It still may be too soon to suggest that Asian American Studies has reached "critical mass." Yet, over the past several years, encouraged by the advent of poststructural, postcolonial, queer, feminist, anti-racist, and cultural studies scholarship, new approaches to research conducted by a cadre of creative intellectuals have emerged. Growing out of a rich tradition of Asian American Studies scholarship grounded in the study of history, literature, and sociology (among other fields) is a heterogeneous group of scholars asking diversely textured questions directed at the interstices--indeed the "heart"--of contemporary social life. This symposium aims to highlight different frames of emergent, critical Asian American Studies scholarship. The mode of analysis of each project is definitively interdisciplinary, yet each participant poses critical questions that address foundational issues within historically defined disciplines. Evolving from such a conference will be 16 essays that engage readers, stimulate conversation, and hopefully provoke social possibilities.

Each presentation will be a "plenary" talk, with no concurrent presentations. Presentations will last 40 minutes each, with ample time for questions and discussion. The symposium is free and open to the public. Registration is on-site. For more information, please contact the Asian American Studies Program at UIUC at 217-244-9530, aasp@uiuc.edu.

FRIDAY, February 7, 2003
Levis Faculty Center, 919 W. Illinois, Urbana - Third Floor

8:30am - 9:00am > Coffee, Tea, and Pastries
Registration

9:00am - 9:40am > Kent Ono, Professor of Asian American Studies and Communication, "Critical Theory, Cultural Studies, and the Transformation of Asian American Studies"

9:40am - 11:20am > Rachel Lee, Associate Professor of English and Women's Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, "Nimble-Fingered Workers, Cybertechies, and Digital Porn Stars: Asians in Cyberspace"

Martin Manalansan, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, "Loss, Pleasure and Desire: Towards a Queer Asian America"

11:20am - 1:00pm > Sunaina Maira, Assistant Professor of English, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, "Planet Youth: Asian American Youth Cultures, Citizenship, and Globalization"

Susan Moynihan, Visiting Scholar, Asian American Studies, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, "Historical Intimacies: Asian American Subjectivity at the Crossroads of Literature and History"

1:00pm - 2:20pm > Lunch at Asian American Studies Program building, 1208 West Nevada, Urbana.

2:20pm - 4:00pm > Wendy Ho, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies and Women and Gender Studies, University of California, Davis, "Asian American Feminisms: Theorizing in the New Century"

Moon-Kie Jung, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, "A 'United Front' through 'Divide and Rule': Interracial Working-class Formation in Hawaii"

4:00pm - 4:20pm > Break

4:20pm - 6:00pm > Peter X Feng, Associate Professor of English, and Women's Studies, University of Delaware, "Ethnography, the Cinematic Apparatus, and Asian American Film Studies"

Anita Mannur, Post-doctoral Fellow, Asian American Studies, University of Illinois,
SATURDAY, February 8, 2003
Levis Faculty Center, 919 W. Illinois, Urbana - Third Floor

9:00am - 9:20am > Coffee, Tea, and Pastries
Registration

9:20am - 11:00am > Viet Nguyen, Assistant Professor of English, American Studies and Ethnicity, University of Southern California, "Race after Realism: New Possibilities for Asian American Intellectual Work"

Rajashwari Pandharipande, Professor of Religious Studies, Linguistics, Sanskrit, and Comparative Literature, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, "Authority and Language Choice: Hindu Diaspora in the U.S."

11:00am - Noon > Karen Shimakawa, Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance, Asian American Studies, University of California, Davis, "Looking For My Big Dick: Asian American Masculinities Onstage and in the Classroom"

Noon - 1:20pm > Lunch at Asian American Studies building, 1208 West Nevada, Urbana.

1:20pm - 3:00pm > J. Kehaulani Kauanui, Assistant Professor of American Studies and Anthropology, Wesleyan University, "Asian American Studies and the 'Pacific Question'"

Helen Toribio, Instructor of Asian American Studies at City College of San Francisco, "The Problematics of History and Location of Filipino American Studies within Asian American Studies"

3:00pm - 3:20pm > Break

3:20pm - 5:00pm > Glen Mimura, Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies, University of California, Irvine, "Asian Americans, Third Cinema, Cultural Politics"

Candace Fujikane, Associate Professor of English, University of Hawai‘i, "Asian Settler Colonialism in Hawai‘i: Hawai‘i Literary Debates and Questions for Asian American Studies"

5:00pm > Closing remarks by Kent Ono