and transregional perspective as well as books on Asia that will have broad appeal.

As part of its commitment to strengthening Asian American Studies at Harvard, the Asia Center – in addition to inaugurating an Asian American Studies seminar series with Ethnicity, Migration, Rights and the Asian American Studies Working Group – is working with Harvard College’s many Asian American
cultural affinity groups and Asian American focused student organizations to gain more insight into how the Center can be of most benefit to students.

As part of its commitment to providing students with more well-rounded experiences in Asia, the Asia Center is working on adding an internship component to the undergraduate Southeast Asia service trips that it sponsors.

As part of its commitment to accessibility, beginning in fall 2019, the Asia Center will be providing on its website transcripts to accompany the videos of its events. The Asia Center is currently editing its website to make more transparent the wide variety of funded topics (all of which are included in this Annual Report) and will be publishing a handbook on Asia resources at Harvard to complement its website.

The Asia Center is working as well on increasing its name recognition and presence in Asia; Professor Thornber has made numerous trips to many parts of Asia for the Asia Center, forging ties with dozens of individuals, groups, and centers.

The Asia Center remains committed to fulfilling its mission and furthering the teaching and research missions of Harvard University, creating new knowledge and making new discoveries that will address the challenges and opportunities facing Asia and our planet. Given the many ways we’ve strengthened the Asia Center intellectually and structurally in academic year 2018-2019, we are very excited about the future of the Center as a leading center globally for the study of Asia in transnational and transregional perspective. We thank you for your support and look forward to future conversations and collaborations.
CHINA FIRMIANA SIMPLEX
Asia Center Events and Activities
Fall 2018-Spring 2019

- EVENT TOPICS FALL 2018-SPRING 2019
- ASIA BEYOND THE HEADLINES SEMINARS
- ASIA CENTER FELLOWS SEMINAR SERIES
- ASIA CENTER SEMINAR SERIES
- ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES SEMINARS
- BORDERS IN MODERN ASIA SEMINAR SERIES
- EARLY MODERN ASIA SEMINAR SERIES
- EXHIBITS AND FILMS
- SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ASIA SEMINAR SERIES
- SOUTHEAST ASIA SEMINARS AND EVENTS
- THAI STUDIES PROGRAM
- TSAI LECTURE
- CONFERENCES, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, SYMPOSIA, AND WORKSHOPS
- CO-SPONSORED EVENTS
- SOUTH ASIA WITHOUT BORDERS SEMINAR SERIES (MITTAL INSTITUTE SEMINAR SERIES FUNDED BY THE ASIA CENTER)

Asia Center Governance

- ASIA CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE
- ASIA CENTER COUNCIL
- INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND HONORARY FELLOWS
- SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMITTEE
- THAI STUDIES PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Asia Center Staff

Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellows

Asia Center Graduate Student Associates

Asia Center Affiliates

- FELLOWS
- VISITING SCHOLARS
- FUNG FELLOWS
- FAIRMONT SCHOLARS
- ASSOCIATES

Abbreviations

Acknowledgements
APPENDICES

Asia Center Events and Activities
Fall 2018-Spring 2019

Event Topics Fall 2018-Spring 2019

- AFRICA-ASIA INTERCONNECTIONS
- ASIA AND U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS/ALLIANCE
- ASIAN ARCHITECTURE, ARTS, FILM/MEDIA, LITERATURES, POPULAR CULTURES
- ASIAN BORDERS
- ASIAN DIASPORAS (INCLUDING ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES)
- ASIAN FUTURES
- ASIAN STUDIES AND ACTIVISM
- BUSINESS AND ECONOMIES OF ASIA
- CLIMATE CHANGE/ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES AND ASIA
- DISASTERS AND ASIA
- EARLY MODERN ASIA/EARLY ASIAN HISTORIES
- EARLY TWENTIETH-CENTURY LEGACIES (CENTENNIAL OF THE MARCH FIRST AND MAY FOURTH MOVEMENTS)
- EMPLOYMENT/LABOR IN ASIA
- FEMINISMS/GENDER ISSUES IN ASIA
- HUMAN RIGHTS/REFUGEE CRISES IN ASIA
- INDIA-CHINA INTERRELATIONSHIPS
- INEQUALITY IN ASIA
- JOURNALISM/PRESS FREEDOMS IN ASIA
- MEDICINE/HEALTH/HEALING IN ASIA
- NORTH KOREA AND ASIA
- POLITICAL CULTURES/POLITICS/ELECTIONS/AUTHORITY/STATE BUILDING/DEMOCRACY IN ASIA
- SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ASIA
- SOUTHEAST ASIA
- TRADE AND AID IN ASIA
- TRANS-ASIAN ENCOUNTERS
- URBANIZING ASIA

Standing room only audience at “Becoming Urban: Emerging Patterns of Urbanization in India” seminar.
ASIA BEYOND THE HEADLINES SEMINARS

Friday, October 5, 2018
THE COMPLEX INDIA-CHINA STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP: CAN THE TWO ASIAN POWERS RISE PEACEFULLY?
Professor Arjun Subramaniam, Tufts University; former Visiting Scholar, Asia Center
Chair: Professor Arne Westad, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies and the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

Thursday, October 25, 2018
PRESS FREEDOMS IN ASIA: PERSPECTIVES FROM CHINA, MYANMAR, AND THAILAND
Esther Htusan, Nieman Foundation Fellow; correspondent, Associated Press, Myanmar
Professor Puangthong R. Pawakapan, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
Moderator: Mable Chan, Associate in Research, Fairbank Center; former ABC News producer and Hong Kong TVB news correspondent
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Monday, October 29, 2018
OPERATION TOMODACHI: PROCESS AND RECOMMENDATIONS—THE U.S.-JAPAN ALLIANCE AFTER THE FUKUSHIMA NUCLEAR ACCIDENT
Koichi Isobe, Lt. Gen., Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (Ret.); Fellow, Asia Center
Chair: Professor Ezra Vogel, Harvard University
Discussants: Burton M. Field, Lt. Gen., U.S. Air Force (Ret.); former Commander, U.S. Forces Japan
Professor Joseph Nye, Harvard University
Robin “Sak” Sakoda, Former Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of State; former Senior Country Director for Japan, the Office of the Secretary of Defense
Scott H. Swift, Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.); former Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet
Yuki Tatsumi, Stimson Center, Washington, D.C.
Moderator: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Japan Disasters Digital Archive Project, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, and the U.S.-Japan Program, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Friday, November 2, 2018
CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION IN JAPANESE POLITICS TODAY
Professor Alexis Dudden, University of Connecticut
Professor Timothy George, University of Rhode Island
Professor Keigo Komamura, Keio University
Professor Franziska Seraphim, Boston College
Chair: Professor Helen Hardacre, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Wednesday, December 5, 2018
ENGAGING NORTH KOREA: WHAT ARE THE CURRENT SIGNPOSTS TELLING US?
Robert Carlin, Visiting Scholar, Stanford University; former CIA Korea analyst
Bonnie Glaser, Center for Strategic and International Studies
Ambassador Joseph Yun, U.S. Institute of Peace; former U.S. Special Representative for North Korea Policy
Chair: Dr. John Park, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard Korea Institute’s SBS Foundation Research Fund and the Korea Project at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School

Friday, February 15, 2019
TIME FOR REPARATIONS? A VIEW ON THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT’S RESPONSE TO THE KHMER ROUGE GENOCIDE
Sreang Heng, Harvard University; President, PEN Cambodia
Chair: Yee Htun, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Thursday, March 7, 2019
CHINA AND ASIA IN A CHANGING CLIMATE: NATURAL SCIENCE FOR THE NON-SCIENTIST
Professor John Holdren, Harvard University
Professor Peter Huybers, Harvard University
Professor Elsie Sunderland, Harvard University
Professor Steven Woofsky, Harvard University
Chair: Professor Michael McElroy, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard-China Project on Energy, Economy and Environment and the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies
APPENDICES

Friday, April 5, 2019
BABIES, WORK, OR BOTH? HIGHLY EDUCATED WOMEN’S EMPLOYMENT AND FERTILITY IN JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA
Professor Mary Brinton, Harvard University
Chair: Professor Ezra Vogel, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies and the Korea Institute

Thursday, April 18, 2019
CO-OPTIVE ENGAGEMENT: CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
Professor Jacques Bertrand, University of Toronto
Professor Puangthong Pawakapan, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
Dr. William Overholt, Harvard University
Moderator: Dr. Jay Rosengard, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Democracy in Hard Places Program, Harvard Kennedy School

Friday, February 22, 2019
FROM THE PACIFIC INTO THE ANTHROPOCENE: JAPANESE-U.S. RESEARCH ON FLOATING STRUCTURES, THE METABOLIST MOVEMENT, AND RISING SEA LEVELS
Dr. Stefan Huebner, Visiting Scholar (SSRC), Asia Center; National University of Singapore
Chair: Professor Andrew Gordon, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Friday, March 1, 2019
MAKING A COASTAL REVOLUTION: FARMERS, FISHERMEN, AND SOCIALISM IN NORTHEAST CHINA, 1946-76
Dr. Xiaofei Gao, Victor and William Fung Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Center
Discussant: Professor Christian Hess, Sophia University, Tokyo

Friday, April 19, 2019
POLITICAL CULTURES IN THE THAI-MALAY PENINSULA: IDEA OF SPACE AND FORMATION OF TERRITORY (17th-19th c.)
Professor Elsa Clavé, Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellow; Goethe University, Frankfurt
Chair: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University

Friday, May 3, 2019
SOVEREIGNTY IN CHINA AND THE LONG LEGACIES OF HISTORY
Dr. Maria Adele Carrai, Fellow, Asia Center; Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

Chair: Professor William Alford, Harvard University
Commentator: Professor Anne Orford, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies and East Asian Legal Studies, Harvard Law School

Monday, May 6, 2019
THE SOCIAL COST OF AUTOMOBILES AND ENVIRONMENT POLICIES IN ASIA: A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON CHINA AND JAPAN
Professor Harutoshi Matsutani, Fellow, Asia Center; Aichi University, Japan
Chair: Professor Ezra Vogel, Harvard University
Discussants: Professor Andrew Gordon, Harvard University
Professor Michael McElroy, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard-China Project on Energy, Economy and Environment, the Harvard-Yenching Institute, and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Friday, October 19, 2018
TAKING ROOT WHEREVER YOU LAND: THE LITURGICAL TRANSFORMATION OF POPULAR CULTS AMONG ETHNIC CHINESE IN VIETNAM
Professor Ngoc Tho Nguyen, Visiting Scholar, Asia Center; Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City
Chair: Professor Michael Szonyi, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Friday, November 2, 2018
ASIA CENTER FELLOWS SEMINAR SERIES

Wednesdays, September 19 and 26, 2018
IN SEARCH OF A BENEVOLENT POLITY: ELDERLY SUICIDE IN CHINA AND A CONFUCIAN SOCIO-ETHICAL VISION OF ELDERCARE
Professor Jing-Bao Nie, University of Otago, New Zealand
Chair: Professor Arthur Kleinman, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies
APPENDICES

Friday, September 21, 2018

BOOK TALK
TRANS-ASIAN ENCOUNTERS AND CHINA’S WAR ON SMUGGLING

Professor Philip Thai, Northeastern University
Chair: Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Friday, September 21, 2018

GLOBAL INCOME INEQUALITY

Professor Sudhir Anand, Associate, Asia Center; University of Oxford
Chair: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University

Friday, November 9, 2018

FROM COLONIAL MANCHURIA TO POSTWAR JAPAN: BORDER, SPACE AND COMMUNITY IN ABE KOBO’S BEASTS HEAD FOR HOME AND OTHER WRITING

Professor Miya Xie, Associate, Asia Center; Dartmouth College
Chair: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University

Friday, November 16, 2018

UNFAITHFUL FRIENDS: STATE AND BUSINESS IN DEVELOPING ASIA

Professor Meg Rithmire, Harvard University
Chair: Professor Ezra Vogel, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Friday, December 7, 2018

BECOMING URBAN: EMERGING PATTERNS OF URBANIZATION IN INDIA

Professor Rahul Mehrotra, Harvard University
Sourav Biswas, Landscape Planner and Spatial Analyst
Co-sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

Thursday, February 21, 2019

THE TRANSREGIONAL POLITICS OF LITERARY LANGUAGE: COMPARATIVE WORK ACROSS AFRICAN AND ASIAN CONTEXTS

Professor Shaden Tageldin, University of Minnesota
Professor Nergis Ertürk, Pennsylvania State University
Professor Fallou Ngom, Boston University
Professor Henk Maier, University of California, Riverside
Chair: Professor Annette Lienau, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and the Department of Comparative Literature

Monday, April 1, 2019

CHALLENGES AND PRESSURES JOURNALISTS FACE IN ASIA: A WINDOW INTO THE GLOBAL MEDIA LANDSCAPE

Esther Htusan, Nieman Foundation Fellow; correspondent, Associated Press, Myanmar
Yoshiaki Nohara, Nieman Foundation Fellow; reporter, Bloomberg News, Tokyo
Chair: Nicco Mele, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Thursday, April 18, 2019

FINDING A VOICE: A CONVERSATION ON CHINA’S FEMINIST VOICES WITH LÜ PIN

Lü Pin, Chinese journalist and feminist activist
Chair: Dr. Julian Gewirtz, Harvard University
Discussant: Dr. Moira Weigel, Harvard Society of Fellows
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies and Logic Magazine

Friday, April 26, 2019

ASIAN HISTORY AT WATER’S EDGE: ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY IN THE LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY

Dr. Xiaofei Gao, Victor and William Fung Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Center
Dr. Anthony Medrano, Harvard University
Discussants: Professor Prasannan Parthasarathi, Boston College
Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Center for the Environment

Monday, April 29, 2019

MANAGERIAL TALENT AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE: EVIDENCE FROM DISCONTINUITIES IN DOUGLAS MACARTHUR’S ECONOMIC PURGE

Professor Melissa Dell, Harvard University
Chair: Dr. David Yang, Harvard University
APPENDICES

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES SEMINARS

Monday, March 25, 2019
REIMAGINE “ASIAN”: DEFYING STEREOTYPES AND CELEBRATING IDENTITY IN MEDIA AND POPULAR CULTURE
Andrea Bang, actor, Kim’s Convenience
Paul Sun-Hyung Lee, actor, Kim’s Convenience
Simu Liu, actor, Kim’s Convenience and Yappie
Andrew Phung, actor, Kim’s Convenience
Hudson Yang, actor, Fresh off the Boat
Moderators: Woojin Kim, Harvard University
Amy Jiravisitcul, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs, the Pan-Asian Graduate Student Alliance, the Pan-Asian Coalition for Education, and the Harvard University Asia Center

Monday, April 22, 2019
WRITING ASIAN AMERICA: A READING AND CONVERSATION WITH THREE POETS
Tamiko Beyer, author of Last Days (forthcoming) and We Come Elemental
Paul Tran, recipient of the Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Fellowship from Poetry Magazine and the Discovery/Boston Review Poetry Prize
Emily Yoon, author of Ordinary Misfortunes and A Cruelty Special to Our Species, recipient of the Sunken Garden Chapbook Prize
Chair: Professor Ju Von Kim, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Korea Institute, the Asian American Studies Working Group, and the Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, Rights

BORDERS IN MODERN ASIA SEMINAR SERIES

Thursday, October 4, 2018
PARODY, APPROPRIATION, AND DISPLACEMENT IN EARLY MODERN BENGALI SUFI FICTIONS: OR NAVIGATING THE REALM OF THE IMAGINAIRE
Professor Tony K. Stewart, Vanderbilt University
Chairs: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Sunil Amrith, Harvard University

Thursday, November 1, 2018
CREATING BORDERS, PARTITIONING HERITAGE: INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY AFTER 1947
Professor Nayanjot Lahiri, Ashoka University, New Delhi
Chair: Professor Ayesha Jalal, Tufts University
Co-sponsored by the Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University

Thursday, November 15, 2018
CROSSING THE BORDERS OF ASIAN HISTORY AND GLOBAL HISTORY: ON C. A. BAYLY’S REMAKING THE MODERN WORLD
Chair: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Introduction: Professor Susan Bayly, University of Cambridge
Commentator: Professor Charles S. Maier, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History

Thursday, November 29, 2018
BEYOND THE NATION AND THE NOVEL: THE DRAMA AND MUSIC OF DWIJENDRALAL ROY
A reading on “Musical Crossings” by Sarvani Gooptu, Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata, from her book The Music of Nationhood
Professor Sugata Bose on “Literature as History, History as Political Theory”
Performance of D.L. Roy’s songs (including those from his play Shah Jahan) by Sarvani Gooptu and Sugata Bose, accompanied by Dipankar Deshmukh on the esraj and Rajesh Pai on the table
Chairs: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Sunil Amrith, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

Monday, February 4, 2019
BORDERS IN MODERN ASIA: CONCEPTS AND CASES
Professor Eric Tagliacozzo, Cornell University
Professor Tansen Sen, New York University Shanghai
Chairs: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Sunil Amrith, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Thursday, March 7, 2019
VIETNAMESE WORKERS AND JAPANESE LOCAL INDUSTRY: BACKGROUNDS AND TRENDS
Professor Setsuko Shibuya, University of Fukuchiyma, Japan
Chairs: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Sunil Amrith, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies
APPENDICES

Tuesday, March 12, 2019
PARTITION OF LITERATURE, FILM AND HISTORY:
SCREENING OF NANDITA DAS’S NEW FILM MANTO
Discussants: Nandita Das, Director
Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History and the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

Friday, April 5, 2019
INVISIBLE BOUNDARIES: TAXATION AND ENCHANTMENT IN LATE-MUGHAL GUJARAT
Professor Samira Sheikh, Vanderbilt University
Chairs: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Sunil Amrith, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, and the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History

Wednesday, May 1, 2019
SYED MUJTABA ALI IN AFGHANISTAN:
AUTobiography at the Limits of History
Professor Mou Banerjee, Clemson University
Chairs: Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Sunil Amrith, Harvard University

EARLY MODERN ASIA SEMINAR SERIES

Friday, November 30, 2018
EARLY? MODERN? ASIA?: THREE PERSPECTIVES
Professor Carla Nappi, University of Pittsburgh

Professor Elaine Fisher, Stanford University
Professor Michael Charney, SOAS, University of London
Chair: Professor David Atherton, Harvard University

February-March 2019
THREE UYGHUR POETS
An exhibit of work by three contemporary Uyghur poets, with translations by Joshua Freeman, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Committee on Inner Asia and Alti-ic Studies, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, and the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, March 8–Sunday, March 10 and Sunday, April 7–Saturday, April 13, 2019
NEW THAI CINEMA
Harvard Film Archive with support from the Harvard University Asia Center

Monday, April 1–Friday, April 5, 2019
TWO CAMBODIANS—SCENES FROM CONTEMPORARY CAMBODIA
A multi-media exhibit organized by Malika Leiper, Harvard University and Chummeng Soun, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ASIA SEMINAR SERIES

Monday, September 17, 2018
HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE WITHIN ONE’S GRASP (QIAN KUN ZAI WO 乾坤在握): THE HANDY MIND IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINESE MEDICINE
Professor Marta Hanson, Johns Hopkins University
Chair: Professor Victor Seow, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies
APPENDICES

Monday, October 15, 2018
REPORTING INDONESIA’S GREEN REVOLUTION
Professor Suzanne Moon, University of Oklahoma
Chair: Professor Victor Seow, Harvard University

Monday, November 19, 2018
BREAST, CANCER, AND WOMEN IN KOREA, 1800–1930s
Professor Soyoung Suh, Dartmouth College
Chair: Professor Victor Seow, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Korea Institute

Monday, February 11, 2019
THE FIRST BATTLEFIELD OF WESTERN NUCLEAR
COMPETITION: INDIA AND LIGHT WATER REACTORS,
1955-1963
Professor Jayita Sarkar, Boston University
Chair: Professor Victor Seow, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South
Asia Institute

Wednesday, February 13, 2019
TRANSNATIONAL SCIENCE IN MODERN CHINA:
FROM MAY FOURTH TO THE COLD WAR AND BEYOND
Professor Zuoyue Wang, California State Polytechnic
University, Pomona
Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies;
co-sponsored by the Science and Technology in Asia
Seminar Series

Monday, March 11, 2019
DIGITAL HORMONES: EMOTIONAL HUMANOIDs
AND SPIRITUAL HUMANS
Professor Jennifer Robertson, University of Michigan
Chair: Professor Victor Seow, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Reischauer Institute of
Japanese Studies

Monday, April 15, 2019
LISTS, LOCAL GAZETTEERS, AND THE TRUE
LIES OF PREMODERN CHINA’S PATTERNS
OF SOCIAL MOBILITY
Professor Dagmar Schäfer, Max Planck Institute, Berlin
Chair: Professor Victor Seow, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

SOuTHEAST ASIA SEMINARs
AND EVENTS

Wednesday, October 3, 2018
ROHINGYA PERSECUTION IN MYANMAR:
EVIDENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Dr. Jennifer Leigh, Harvard University
Dr. Parveen Parmar, University of Southern California
Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies;
co-sponsored by the Science and Technology in Asia
Seminar Series

Friday, October 19, 2018
TAKING ROOT WHEREVER YOU LAND: THE
LITURGICAL TRANSFORMATION OF POPULAR CULTS
AMONG ETHNIC CHINESE IN VIETNAM
Professor Ngoc Tho Nguyen, Visiting Scholar, Asia
Center; Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City
Chair: Professor Michael Szonyi, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Thursday, October 25, 2018
PRESS FREEDOMS IN ASIA: PERSPECTIVES FROM
CHINA, MYANMAR, AND THAILAND
David Barboza, The New York Times; former
New York Times Shanghai Bureau Chief
Esther Htusan, Nieman Foundation Fellow; correspondent, Associated Press, Myanmar
Professor Puangthong R. Pawakapan, Visiting
Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Chulalongkorn
University, Bangkok
Moderator: Mable Chan, Associate in Research,
Fairbank Center; former ABC News producer and
Hong Kong TVB news correspondent
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies
Thursday, October 25, 2018
Film Screening
MOTHER, DAUGHTER, SISTER
Discussants: Wai Wai Nu, Women Peace Network – Arakan
Debbie Stothard, founder of Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma
Moderator: Yee Htun, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Islamic Legal Studies Program: Law and Social Change, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Harvard Law School Advocates for Human Rights

Friday, October 26, 2018
SHAKING UP THE ESTABLISHED ORDER: REFLECTIONS ON RECENT CHANGES IN INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, AND THE PHILIPPINES
Professor Elsa Clavé, Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellow; Goethe University, Frankfurt
Chair: Dr. Anthony Medrano, Harvard University

Monday, October 29, 2018
Book Launch
NURTURING INDONESIA: MEDICINE AND DECOLONIZATION IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES
Professor Hans Pols, University of Sydney
Chair: Professor Evelynn Hammonds, Harvard University
Discussants: Professor Sunil Amrith, Harvard University
Professor Byron Good, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Department of the History of Science and the Committee on Australian Studies

Tuesday, November 6, 2018
EXPLAINING THE DIVERSE MIGRATION AND CARE POLICIES IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Professor Ito Peng, University of Toronto
Moderator: Professor Mary Brinton, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, November 8, 2018
RISE OF RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM AND ITS GENDERED IMPACT ON MYANMAR
Esther Htusan, Nieman Foundation Fellow; correspondent, Associated Press, Myanmar
Moderator: Yee Htun, Harvard Law School
Gender, Law, and Society Workshop Series, Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law School; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Tuesday, November 13, 2018
THE THAI MILITARY’S CIVIL AFFAIRS PROJECTS: FROM COUNTER-INSURGENCY TO COUNTER-DEMOCRACY
Professor Puangthong R. Pawakapan, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
Chair/Discussant: Professor Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University
Harvard-Yenching Institute Lunchtime Seminar; co-sponsored by the Thai Studies Program at the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, November 29, 2018
TIME FOR REPARATIONS? A VIEW ON THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT’S RESPONSE TO THE KHMER ROUGE GENOCIDE
Sreang Heng, Harvard University; President, PEN Cambodia
Chair: Yee Htun, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Monday, February 25, 2019
THE IMPACT OF MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES ON POVERTY INCIDENCE USING FINANCIAL COMPUTABLE GENERAL EQUILIBRIUM (FCGE): CASE EVIDENCE OF ASEAN-3
Dr. Nur Ain Shahrier, Sunway University Malaysia
Chair: Dr. Jay Rosengard, Harvard University

Friday, March 8-Sunday, March 10 and Sunday, April 7-Saturday, April 13, 2019
NEW THAI CINEMA
Harvard Film Archive with support from the Harvard University Asia Center
APPENDICES
APPENDICES

Thursday, November 29, 2018
THE THAI MILITARY’S REMOBILIZATION OF THE ROYALIST MASS
Professor Puangthong R. Pawakapan, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
Chair: Professor Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute

December 2018-January 2019
Student Photography Exhibit
UNEXPECTED THAILAND

Thursday, February 7, 2019
AN EVENING WITH ANOCHA SUWICHAKORNПONG
Screenings: By the Time It Gets Dark and Nightfall
Discussants: Anocha Suwichakornpong, Director
Professor Peter Galison, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Film Study Center, Department of Visual and Environmental Studies and the Thai Studies Program at the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, March 8-Sunday, March 10 and Sunday, April 7-Saturday, April 13, 2019
NEW THAI CINEMA
Harvard Film Archive with support from the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, April 11, 2019
Surin Pitsuwan Lecture in Thai Politics and Society
ELECTIONS, COUPS AND CONSTITUTIONS: THAILAND'S RECKONING IN REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE
Professor Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Director of the Institute of Security and International Affairs, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
Chair: Dr. Jay Rosengard, Harvard University

TSAI LECTURE
Tuesday, November 27, 2018
14th Tsai Lecture
REFLECTIONS ON MY TIME AS AMBASSADOR
The Honorable Caroline Kennedy, former U.S. Ambassador to Japan, 2013-2017
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard-Yenching Institute, the Korea Institute, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

BOOK TALKS
Friday, September 21, 2018
TRANS-ASIAN ENCOUNTERS AND CHINA’S WAR ON SMUGGLING
Professor Philip Thai, Northeastern University
Chair: Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Tuesday, October 2, 2018
INDIA, CHINA, AND THE WORLD: A CONNECTED HISTORY
Professor Tansen Sen, New York University
Shanghai
Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Monday, October 29, 2018
NURTURING INDONESIA: MEDICINE AND DECOLONIZATION IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES
Professor Hans Pols, University of Sydney

Professor Byron Good, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Department of the History of Science and the Committee on Australian Studies

February 19, 2019
THE FUTURE IS ASIAN
Parag Khanna, Author; Managing Partner of FutureMap
Chair: Professor Tarun Khanna, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute and the Harvard University Asia Center
APPENDICES

CONFERENCES, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, SYMPOSIA, AND WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, September 25, 2018
Panel Discussion
THE END OF CONCERN: MAOIST CHINA, ACTIVISM, AND ASIAN STUDIES
Professor Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona
Professor Ellen Schrecker, Yeshiva University
Professor Andrew Gordon, Harvard University
Professor Joseph Esherick, University of California, San Diego
Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Lien-Hang Nguyen, Columbia University
Professor Bruce Cumings, University of Chicago
Chair: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University
Panel Organizer: Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Co-Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, the Korea Institute, and the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

Friday, October 12, 2018
Symposium
ORIGINS OF PROSPERITY AND STABILITY: STATE BUILDING IN 20TH CENTURY ASIA
Keynote: Akihiko Tanaka, President, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
Presenters: Professor Thomas Berger, Boston University
Professor Susan Pharr, Harvard University
Yasunori Nakayama, Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)
Professor Shin Kawashima, University of Tokyo
Dr. Lung-chih Chang, Academia Sinica
Professor Keiko Tsuji Tamura, University of Kitakyushu, Japan
Professor Nobuhiro Aizawa, Kyushu University, Japan
Professor Dwight Perkins, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; co-sponsored by the Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA) and the Harvard University Asia Center

Saturday, December 1, 2018
Symposium
OTHER VOICES, OTHER STORIES: MARY MARGARET STEEDLY’S ETHNOGRAPHIC LEGACIES
Welcome: Professor Ajantha Subramanian, Harvard University
Introduction: Professor Patricia Spyer, Graduate Institute Geneva
Panel Chairs: Professor Carla Jones, University of Colorado
Professor Mary-Jo Delvecchio Good, Harvard University
Professor Smita Lahiri, University of New Hampshire
Professor Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University
Professor Lucien Castaing-Taylor, Harvard University
Closing Remarks: Professor Byron Good, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center, the Department of Anthropology, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

Wednesday, January 30-
Friday March 8, 2019
EYE EYE NOSE MOUTH: ART, DISABILITY, AND MENTAL ILLNESS IN NANJING, CHINA AND SHIGA-KEN, JAPAN
Exhibition Curated by Raphael Koenig and Benny Shaffer, Harvard University

Panel Discussions:
Tuesday, January 29, 2019
Art Production at the Margins: Atelier Yamanami and Nanjing Outsider Art Studio
Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University
Masato Yamashita, Director, Atelier Yamanami
Haiping Guo, Director, Nanjing Outsider Art Studio
Professor Shaun McNiff, Lesley University
Disability and Mental Illness in China and Japan: Social and Legal Issues
Professor William Alford, Harvard University
Dr. Andrew Campana, Cornell University
Professor Cui Fengming, Renmin University of China Law School
Professor Arthur Kleinman, Harvard University
A Fung Scholar Event; sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center with support from the Harvard-Yenching Institute, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, and the Harvard Law School Project on Disability
Friday, February 8-Saturday, February 9, 2019
22ND ANNUAL HARVARD EAST ASIA SOCIETY (HEAS) CONFERENCE: VOICE AND SILENCE: MEMORY IN EAST ASIA

Friday, February 8, 2019
Welcome: Professor Xiaofei Tian, Harvard University
Keynote: Professor Ezra Vogel, Harvard University

Saturday, February 9, 2019
Keynote: Professor Stephen Owen, Harvard University
Closing: Professor Alexander Zahlten, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Korea Institute, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Tuesday, March 12, 2019
Panel Discussion
REVISITING THE WILSONIAN MOMENT IN ASIA, 1919
Professor Erez Manela, Harvard University
Professor Carter Eckert, Harvard University
Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Professor Heather Streets-Salter, Northeastern University
Professor Andrew Gordon, Harvard University
Chair: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Min Young-Chul Memorial Fund at the Korea Institute and the Harvard University Asia Center; co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Tuesday, March 19-Wednesday, March 20, 2019
Conference
AFRICA-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS IN HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE DELIVERY FOR WOMEN & YOUTH
Johannesburg, South Africa
Sponsored by the Center for African Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; co-hosted with University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and University of Johannesburg

Friday, April 12-Saturday, April 13, 2019
Conference
MAY FOURTH @ 100: CHINA AND THE WORLD
Johannesburg, South Africa
May Fourth @ 100: China and the World
Sponsored by the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Conference
OCEAN, ISLAND, SHORE: PLACING THE GLOBAL PACIFIC IN THE AGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE
Dr. Anthony Medrano, Harvard University
Professor John Huth, Harvard University

Christina Thompson, Harvard University
John Hayashi, Harvard University
Professor Warwick Anderson, Harvard University
Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Jonas Ruegg, Harvard University
Professor Helen Rozwadowski, University of Connecticut
Dr. Michaela Thompson, Harvard University
Professor Alexis Dudden, University of Connecticut
Professor Jason O. Chang, University of Connecticut
Professor Edward Melillo, Amherst College
Professor Ian J. Miller, Harvard University
Professor Bathsheba Demuth, Brown University
Wenjiao Cai, Harvard University
Professor Peter C. Perdue, Yale University
Conference Organizers: Dr. Xiaofei Gao, Victor and William Fung Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Center
Dr. Stefan Huebner, Visiting Scholar (SSRC), Asia Center; National University of Singapore
Conference Organizers: Dr. Xiaofei Gao, Victor and William Fung Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Center

Thursday, June 6-Friday, June 7, 2019
Workshop
Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University

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Professor Tansen Sen, New York University Shanghai
Sponsored by the Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship, with additional support from the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Tuesday, June 25-
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Conference
HEALTH AND HEALTH SYSTEMS IN TRANSITION: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM KEY AREAS OF CHANGE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA?
June 25, 2019
Welcome, Introductions, and Overview:
Professor Peter Berman, Harvard University; University of British Columbia
Panelists: Dr. Fatima Zahra, Harvard University
Professor Laksono Trisnantoro, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
Dr. Somsak Chunharas, former Deputy Minister of Public Health, Thailand
Dr. Beverly Ho, Department of Health, Philippines
Professor Chan Chee Koon, University of Malaysia
Professor Cuong Le Quang, Deputy Minister of Health, Vietnam
Professor Ascobat Gani, Universitas Indonesia

June 26, 2019
Dr. Bonworsom Leerapan, Thailand
Dr. Wei Aun Yap, Health Advisory Council, Malaysia

Professor Manuel Dayrit, Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health, Philippines
Professor Hoang Van Minh, Deputy Minister of Health, Vietnam
Keynote: Dr. K.V.S. Subramaniam, former Minister of Health, Malaysia
Co-sponsored by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard University Asia Center

CO-SPONSORED EVENTS

Tuesday, September 25, 2018
Panel Discussion
THE END OF CONCERN: MAOIST CHINA, ACTIVISM, AND ASIAN STUDIES
Professor Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona
Professor Ellen Schrecker, Yeshiva University
Professor Andrew Gordon, Harvard University
Professor Joseph Esherick, University of California, San Diego
Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Professor Lien-Hang Nguyen, Columbia University
Professor Bruce Cumings, University of Chicago
Chair: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University
Panel Organizer: Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Co-Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, the Korea Institute, and the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

Thursday, September 27, 2018
STRONGMAN POLITICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY
Professor Joseph Fewsmith, Boston University
Professor Ayse Kadioglu, Sabanci University, Istanbul
Professor Elsa Clavé, Asia Center Postdoctoral Fellow; Goethe University, Frankfurt
Professor Valerie Sperling, Clark University
Moderator: Thomas Vallely, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School, the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Tuesday, October 2, 2018
Book Talk
INDIA, CHINA, AND THE WORLD: A CONNECTED HISTORY
Professor Tansen Sen, New York University Shanghai
Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Wednesday, October 3, 2018
ROHINGYA PERSECUTION IN MYANMAR: EVIDENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Dr. Jennifer Leigh, Harvard University
Dr. Parveen Parmar, University of Southern California
Sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute with assistance from the Harvard University Asia Center
Thursday, October 4, 2018

DEMOCRACY WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT: STRONG STATE DEMOCRATIZATION IN AUTHORITARIAN ASIA
Professor Joseph Wong, University of Toronto
Moderator: Professor Scott Mainwaring, Harvard University

Democracy in Hard Places Seminar Series; sponsored by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center and the Kim Koo Forum on Korea Current Affairs at the Korea Institute

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

POLITICAL ORIGINS OF CYBERSECURITY CAPACITY: LESSONS FROM JAPAN AND EAST ASIA
Dr. Ben Bartlett, Harvard University
Moderator: Professor Susan Pharr, Harvard University

Sponsored by the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, October 12, 2018

Symposium
ORIGINS OF PROSPERITY AND STABILITY: STATE BUILDING IN 20TH CENTURY ASIA
Keynote: Akihiko Tanaka, President, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies
Presenters: Professor Thomas Berger, Boston University
Professor Susan Pharr, Harvard University
Yasunori Nakayama, Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)

Monday, October 15, 2018

THE ROHINGYA CRISIS IN MYANMAR: SITTWE SCREENING & DISCUSSION
Discussant: Myo Win, Burmese peace activist and Film Producer
Moderator: Yee Htun, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center, the Human Rights Program, Harvard Law School, and the Religious Literacy Project, Harvard Divinity School

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

2018 Annual Reischauer Lectures
FLAVORS OF TRUTH AND CLAIMS OF AUTHORITY
Professor Stephen Owen, Harvard University
Discussant: Professor Michael Puett, Harvard University

Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center, the Korea Institute, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Monday, October 22, 2018

Worldwide Week at Harvard Panel
DESTINATION: WORLD—STUDENT TALES FROM BEYOND THE COMFORT ZONE
Welcome: Dr. Margot Gill, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard China Fund, the Harvard University Asia Center, the Korea Institute, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, the Program on U.S. Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies
Tuesday, October 23, 2018
FROM ECO-AESTHETICS TO ECO-JUSTICE: THE ECOLOGICAL DISCOURSES IN VIETNAMESE INDEPENDENT ART CINEMA
Dr. Hoang Cam Giang, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Vietnam National University, Hanoi
Chair/Discussant: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University
Harvard-Yenching Institute Lunchtime Seminar; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, October 25, 2018
Film Screening
MOTHER, DAUGHTER, SISTER
Discussants: Wai Wai Nu, Women Peace Network – Arakan
Debbie Stothard, founder of Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma
Moderator: Yee Htun, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Islamic Legal Studies Program: Law and Social Change, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Harvard Law School Advocates for Human Rights

Tuesday, November 6, 2018
EXPLAINING THE DIVERSE MIGRATION AND CARE POLICIES IN EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Professor Ito Peng, University of Toronto
Moderator: Professor Mary Brinton, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, November 8, 2018
RISE OF RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM AND ITS GENDERED IMPACT ON MYANMAR
Esther Htusan, Nieman Foundation Fellow; correspondent, Associated Press, Myanmar
Moderator: Yee Htun, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Gender, Law, and Society Workshop Series, Islamic Legal Studies Program, Harvard Law School; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, November 9- Saturday, November 10, 2018
FILM SCREENINGS AND DISCUSSION WITH CHINESE DOCUMENTARIAN WANG BING
Co-sponsored by the Harvard Film Archives and the Harvard University Asia Center

Tuesday, November 13, 2018
THE THAI MILITARY’S CIVIL AFFAIRS PROJECTS: FROM COUNTER-INSURGENCY TO COUNTER-DEMOCRACY
Professor Puangthong R. Pawakapan, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
Chair/Discussant: Professor Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University
Harvard-Yenching Institute Lunchtime Seminar; co-sponsored by the Thai Studies Program at the Harvard University Asia Center

Tuesday, November 13, 2018
EAST ASIAN TRADE AT A CROSSROADS: FROM TPP TO CHINA’S STATE-LED CAPITALISM
Professor Christina Davis, Harvard University
Moderator: Professor Susan Pharr, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, November 15- Friday, November 16, 2018
SITUATING EMPIRE: THE GREAT WAR AND ITS AFTERMATHS
Graduate Student Conference, Department of History
Sponsored by the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs; co-sponsored by the Department of African and African American Studies, the Department of History, the Harvard University Asia Center, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, and the Center for History and Economics, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Wednesday, November 28, 2018
TRANSNATIONAL MERCHANT DIASPORA IN MODERN EAST ASIA: BRITISH AND CANTONESE COOPERATION IN THE TREATY PORTS SEEN THROUGH THE CASE OF THE TONGSHUNTAI FIRM
Professor Kang Jin-A, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Hanyang University, South Korea
Chair/Discussant: Professor Victor Seow, Harvard University
Harvard-Yenching Institute lunchtime talk; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center
Saturday, December 1, 2018
Symposium
OTHER VOICES, OTHER STORIES: MARY MARGARET STEEDLY’S ETHNOGRAPHIC LEGACIES
Welcome: Professor Ajantha Subramanian, Harvard University
Introduction: Professor Patricia Spyer, Graduate Institute Geneva
Panel Chairs: Professor Carla Jones, University of Colorado, Boulder
Professor Mary-Jo Delvecchio Good, Harvard University
Professor Smita Lahiri, University of New Hampshire
Professor Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University
Professor Lucien Castaing-Taylor, Harvard University
Closing Remarks: Professor Byron Good, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center, the Department of Anthropology, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

Tuesday, December 4, 2018
FROM POLICEMEN TO REVOLUTIONARIES: A SIKH DIASPORA IN GLOBAL SHANGHAI, 1885-1945
Professor Caoyin, Tsinghua University, China
Sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Monday, December 10, 2018
AN UNDESIGNED NUCLEAR TRIANGLE OF THE U.S., CHINA AND INDIA?
Dr. Wang Zhen, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Steven E. Miller, Harvard University
Harvard-Yenching Institute lunchtime talk; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Wednesday, January 30, 2019
SCREENING OF JIZO AND LIBIDO
Discussants: Yoshiaki Kasatani, Director
Dr. Julia Alekseyeva, Harvard University
Yukiko Koide, Gallery owner
Masato Yamashita, Atelier Yamanami
A Fung Scholar Event; sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center with support from the Harvard-Yenching Institute, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, and the Harvard Law School Project on Disability

Thursday, February 7, 2019
FIGHTING FOR SEATS: THE POLITICS OF GENDER QUOTAS IN EAST ASIA
Professor Huang Chang-Ling, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute and Radcliffe Fellow; National Taiwan University
Chair/Discussant: Professor Mona Lena Krook, Rutgers University
Harvard-Yenching Institute Luncheon Seminar; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center
Thursday, February 7, 2019
AN EVENING WITH ANOCHA SUWICHAKORNPOONG
Screenings: By the Time It Gets Dark, and Nightfall
Discussants: Anochara Suwichakornpong, Director
Professor Peter Galison, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Film Study Center, the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies, and the Thai Studies Program at the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, February 8- Saturday, February 9, 2019
22ND ANNUAL HARVARD EAST ASIA SOCIETY (HEAS) CONFERENCE: VOICE AND SILENCE: MEMORY IN EAST ASIA
Friday, February 8, 2019
Welcome: Professor Xiaofei Tian, Harvard University
Keynote: Professor Ezra Vogel, Harvard University
Saturday, February 9, 2019
Keynote: Professor Stephen Owen, Harvard University
Closing: Professor Alexander Zahlten, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Korea Institute, the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, and the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Tuesday, February 19, 2019
Book Talk
THE FUTURE IS ASIAN
Parag Khanna, Author; Managing Partner of FutureMap
Chair: Professor Tarun Khanna, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute and the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, March 8-Sunday, March 10, 2019
NEW THAI CINEMA
Harvard Film Archive with support from the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, March 8, 2019
The Songs of Rice (Pleng khong kao)
Directed by Uruphong Raksasad
Vanishing Point
Directed by Jakrawal Nithamrong

Saturday, March 9, 2019
Eternity (Tee rak)
Directed by Sivaroj Kongsakul
Night Watch
Directed by Danaya Chulpupthiphong

Sunday, March 10, 2019
Railway Sleepers (Mon Rot Fai)
Directed by Sompot Chidgasornpongse
A Room with a Coconut View
Directed by Tulapop Saenjaroen

Tuesday, March 12, 2019
Panel Discussion
REVISITING THE WILSONIAN MOMENT IN ASIA, 1919
Professor Erez Manela, Harvard University
Professor Carter Eckert, Harvard University
Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Professor Heather Streets-Salter, Northeastern University
Professor Andrew Gordon, Harvard University
Chair: Professor Karen Thornber, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Min Young-Chul Memorial Fund at the Korea Institute and the Harvard University Asia Center; co-sponsored by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, and the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies

Tuesday, March 19-
Wednesday, March 20, 2019
Conference
AFRICA-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS IN HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE DELIVERY FOR WOMEN & YOUTH
Johannesburg, South Africa
Sponsored by the Center for African Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; co-hosted with University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and University of Johannesburg

Monday, March 25, 2019
REIMAGINE “ASIAN”: DEFYING STEREOTYPES AND CELEBRATING IDENTITY IN MEDIA AND POPULAR CULTURE
Andrea Bang, actor, Kim’s Convenience
Paul Sun-Hyung Lee, actor, Kim’s Convenience
Simu Liu, actor, Kim’s Convenience and Yappie
Andrew Phung, actor, Kim’s Convenience
Hudson Yang, actor, Fresh off the Boat
Moderators: Woojin Kim, Harvard University
Amy Jiravisitcul, Harvard University
Co-sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs, the Pan-Asian Graduate Student Alliance, the Pan-Asian Coalition for Education, and the Harvard University Asia Center
Tuesday, March 26, 2019

PRESERVING ASIA’S COLONIAL AND MODERN ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

Professor Fu Chao-Ching, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Professor Kim Hyon-Sob, Korea University

Professor Liu Chen, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Tsinghua University, China

Dr. Thant Myint-U, writer, historian, and Founder and Chairman of the Yangon Heritage Trust

Chair: Professor Andrew Gordon, Harvard University

Sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Sunday, April 7-Saturday, April 13, 2019

NEW THAI CINEMA

Harvard Film Archive with support from the Harvard University Asia Center

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Nakorn-Sawan

Directed by Puangsoi Aksornsawang

That Day of the Month (Wannan kong duen)

Directed by Jirassaya Wongsutin

Monday, April 8, 2019

The Island Funeral (Maha samut lae susaan)

Directed by Pimpaka Towira

Endless. Nameless

Directed by Mont Tesprateep

Thursday, April 11-Sunday, April 14

THE EAST SIDE: A MUSICAL

Harvard College Asian Student Arts Project

Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Friday, April 12-Saturday, April 13, 2019

MAY FOURTH @ 100: CHINA AND THE WORLD

Keynotes: Professor Rudolf Wagner, University of Heidelberg

Professor Chen Pingyuan, Visiting Scholar, Harvard-Yenching Institute; Beijing University

Conference Organizer: Professor David Wang, Harvard University

Co-sponsored by the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Harvard-Yenching Institute

Friday, April 12, 2019

Tropical Malady (Sud pralad)

Directed by Apichatpong Weerasethakul

Saturday, April 13, 2019

Special Event:

Phuttiphong Aroonpheng in Person

Manta Ray (Kraben rahu)

Directed by Phuttiphong Aroonpheng

With History in a Room Filled with People with Funny Names 4

Directed by Korakrit Arunanondchai

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

TOWARD A DISASTER-RESILIENT ASIA: A CONVERSATION WITH YASUYUKI SAWADA

Dr. Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank

Chair: Professor Rema Hanna, Harvard University

Discussant: Dr. Ammar Malik, Harvard University

Sponsored by Evidence for Policy Design, Harvard Kennedy School; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

SCREENING OF: LAST NIGHT I SAW YOU SMILING

Discussants: Kavich Neang, Director of Last Night I Saw You Smiling

Dr. George Chigas, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Sponsored by The Southeast Asia GSD Organization; co-sponsored by the Harvard University Asia Center, the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Conference

OCEAN, ISLAND, SHORE: PLACING THE GLOBAL PACIFIC IN THE AGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Dr. Anthony Medrano, Harvard University

Professor John Huth, Harvard University

Christina Thompson, Harvard University

John Hayashi, Harvard University

Professor Warwick Anderson, Harvard University

Professor Sugata Bose, Harvard University
Jonas Ruegg, Harvard University
Professor Helen Rozwadowski, University of Connecticut
Dr. Michaela Thompson, Harvard University
Professor Alexis Dudden, University of Connecticut
Professor Jason O. Chang, University of Connecticut
Professor Edward Melillo, Amherst College
Professor Ian J. Miller, Harvard University
Professor Michaela Thompson, Harvard University
Professor Alexis Dudden, University of Connecticut
Professor Jason O. Chang, University of Connecticut
Professor Edward Melillo, Amherst College
Professor Ian J. Miller, Harvard University
Professor Bathsheba Demuth, Brown University
Wenjiao Cai, Harvard University
Professor Peter C. Perdue, Yale University
Conference Organizers: Dr. Xiaofei Gao, Victor and William Fung Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Center
Dr. Stefan Huebner, Visiting Scholar (SSRC), Asia Center; National University of Singapore
Co-sponsored by the Harvard University Center for the Environment, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, and the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, June 6–Friday, June 7, 2019
Workshop
Organizers: Professor Arunabh Ghosh, Harvard University
Professor Tansen Sen, New York University Shanghai
Sponsored by the Dean’s Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship, with additional support from the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, and the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies

Tuesday, June 25–
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Conference
HEALTH AND HEALTH SYSTEMS IN TRANSITION: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM KEY AREAS OF CHANGE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA?
June 25, 2019
Welcome, Introductions, and Overview:
Professor Peter Berman, Harvard University; University of British Columbia
Panelists: Dr. Fatima Zahra, Harvard University
Professor Laksono Trisnantoro, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
Dr. Somsak Chunharas, former Deputy Minister of Public Health, Thailand
Dr. Beverly Ho, Department of Health, Philippines
Professor Chan Chee Koon, University of Malaysia
Professor Cuong Le Quang, Deputy Minister of Health, Vietnam
Professor Ascobat Gani, Universitas Indonesia
June 26, 2019
Dr. Bonwornsom Leerapan, Thailand
Dr. Wei Aun Yap, Health Advisory Council, Malaysia
Professor Manuel Dayrit, Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health, Philippines
Professor Hoang Van Minh, Hanoi University of Public Health, Vietnam
Keynote: Dr. K.V.S. Subramaniam, former Minister of Health, Malaysia
Co-sponsored by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard University Asia Center

South Asia Without Borders Seminar Series
(Mittal Institute Seminar Series Funded by the Asia Center)

Wednesday, September 19, 2018
PREVENTION SCIENCE IN CHILD PROTECTION: AN INDIAN CASE STUDY
Professor Jacqueline Bhabha, Harvard University
Elizabeth Donger, Harvard University
Sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute with assistance from the Harvard University Asia Center

Wednesday, Oct 3, 2018
ROHINGYA PERSECUTION IN MYANMAR: EVIDENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Dr. Parveen Parmar, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California
Dr. Jen Leigh, Harvard University
Moderator: Dr. Satchit Balsari, Harvard University and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute with assistance from the Harvard University Asia Center

Thursday, October 4, 2018
INDIA-PAKISTAN CRISIS: RISKS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND OPTIONS FOR US CRISIS MANAGEMENT
Dr. Moeed Yusuf, Associate Vice President, Asia Center, United States Institute of Peace
Sponsored by the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute with assistance from the Harvard University Asia Center
ASIA CENTER GOVERNANCE

Members of the Asia Center Steering Committee, Asia Center Council, Southeast Asia Committee, Thai Studies Program Committee, and International Advisory Committee and Honorary Fellows are listed below. For more on the mandates of and changes to these committees in 2018-2019, please see the Director’s Letter.

ASIA CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE, 2018-2019

KAREN THORNBER (CHAIR), Professor of Comparative Literature and of East Asian Languages and Civilizations; Victor and William Fung Director, Harvard University Asia Center; Chair, Harvard University Asia Center Council (FAS)

WILLIAM ALFORD, Jerome A. and Joan L. Cohen Professor of Law; Vice Dean for the Graduate Program and International Legal Studies; Director, East Asian Legal Studies Program (HLS)

SUNIL AMRITH, Mehra Family Professor of South Asian Studies; Professor of History; Chair, Department of South Asian Studies; Chair, Asia Center Southeast Asia Committee (FAS)

ANNE BECKER, Maude and Lillian Presley Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine (HMS)

MARY BRINTON, Reischauer Institute Professor of Sociology; Director, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (FAS)

CARTER ECKERT, Yoon Se Young Professor of Korean History; Acting Director, Korea Institute (FAS)

JEANNE SUK GERSEN, John H. Watson, Jr. Professor of Law (HLS)

ANDREW GORDON, Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History; Acting Director, Harvard-Yenching Institute (FAS)

REMA HANNA, Jeffrey Cheah Professor of South-East Asia Studies (HKS)

TARUN KHANNA, Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor (HBS); Director, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

DAVID MINJOON KIM, Associate Professor of Oral Medicine, Infection and Immunity (HSDM)

SUN JOO KIM, Harvard-Yenching Professor of Korean History; Director, Korea Institute (On Leave) (FAS)

WILLIAM KIRBY, T.M. Chang Professor of China Studies (FAS); Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration (HBS); Director, Harvard China Fund

SHIGEHISA KURIYAMA, Reischauer Institute Professor of Cultural History (FAS)

MICHAEL MCELROY, Gilbert Butler Professor of Environmental Studies (SEAS)

ANNE MONIUS, Professor of South Asian Religions (HDS)

ELIZABETH PERRY, Henry Rosovsky Professor of Government; Director, Harvard-Yenching Institute (On Leave) (FAS)

JAMES ROBSON, James C. Kralik and Yuni Lou Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations (FAS)

PETER ROWE, Raymond Garbe Professor of Architecture and Urban Design (GSD)

TONY SAICH, Daewoo Professor of International Affairs; Director, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation (HKS)

MICHAEL SZONYI, Frank Wen-Hsiung Wu Memorial Professor of Chinese History; Director, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies (FAS)

MARK WU, Henry L. Stimson Professor of Law (HLS)
# APPENDICES

## ASIA CENTER COUNCIL, 2018-2019

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<td>KAREN THORNBER, CHAIR (FAS)</td>
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APPENDICES

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Asia Center Graduate Student Associates, 2018-2019

AURÉLIEN BELLIUCI is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Comparative Literature. His work lies at the intersection of theater and performance. He is particularly interested in East and South Asian performing arts, contemporary reconfigurations of literary traditions between Europe and Asia, and different conceptions of democratic literature.

DIVYA CHANDRAMOULI is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of South Asian Studies. Her focus is Tamil cultural history, particularly the relationships among the performing arts, politics, and diasporic identities in late 19th and 20th century Tamil-speaking communities in South and Southeast Asia.

JANNIS JIZHOU CHEN is a Ph.D. candidate in East Asian Languages and Civilizations. His research interests include Sinophone literature, modern Chinese literature, Sino-German literary and cultural exchange, film studies, Chinese art, periphery, and identity.
PETER DZIEDZIC is an M.T.S. candidate at Harvard Divinity School, where he studies South Asian religions. Peter’s interests include Sanskrit and Arabo-Persian traditions of literature, literary criticism, and poetics.

JOHN HAYASHI is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History, where he studies the environmental history of modern East Asia. His dissertation examines hydraulic infrastructure and environmental change in colonial and postwar Taiwan.

ANGELO PAOLO KALAW is an M.P.A. candidate at the Harvard Kennedy School working on “Accelerating Digital Transformation of Government in Southeast Asia: Opportunities and Challenges.”

SARA KANG is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History. Her research considers the national limitations of women’s feminist agendas—particularly in Japan and Korea—that continue to be entangled in memories of the Asia-Pacific War.

MALIKA LEIPER is an M.U.P. candidate in Urban Planning at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. She is a scholar of Southeast Asia with a focus on Cambodia. Her current research addresses the experiences of Cambodians residing in Lowell, Massachusetts.

JANET LOUIE is a Ph.D. candidate in East Asian Languages and Civilizations. She specializes in the popular media cultures of Japan and Sinophone East Asia with a focus on “female-oriented” content across the modern and contemporary periods.

NATASHA MURTAZA is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Government. Her research focuses on political parties, electoral institutions, state-building, bureaucracies, civil-military relations, and the politics of South Asia and the Middle East.

JOO-HYEON OH is a Ph.D. candidate in History and East Asian Languages. Her research focuses on material culture, the cultural history of Ming and Qing China, and Sino-Korean relations as seen through the movements of objects and discourses on aesthetic practices and knowledge across the Ming-Qing and Choson border.

JESSICA TAN is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations. Her dissertation examines Sinophone literature and film produced in Southeast Asia that underscore the complexities of transnational and transcultural exchanges between Southeast Asia and East Asia during the Cold War.

JONGSIK CHRISTIAN YI is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of the History of Science. He studies the historical interplay among science, technologies, and socialism in modern East and Southeast Asia.
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Abbreviations

AB  artium baccalaureus (bachelor of arts)
ACC  Asia Center Council
ADB  Asian Development Bank
AIIB  Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
AM  artium magister (master of arts)
ASEAN  Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CGIS  Center for Government and International Studies, 1730 Cambridge Street
CNRS  Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
DBA  Doctor of Business Administration
EdM  educationis magister (master of education)
EdD  educationis doctor (doctor of education)
EHESS  École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales
FAS  Faculty of Arts and Sciences
GSA  Graduate Student Associates
GSD  Graduate School of Design
GSE  Graduate School of Education
HBS  Harvard Business School
HDS  Harvard Divinity School
HKS  Harvard Kennedy School
HLS  Harvard Law School
HMS  Harvard Medical School
HSDM  Harvard School of Dental Medicine
HSPH  Harvard School of Public Health
IAC  International Advisory Committee
JD  juris doctor (doctor of law)
KSGEE  Kennedy School of Government Executive Education
LLM  legum magister (master of laws)
MArch  master in architecture
MAUD  master of architecture in urban design
MBA  master in business administration
MDes  master in design studies
MLA  master in landscape architecture
MPA  master in public administration
MTS  master of theological studies
MUP  master in urban planning
P  parent
PhD  philosophiae doctor (doctor of philosophy)
SEAS  School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
SM  scientiae magister (master of science)
SOAS  School of Oriental and African Studies
SSRC  Social Science Research Council
Acknowledgements

The 2018-2019 annual report was compiled by the Asia Center staff, with contributions from Professors Victor Seow, Sugata Bose, and David Atherton. It was designed by Mary Burgess at Classic Graphx, Cambridge, MA, and edited by Asia Center Director Karen L. Thornber.

POSTERS: The event posters that appear throughout this report were designed by Mary Burgess at Classic Graphx; poster on p. 48 is from chineseposters.net

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INSIDE FRONT COVER: Obake, 2017 by Ukai Yuichiro of Atelier Yamanami

INSIDE BACK COVER: Adventurous Child, 2016 by Li Jie of Nanjing Outsider Art Studio
Li Jie, 2016, *Adventurous Child*, acrylic on paper, 53 x 38 cm, image courtesy of Nanjing Outsider Art Studio.