AAS 10th Anniversary

AAS celebrated our 10th Anniversary on Friday, March 2, 2007. Administrators, alumni, community members, faculty, and students gathered to recognize the important strides our Program has made over its first ten years. Over 250 visitors from both on and off campus participated in this day-long event.

Over the last ten years, the Program has become one of the most respected programs in the U.S. We now have 15 core faculty members and 10 affiliated faculty members from multiple disciplines. We have established a minor degree program in AAS, and 8 students minoring in AAS are expected to graduate in Spring and Summer of 2007.

AAS has also developed a strong sense of community with other academic units at UIUC by offering exciting courses, hosting conferences, and sponsoring campus events.

The 10th anniversary celebration was an opportunity to recognize and reflect on the contributions of all those who have helped to build a successful Program in AAS.

For more information about our celebration, see pp. 3 & 9 of the newsletter, and be sure to visit the event’s website at: http://www.aasp.uiuc.edu/10thAnniversaryWeb/index.html.

Interview with Yoshitaka Terada

Yoshitaka Terada is a Visiting Associate Professor in the School of Music at the UIUC during spring 2007, where he teaches a course on the music of Asian Americans. He is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Cultural Research at the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka, Japan.

Q: What are your research interests?

My primary interest is the relationship between performing arts and the identity related issues in minority communities. I have engaged in several case studies with diverse historical, social, and cultural situations, hoping to reach a more generalized understanding and theorization beyond each individual case, of the relationship between identities and practice of performing arts. In North America, I researched on 2 musical forms, taiko and kulintang, both which have become prominent venues of cultural expression not only for individual ethnic groups such as Japanese Americans and Filipino Americans respectively, but also for the Asian American community in general. My interests include the potentiality of music as a means of identity formation and negotiation with the mainstream society.

continued on p. 4
Dear Friends of Asian American Studies:

It is with great pride that I reflect briefly on the last five years as director of Asian American Studies at UIUC. Next year, I will be on leave, after having completed a five-year term as director. I go into that leave knowing the program is on sound footing. Since 2002, we have hired eight new faculty members, the program has grown to have 15 core faculty and 10 affiliated faculty, many faculty have been tenured and/or promoted, the lower-division course (now courses) has grown tremendously, the Asian Pacific American Graduate Student Organization (APAGSO) formed (and is in full force), the Asian American Alumni Network (AAAN) also formed (and had impressive presence at our 10th Anniversary Celebration on March 2), the Asian American Cultural Center was built (and with it came more faculty offices), and our faculty have done a remarkable job of publishing excellent books and articles and winning numerous competitive fellowships nationally, and on campus. This is just the tip of the iceberg of positive work done by members of this program since 2002.

While recent history is impressive, the horizon looks bright, as well. While our proposal for a B.A. major in Asian American Studies was turned down, the College of LAS is encouraging us to re-propose the major in the next three to four years. The College is also supporting us in our efforts to increase the size of our lower-division courses. Additionally, the AAAN is well organized and is working to increase its reach, as well as strengthen its involvement with the Program. Finally, next spring we will have an unprecedented three scholarly conferences, one on Filipino American studies organized by Martin Manalansan and Augusto Espiritu, one on Southeast Asian Americans in the Diaspora organized by Fiona Ngo, and one on Korean diaspora organized by Nancy Abelmann, Adrienne Lo, Sumie Okazaki, and Soo Ah Kwon. The conference Fiona is organizing will take place right before the 2008 Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) conference in Chicago, and AAAS wishes to encourage members to attend both.

As always, we have sponsored several events this semester that have been well-attended by the UIUC community [see pp. 7-9 for our calendar of events and photos].

I am pleased to announce that Victor Mendoza and Caroline Hyojung Yang have accepted our postdoctoral fellowship offers and will be in residence next year [see p. 11 for more information about Victor and Caroline]. We are excited that both Laura Chu and Sarah Okner will be back with us next year. Both Laura and Sarah will enter the master of science graduate program in library and information science.

As usual, our Program members have earned a fair share of awards and accolades, speaking at international sites, contributing scholarship, and serving communities broadly [see pp. 12-13 for a list of accomplishments].

I look forward to seeing you when I come back on in 2008.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

CONTACTS

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10th Anniversary Panels

Panel 1: “The History of Asian American Studies” was moderated by Sharon Lee, a Ph.D. Student in Educational Policy Studies, former AAS Staff Associate, 2000-2002, and AAS Assistant Director, 2002-2005. The panelists were Richard Chang, Esq., Partner, Wasserman, Mancini & Chang, P.C. (UIUC alum: B.A., 1994); Clark Cunningham, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, UIUC; Vida Gosrisirikul, Shareholder, D’Souza & Gosrisirikul, Ltd. (UIUC alum: B.S. 1994, J.D., 1997); and George Yu, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, and Founding Director of the Asian American Studies Program, UIUC.

Panel 2: “The Future of Asian American Studies” was moderated by Jennifer Chung, a Ph.D. Candidate in Educational Policy Studies, the AAS Graduate Student Representative 2006-2007, and Interim AAS Assistant Director, 2005-2006. The panelists were Diem-My Bui, Ph.D. Candidate in the Institute of Communications Research; Paula Kim, Katten Muchin Rosenman; (UIUC alum; B.S. History and Political Science, 2001; Juris Doctor, College of Law, DePaul University, 2005), and Martin Manalansan, Associate Professor of Anthropology, UIUC.

Keynote Speaker

The keynote speaker for our 10th anniversary was Kyung Won (K.W.) Lee, a nationally known activist-journalist who is also known as the Godfather of Asian American journalism.

He was the first Asian immigrant to work for a mainstream newspaper, and his coverage on the murder conviction of Chol See Lee catapulted him into journalistic stardom. In 1979, he founded the first national English-language Korean American newspaper, Koreatown Weekly. Alongside Angela Oh, Lee was one of few spokespersons and advocates for the Korean American community after the devastating Los Angeles Riots (Sa-I-Gu) in 1992. Lee also works with college students all over the U.S., and teaches courses on investigative journalism on college campuses and conferences. He frequently delivers the keynote speech at the annual Korean American Students Conference (KASCON). Lee politicizes students and discourages them from being passive objects. He encourages them to be active and proactive citizens who shape their own destiny.

In July 2006, KoreAm Journal spotlighted Lee’s role as “surrogate father” to hundreds of Korean Americans between the ages of 18-50. These youth, whom he calls “children of Sa-I-Gu,” started a non-profit organization called the K.W. Lee Center for Leadership, where young people can learn about community activism and issues of social justice.

Lee has won 29 professional awards and was the first recipient of the Asian American Journalists Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award. He is also the recipient of the 2007 UIUC Asian American Alumni Award. Lee earned a Master of Arts degree in journalism from UIUC in 1955.
Balgopal Fund

AAS is very pleased to announce that Pallassana R. Balgopal and Shyamala Balgopal have generously established a permanent fund to support an annual lecture on human rights and Asian Americans.

The lecture is titled, “The Balgopal Lecture on Human Rights and Asian Americans.” The first lecture is to be given spring semester 2008. Funds will be used annually to bring an outstanding invited lecturer to campus whose scholarship and talk focus on issues of marginality and oppression experienced within Asian American, communities, which may include a focus on issues such as social and economic disenfranchisement and political struggles for empowerment and social justice.

Every four years, the Balgopal lectures will be assembled and published as occasional papers to be sent to UIUC faculty and to AAS programs across the U.S. with the objective of bringing exposure to scholarship produced for the lecture and to the activities of the AAS Program at UIUC.

AAS is deeply appreciative of and thankful for Pallassana and Shyamala Balgopal’s support and for their continuing legacy of generosity to the Program.

Terada Interview Cont.

Q: What current projects are you working on?
In Japan, I produced a documentary film that portrays the struggle of Okinawans in the Osaka area and the use of performing arts (eisa) as a venue to negotiate their minority and diasporic identities. I am currently involved in another local film project, this time on a Buraku (Japan’s largest and ethnically indistinguishable minority) community in Osaka. I am investigating why and how youngsters of the community formed a drumming (taiko) group in the 1980s to fight against persistent discrimination and prejudice. I am particularly interested in the ways in which the sedimented memory of the community legitimates and informs the practice of drumming.

Q: What are your thoughts about the role of music in Asian American Studies? What future directions would you like to see in terms of future disciplinary collaborations or research intersections?
I believe, as most of my colleagues in ethnomusicology do, that music plays much more important roles that generally acknowledged. I have a strong sense that performing arts have not been a primary topic of investigation in Asian American Studies, reflecting the general tendency in non-music disciplines. Music is a major battleground for negotiating one’s identity, and especially for minority groups including Asian Americans, it has been one of a few options available for such venues. I also believe that the practice and contours of performing arts today is determined, more than ever, by transnational flows of ideas, people and materials. In Asian American music, the flow is increasingly bilateral: the perception of Asia as a source of “authentic” musical traditions which Asian America simply preserves and modifies is no longer viable. Scholars of Asian musics and those of Asian American musics will both benefit greatly by multi-sited research and collaboration.
Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to all AAS minors graduating in May and August 2007. Best wishes to Laura Ann Chu, Christine Anne Gonzales, Jeanette Lee, Jennifer Lo, Sarah Okner, Erwin Paderanga, Jason Villanueva, and Brian Worrasangasilpa!

**LAURA ANN CHU**

Laura will graduate with a bachelor of science degree in design. She is currently an undergraduate assistant with AAS where she designed the Program's 10-year anniversary publication materials including the event's website. Laura is an active member in the Asian American campus community. She is the internal Vice President and Graphics/Website Officer with the Asian American Association; Conference Planning Committee Member and Graphics/Website Chair for the Midwest Asian American Students Union Spring conference; Executive Coordinating Committee for the Midwest Asian American Students Union; a member and mentor of the Technical Networking Industrial Design Society of America; I-Guide Hall Chair with University Housing; and a member of the Taiwanese American Students Club. Laura will enter the master of science program at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at UIUC in the 2007-2008 academic year.

**JENNIFER LO**

Jennifer will graduate with a bachelor of science degree in molecular and cellular biology. She is currently a James Scholar and has been on the campus Dean's List. She is an active member with the Asian American Association, serving as president in 2006-2007, vice president in 2005-2006, cultural chair in 2004-2005, and fashion-show head coordinator from 2004-2006. Jennifer will enter the University of Illinois at Chicago’s Medical School to pursue her dream to become a doctor.

**CHRISTINE ANNE GONZALEZS**

Christine will graduate with a bachelor of science degree in Mathematics with a certificate in secondary education. She has been on the campus Dean’s List. Christine has been an active member of the Philippine Student Association, serving as president from 2006-2007; internal vice president from 2005-2006; Fil-Amthrophy co-coordinator and founder in 2005; and newsletter chair in 2004-2005. She was also active with the Illinois Basketball Band and Marching Illini. Christine is currently student-teaching.

**JEANETTE LEE**

Jeanette will graduate with a bachelor of arts degree in political science. She served on the Illini Union Board, and is an active in the Out of State Student Association. Jeanette is involved with the Asian Pacific American Coalition, was elected to the Executive Coordinating Committee for the Midwest Asian American Student Union’s 2007 spring conference, and is involved with the Taiwanese American Student Club. Jeanette will join the staff at the Office of Attorney General for Maryland after graduation.
**More Graduate Profiles**

**SARAH BETH OKNER**

Sarah will graduate with a bachelor of arts degree in history with a minor in sociology. She is currently an undergraduate assistant with AAS. She was involved in a number of activities throughout her undergraduate years including volunteering for Champaign’s Center for Women in Transition and the Center for Children’s Books. She also served as a board member for the Asian Pacific American Coalition’s Community Outreach Board and as president of MIXED during her junior and senior years. In 2006, she was the recipient of the Robert Johannsen Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Proposal. Her thesis will explore the nature of the educational system implemented by the U.S. government in WWII Japanese American incarceration camps. Sarah will enter the master of science program at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at UIUC in the 2007-2008 academic year specializing in Youth Services and Community Informatics.

**BRIAN WORRASANGASILPA**

Brian will graduate with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. He is currently a James Scholar and National Society of Collegiate Scholar, and has won numerous awards for academic achievement. Brian was the recipient of the Guy Richard Collins Scholarship in 2004 and 2005, and was inducted into the Alpha Lambda Sigma and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies in 2004. Lambda Sigma and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies in 2004. He is a co-founder of Engineering and Robotics where he also served as a team leader for the mechanical engineering team and treasurer. In 2006, his team placed first at the 4th Annual Ford Motor Company/ASME Design Contest: Innovation for Design. He has been an active volunteer for Habitat for Humanity and other organizations, and was a past editor for the Illinois Journal for Undergraduate Research. In July 2007, Brian will be joining GE Consumer and Industrial in Louisville, KY, as a mechanical engineer in the Edison Engineering Development Program.

**ERWIN PADERANGA**

Erwin will graduate with a bachelor of arts degree in East Asian Languages and Cultures. He was the cultural chair of the Philippine Student Association 2004-2005; FACT Co-coordinator in 2005-2006; and Freshmen Outreach Chair of the Asian Pacific American Coalition 2004-2005. He accepted the 2005-2006 Program of the Year Award for the Filipino Americans Coming Together Conference on behalf of the Philippine Student Association. After graduation, Erwin plans to obtain certification to teach English as a Foreign Language, and hopes to place in either Japan or South Korea.

**Minoring in AAS**

AAS has offered an interdisciplinary minor since 2002. The minor provides a focused academic study in the field, and is an excellent opportunity for undergraduate students to gain a multicultural understanding of the U.S. Minoring in AAS provides an excellent foundation for post-baccalaureate students in fields such as community relations, education, law, and other disciplines in graduate and professional school. As exemplified from the student profiles, AAS minors come from diverse backgrounds.

AAS is a vibrant community of friends, mentors, and professors. The Program offers courses that encourages activism, creating new knowledge, learning, and reaching out beyond the classroom. For more information about minoring in AAS, stop by the office for a brochure, send an e-mail to aasp@uiuc.edu, or visit: http://www.aasp.uiuc.edu/academic_minor.html.
Spring 2007 Events

JANUARY

Friday, January 26
Public Presentation by Elaine Chun, Instructor of Linguistics, Center for Asian American Studies, University of Texas at Austin.

FEBRUARY

Friday, February 2
Public presentation by Leslie Bow, Director, Asian American Studies Program, University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Monday, February 5
Asian American Poetry Seminar by Timothy Yu, Assistant Professor of English, University of Toronto.

Tuesday, February 20
Public Presentation by Jung-Sun Park, Associate Professor, Asian-Pacific Studies, California State University-Dominguez Hills.
» Topic: Korean American Youths and Trans-Pacific Cultural Flows.

MARCH

Friday, March 2
AAS 10-Year Anniversary Celebration.
» Events included panels on the history and future of AAS, and a keynote speech by K.W. Lee.

Tuesday, March 6
Public presentation by Eleana Kim, Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Korean Studies, University of California, Los Angeles.
» Topic: Reckoning Kinship, Recasting Diaspora: Transnational Adoptees of and in the Korean Nation.

Tuesday, March 13
Public presentation by Karen Tongson, Assistant Professor of English and Gender Studies, University of Southern California.
» Topic: Contact, Creativity and Klub Fantasy: The Butchlalis de Panochtitan’s Sub-urban Intimacies.

Thursday, March 15
Stanley Thangaraj, Ph.D. Student in Anthropology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, recipient of the Jeffrey S. Tanaka Asian American Studies Grant (2005-2006).
» Topic: “Out of Bounds”: Indo-Pak Basketball, the Basketball Court, and the Politics of Location, Space, and Place for the South Asian Diaspora.

APRIL

Thursday, April 19
Public presentation by Teresa Pyon, Ph.D. Candidate, Educational Policy Studies, recipient of the Jeffrey S. Tanaka Asian American Studies Grant (2005-2006).
» Topic: Remembering the 1.5 Generation Korean American Experiences in School.

Friday, April 27
Public presentation by Madeline Hsu, Director, Center for Asian American Studies, University of Texas-Austin.
» Topic: Asian Texans: Institutionalizing Asian American Studies at the University of Texas-Austin.
Spring 2007 Photo Gallery

1/26/07: Elaine Chun
Translating ching-chong

2/2/07: Leslie Bow
Anxieties of the 'Partly Colored'

3/6/07: Eleana Kim
Reckoning Kinship, Recasting Diaspora

3/13/07: Karen Tongson
Contact, Creativity, and Klub Fantasy

4/19/07: Teresa Pyon
Remembering the 1.5 Generation

4/27/07: Madeline Hsu
Asian Texans
10th Anniversary Photo Gallery

Sharon Lee gives opening remarks for Panel 1

Jennifer Chung gives opening remarks for Panel 2

Keynote Speaker K.W. Lee

Q&A Session with K.W. Lee

Kevin Lam inquires about AAS major proposal

Kent Ono provides an update on proposal
### Summer and Fall Courses

Course offerings are subject to change. For updates, visit: [http://courses.uiuc.edu/cis/schedule/urbana/2007/Fall/](http://courses.uiuc.edu/cis/schedule/urbana/2007/Fall/).

#### SUMMER 2007 COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>CRN</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 120</td>
<td>Intro to Asian American Popular Culture</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Ono, K.</td>
<td>33565</td>
<td>TWR/10:00 AM-01:20 PM</td>
<td>Room G48 Foreign Languages Bldg</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 100</td>
<td>Intro to Asian American Studies</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Chung, J.</td>
<td>30560</td>
<td>TWR/01:30 PM-03:15 PM</td>
<td>Room G48 Foreign Languages Bldg</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 290</td>
<td>Individual Study</td>
<td>2-3 hrs</td>
<td></td>
<td>10027</td>
<td>ARRANGED</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Intro to Asian American Popular Culture</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Nguyen, M.</td>
<td>47170</td>
<td>TR/10:00 AM-11:20 AM</td>
<td>Room 1203 W. Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 199</td>
<td>Race, Gender, and Sexuality</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Ngo, F.</td>
<td>42852</td>
<td>MW/10:00 AM-11:20 AM</td>
<td>Room 1203 W. Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 199</td>
<td>Asian American Chicago</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Rana, J.</td>
<td>49910</td>
<td>TR/03:00 PM-04:20 PM</td>
<td>Room 1203 W. Oregon</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 286</td>
<td>Asian American Literature</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Koshy, S.</td>
<td>41927</td>
<td>M/09:30 AM-10:45 AM</td>
<td>Room 1203 W. Oregon</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 290</td>
<td>Individual Study</td>
<td>2-3 hrs</td>
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<td>10027</td>
<td>ARRANGED</td>
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<td>AAS 299</td>
<td>Citizenship Comparatively</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Cacho, L.</td>
<td>49989</td>
<td>MW/03:30 PM-04:50 PM</td>
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#### FALL 2007 COURSES CONT.

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<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>AAS 310</td>
<td>Race and Cultural Diversity</td>
<td>4 hrs</td>
<td>Anderson, J.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>ARRANGED</td>
<td>Room 1203 W. Oregon</td>
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<td>AAS 311</td>
<td>Asian American Dance and Performance</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Wong, Y.</td>
<td>50251</td>
<td>MW/03:00 PM-04:20 PM</td>
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<td>AAS 328</td>
<td>Asian Americans and Inequalities</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Jung, M.</td>
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<td>AAS 331</td>
<td>Asian American Youth</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Kwon, S.</td>
<td>49995</td>
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<td>Asian American Youth</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Kwon, S.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>W/10:00 AM-11:50 AM</td>
<td>Room 17 Education</td>
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<td>AAS 397</td>
<td>Asian Families in America</td>
<td>3 hrs</td>
<td>Balgopal, P.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>AAS 402</td>
<td>Asian American Education</td>
<td>4 hrs</td>
<td>Lee, S.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>W/10:00 AM-11:50 AM</td>
<td>Room 17 Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 484</td>
<td>Asian Diasporas</td>
<td>3 or 4 hrs</td>
<td>Rana, J.</td>
<td>40284</td>
<td>W/02:00 PM-04:20 PM</td>
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<td>AAS 590</td>
<td>Topics in Asian American Education</td>
<td>4 hrs</td>
<td>Lo, A.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>W/01:00 PM-02:50 PM</td>
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<td>AAS 590</td>
<td>Youth Culture and Society</td>
<td>4 hrs</td>
<td>Kwon, S.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>W/02:00 PM-04:30 PM</td>
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* after course name indicates that the class satisfies one or more General Education criteria
Cunningham Undergraduate Awards

The Clark Cunningham Undergraduate Essay Award was created to support undergraduate research in AAS, and was established in honor of Clark Cunningham, a Professor Emeritus of Anthropology. Cunningham was instrumental in building the AAS Program at UIUC. He served as the vice chair of the unit from 1997-2000 and chair of the program's first curriculum committee, and taught the first Asian American studies course on campus “Asian American Experiences” in 1992. Cunningham is widely regarded as an inspiring colleague, mentor, and teacher.

AAS is pleased to announce the 2006-2007 awards recipients:

- Sarah Okner, (History): “Relocated Classrooms.”
- Sarah Eunhee Cho (Political Science): “Limited English Proficient Students and Stereotypes, Bilingual Education Programs, and Testing Result.”

Postdoctoral Fellows

AAS is pleased to announce that Victor Mendoza and Caroline Hyojung Yang will join the Program in 2007-2008 as postdoctoral fellows.

Mendoza will receive his Ph.D. in May 2007, from the Department of English at the University of California, Berkeley. His dissertation “Illicit Associations; or, the Homoerotics of ‘White Love’” queers Philippine-U.S. imperial relations during the long twentieth century. He specializes in Asian American literature; ethnic American literature; 20th-century U.S. literature; U.S. imperialism and racial formation; queer and feminist theory; and post-structuralist, Marxist, and psychoanalytic theory. Mendoza is currently a visiting faculty member at UIUC in AAS and the Department of English, where he has taught courses in Asian American Literature, Asian American Women Writers, Asian American Theatre, and American Ethnic Theatre. He has published in American Literature and ELH (formerly English Literary History).

Yang will receive her Ph.D. in June 2007, from the Department of English at the University of Washington. Her dissertation “Reconstruction’s Labor: The Black Worker, the Asian Worker, and the Writing of U.S. Culture and History, 1870-1930” examines Reconstruction novels and historiographies. Her research and teaching interests include ethnic American literature; Asian American literature and history; transnational feminist theory; critical multiculturalism; cultural studies; and twentieth-century American literature. She has several years of teaching experience at multiple institutions and has presented widely at academic conferences. Yang’s fellowship research while in residence at UIUC will focus on “Representation of Asian Labor in the Narratives of Reconstruction,” an extension of her dissertation research.
Charles Capwell Announces Retirement

Charles Capwell, an Associate Professor of Music and the Chair of Musicology, and an Affiliated Faculty Member of AAS, has announced his retirement from UIUC effective May 2007.

Capwell earned his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1981, and is an internationally known ethnomusicologist specializing in folk music of Bengal, colonialism in the musical life of 19th-century Calcutta, popular Islamic music in Indonesia, and Indonesian music traditions. He has also taught courses in Asian American music, Indian and Indonesian musics, and world music.

Capwell’s work on India has been presented and published in numerous national and international conferences and journals. In support of his research in India, he has been a senior fellow of the American Institute of Indian Studies and a Fulbright Research Scholar. More recently, he has shifted his research focus to Indonesia. He has done fieldwork on popular music in Indonesian Islam as a Fulbright Research Scholar and as an awardee of the Asian Cultural Council.

Professor Capwell is a past editor of *Ethnomusicology* and co-author of *Excursions in World Music*. With School of Music colleagues Thomas Turino and Isabel Wong, he was part of a team that was responsible for gaining a major grant to the University from the Ford Foundation as part of its “Crossing Borders” initiative.

AAS would like to thank Professor Capwell for all of his contributions, service, and support to the Program.

APAGSO Updates

The Asian Pacific American Graduate Student Association (APAGSO) has been active this semester. Alongside other student organizations, APAGSO participated in the UIUC open forum on Race, Privilege, and Power in February.

Congratulations to APAGSO members Teresa Pyon (Educational Policy Studies) and Stanley Thangaraj (Anthropology), who were the 2005-2006 recipients of the AAS Jeffrey S. Tanaka research grants. Both Teresa and Stanley presented their research this semester.

The UIC chapter hosted the second APAGSO graduate student conference “Immigration, Transnationalism, Diaspora: Issues for Asian/American communities” in Chicago on March 16-17, 2007. Several APAGSO members also presented at the Association for Asian American Studies Annual Conference “Crosstown Connections: Asian American Urbanism and Interracial Encounters” in New York on April 4-8, 2007. Ben Cheng (English), Rachel Endo (Curriculum and Instruction), Kevin Lam (Educational Policy Studies), and Sarah Park (Library and Information Sciences) all presented papers at the conference.

APAGSO members come from a variety of departments, ethnic backgrounds, and interests, and the organization exists to develop a sense of community on campus, gather ideas and provide opportunities for networking and socializing. The organization is constantly evolving to meet new-member needs; thus, we always welcome new ideas and suggestions. For more information about APAGSO, visit: www.apagso.com.
Program Accomplishments


Laura Chu, Student of Art and Design, and Undergraduate Assistant in Asian American Studies, has been accepted to the Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences, and will enter the Master of Science program in the 2007-2008 school year.

Adrian Cruz, Ph.D. Candidate in Sociology and Instructor in Asian American Studies, has accepted a three-year visiting assistant professorship in the Department of Sociology at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He will continue his work on farm worker history at Dickinson and teach courses on comparative ethnicity/race, Latinos, Asian Americans, and labor history.

Rachel Endo, Ph.D. Student in Curriculum and Instruction and Graduate Research Assistant in Asian American Studies, presented “Post-1965 Japanese Families and the Formation of a Nihongo Gakko” at the Association for Asian American Studies annual conference in New York City, NY. She also presented “Child Abuse versus Ethnic Medicine: The 2002 Cao Gio Case and the Politics of School Intervention” at the American Educational Research Association’s annual meeting in Chicago, IL.

Kevin Lam, Ph.D. Student in Educational Policy Studies and Teaching Assistant of Asian American Studies, presented “Vietnamese Diaspora, Racialization, and the Return to Class” at the Association for Asian American Studies annual conference in New York City, NY. He also participated in the “Transforming Education through Alternative Media” panel for Liberacion Radio collective at the American Educational Research Association’s annual meeting in Chicago, IL.

Shelley Lee, Postdoctoral Fellow in Asian American Studies, has accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at Oberlin College where she will hold a joint appointment in the Department of History and Program in Comparative American Studies. She will publish “The Contradictions of Cosmopolitanism: Consuming the Orient at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition and International Potlatch Festival, 1909-1934” in the *Western Historical Quarterly* 2007 Volume 38 (3), and also presented “The Problems of the Pacific in the Great Crucible of America: Japanese Americans in Seattle Public Schools in the 1920s and 1930’s” at the Association for Asian American Studies annual conference in New York City, NY.
Program Accomplishments (cont.)


Sarah Okner, Student of History and Undergraduate Assistant of Asian American Studies, was the recipient of the Robert Johanssen Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Proposal in 2006 for her honor’s thesis on the educational system implemented on Japanese Americans in WWII incarceration camps. She received the 2006-2007 Clark Cunningham Undergraduate Essay Award. Sarah has been accepted to the Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences, and will enter the Master of Science program in the 2007-2008 school year.

Kent A. Ono, Director and Professor of Asian American Studies, and Professor of Communications Research and Media Studies, published a response to articles about teaching Asian American Studies in the Journal of Asian American Studies 2006 Volume 9 (3). He gave a talk at Purdue University on Nov. 10, 2006, and was a guest speaker at the IU/UI Graduate Student Colloquium on Rhetoric at Indiana University on January 13, 2007. He was a keynote speaker at a conference on Asian American studies at Shantou University on December 17, 2006, and was a guest scholar for the 33rd Annual DePauw National Undergraduate Honors Conference March 15-18, 2007.

Yoon K. Pak, Associate Professor in Educational Policy Studies, has an article titled: “Deconstructing the Model Minority and Perpetual Foreigner Stereotypes: A Critical Review of Literature on Asian Americans in Education” forthcoming in the Review of Research in Education with Sharon Lee (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) and Jennifer Ng (University of Kansas).

Sarah Park, Ph.D. Student in Library and Information Sciences and Graduate Assistant in Asian American Studies, gave two poster presentations at the Association for Library and Information Science Education: “Double Vision: Korean Adoptees in Children’s Literature,” and “Illustrating the Unspeakable: the Korean War and Family Separation in Children’s Books.” She also presented “Transracial Adoption in Children’s Literature” at the Association for Asian American Studies annual conference in New York City, NY.

Yutian Wong, Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies and Dance, presented “Orientalism as Transnational Persona” at the Association for Asian American Studies annual conference in New York City, NY.
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The Asian American Studies Program (AAS) at UIUC is primarily funded by public funds provided by the State of Illinois and tuition revenue. AAS relies on alumni, friends, and supporters to maintain its strong and expansive educational mission to work toward future growth. AAS is committed to expanding the traditions of knowledge within academia to address Asian American epistemologies, activities, and experiences.

Financial contributions to AAS support our efforts to fulfill our mission and to complete projects that would otherwise be beyond the means of a public university budget. Two funds in particular help support student work. These are: The Jeffrey S. Tanaka Award, an award supporting graduate student research in Asian American Studies and The Clark Cunningham Undergraduate Essay Award, an award recognizing undergraduate research in Asian American Studies.

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