

Asia Notes

2022-2023

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ANNUAL CONVOCATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

On June 10, 2022, the Department of Asian Languages and Literature held our 2022 Convocation and Awards Ceremony and Reception in Kane Hall on the UW campus in Seattle. It was our first in-person convocation event since 2019, and people were ready! Approximately 180 students, faculty, special guests, family, and friends gathered together to celebrate our students' accomplishments. Our special guests included the Consul General of Japan in Seattle, the Director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, several members of the Steering Committee of Washin Kai (Friends of Classical Japanese), and our Convocation Speaker, Assunta Ng.



Assunta Ng delivers the AL&L Convocation address

Founder and Publisher of *Seattle Chinese Post* and *Northwest Asian Weekly*, Assunta Ng (UW '74, '79) addressed the attendees with a lively and inspiring speech, drawing on several chapters of her remarkable life story to offer lessons to the graduates.

Rebecca LeVeque (B.A. in Japanese, Phi Beta Kappa) then delivered the student address to the graduates, focusing on the power of language for both social communication and individual expression. Rebecca's address was followed by the presentation of Bachelor's and graduate degrees. The ceremony concluded with the presentation of various awards to students for outstanding achievements (see list).



Rebecca LeVeque

Asia Notes

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

I couldn't be more pleased that you are holding our Autumn 2022 newsletter in your hands. It nearly didn't happen.

The previous issue of our annual newsletter *Asia Notes* was published in Autumn 2020, as we were set to embark on a full year of remote teaching at the University of Washington. Fully in the grip of the disorienting first phase of the global coronavirus pandemic, the entire AL&L community—our faculty, students, and staff—faced enormous challenges as we pivoted to remotely carrying out all of the administrative, research, teaching, and advising work that is needed to make a top-tier research university function.

At the end of that strange and difficult academic year we were in no shape to begin work on the 2021 issue of *Asia Notes*. Our office staff was at half strength following the departure of two of our stellar colleagues (Liz Self and Jen Miller), and our faculty and students were utterly exhausted. Much of our time and energy that summer was needed to prepare for the return to in-person teaching and the implementation of strict safety rules: masks worn at all times in classrooms, no eating in university buildings, social distancing in the hallways. Prioritizing our core mission—teaching and research—meant that something had to give.

Another year has now passed, and things feel very different. Everything is still strange, to be sure, and nobody is under the illusion that there is a well-defined “normal” to which we will soon return. But campus is full of people and the business of the university hums through the offices and classrooms. We're all still feeling exhausted and over-stretched and anxious about the future, but we've decided to make a

go of the 2022 issue of *Asia Notes* so that we can maintain our vital connection to our community. And like everything else the amazing people of this department set their minds to, we've found a way to pull it off. (Elsewhere in this issue you can read profiles of our new staff members, including the editor of this newsletter, Kirk L. Van Scoyoc.)

In my Autumn 2020 letter I wrote: “At the time of this writing, the shape of the winter and spring quarters remains unknowable. But one thing we know for sure is that we will be here, serving our students and our communities, pursuing our research, teaching our classes, and preparing for a better future.” As you look through the pages of this newsletter you will see that we have indeed succeeded in that mission over the last two years. We have not only taught classes and trained students, but have done so with creativity and passion. We have not just reached out to the community with public lectures, but have broadened our reach across the globe with live-streamed events. We have not solely produced new knowledge and research, but have won awards and honors for our publications. We have not just continued to study and teach the cultures, languages, and literatures of Asia, but have hired new faculty who will move the department in exciting new directions. Most satisfying of all, we have celebrated the graduation of two cohorts of undergraduate majors along with masters and doctoral students, in a remote ceremony in spring 2021 and a joyful in-person ceremony in spring 2022. These new alumni, equipped with cultural knowledge and a humanistic vision, have been strengthened by their pandemic experience and made compassionate



through their own suffering and that of others. They take their unique skills out into a world that desperately needs them.

You will find details of all these accomplishments in the pages that follow. None of this has been easy, but the effort has been worthwhile. Through it all, we have relied on each other, and on the bonds we maintain with our alumni, friends, and supporters. Thank you for being there with us.

Wishing you all good health and a bright future,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zev Handel". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Zev Handel
Professor of Chinese
September 8, 2022

Zev Handel's five-year term as chair of AL&L began on July 1, 2020. He is Professor of Chinese Linguistics in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, specializing in the history of the Chinese language and East Asian writing systems. Professor Handel joined the faculty in 1999 after receiving his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. A native of Boston, he now lives in Seattle with his wife and son.

ANNUAL CONVOCATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY
CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Fortunately, friends and family who could not attend were able to watch a livestream provided by the Kane Hall staff.



Washin Kai committee member Niki Nakamitsu and Professor Paul Atkins present the Washin Kai Fellowship

After the ceremony, attendees enjoyed refreshments and socializing in the Walker-Ames Room.



Professors Chris Hamm (L) and Chan Lü (R) with Convocation speaker Assunta Ng



Prof. Amy Ohta with MA alum Ben Burton, MA graduate Yasuko Yukimoto, and Yasuko's husband Younghoon Park



Administrator Youngie Yoon (2nd from L) with Teaching Professors Akiko Iwata, Fumiko Takeda, and EunYoung Won

CONVOCATION 2022 STUDENT AWARDS

Scott H. Swaner Memorial Book Award

Kevin Kim
Xiaohan Yao

Distinguished Teaching Assistant

Hee Eun Helen Lee
Nobuko Horikawa
Shiwei Zhou

Yen Fu Translation Prize

Haruki Shimonagane
Qiyi Wu

Turrell V. Wylie Memorial Scholarship

Sean Thomas Bradley

Henry S. Tatsumi Scholarship

Caralee Casto
James Gray
Rebecca Victoria LeVeque

Li Fang-Kuei and Hsu Ying Graduate Fellowship

Liyao Chen

Pang Hsin and Chen Chi Ting Graduate Fellowship

Liyao Chen

Washin Kai Graduate Fellowship

Nobuko Horikawa



Professor Paul Atkins, Consul General Hisao Inagaki and his wife, Washin Kai members Niki Nakamitsu and Naomi Minegishi, Convocation speaker Assunta Ng, student honorees Nobuko Horikawa and Haruki Shimonagane, and Washin Kai member Yumi Iwasaki

Asia Notes

CHINESE FLAGSHIP NEWS



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP

Creating Global Professionals



Taipei, Taiwan with the Taipei 101 tower in the foreground

The University of Washington Chinese Language Flagship Program was established in 2020 with a four-year grant from The Language Flagship, a national organization based in Washington, D.C. and founded in 2002. The Language Flagship is a major initiative of the National Security Education Program (NSEP), which is part of the Defense Language and National Security Education Office (DLNSEO). It offers a new way for students to reach professional levels of proficiency in languages that are less commonly taught in the U.S. Chinese is one of the seven languages chosen for this program. In this program, students will be able to combine high levels of proficiency in Chinese with a major in any field so that after they graduate they will be able to perform their job duties in English and in Chinese without linguistic or cultural barriers. Today, there are thirteen Flagship programs in Chinese around the nation.

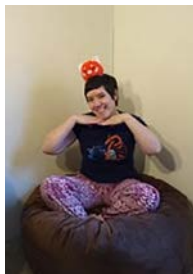
The UW Chinese Flagship program is excited to announce that four students are on a new adventure as they start the Overseas Capstone Program in Taipei, Taiwan. Our four students — **Gabriela Unguez, Alyssa Kuraishi, Reanna Wong, and Monita Keo** — are very excited to continue to improve their language skills, along with gaining vital experience for their careers.

To qualify for the Capstone Program, students not only have to reach advanced proficiency in modern Chinese, passing the proficiency tests in speaking, listening, reading and writing, but also need to

be academically well-prepared in their respective majors and have a solid knowledge base in Chinese culture. The Capstone Program is the last mile of the Flagship journey, during which students not only take classes at the Chinese Flagship Overseas Capstone Program in Taiwan's National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, but also complete a six-month internship in their respective areas of study utilizing their Chinese skills. This is definitely going to be a challenging yet rewarding year for all the students.

Gabriela Unguez,

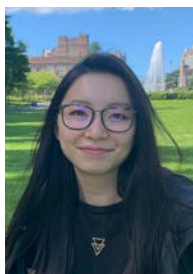
a Chinese major, is looking forward to improving her language fluency and expanding upon her translation skills. Gabriela hopes to pursue a master's degree in Translation Studies with the eventual goal of becoming a translator. She has had previous experience in Taiwan and is looking forward to returning to the island.



"Some factors that will help me to succeed in my Capstone study also include my love of Taiwan and desire to experience and better understand its culture, my passion for learning and improving my Mandarin, as well as my determination to attain my goal of becoming an excellent translator and interpreter. I have learned that by keeping my end goal in mind, and by remembering why I love and enjoy what I learn and do, I can remain highly motivated and succeed."

Alyssa Kuraishi,

a Political Science major, is excited and hoping to secure an internship where she can hone her intercultural competency and deepen her understanding of security and diplomacy. She hopes this will further support her goal of working as an



International Security Analyst for the federal government, where she can use her knowledge of international relations to strengthen foreign policy and improve national security. Alyssa has just received a Boren Scholarship for Undergraduate Students. The Boren Awards are also an initiative of DLNSEO.

"At the National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University in Taiwan, I want an insight into the politics and culture of a US strategic ally. By learning alongside Taiwanese students at a Taiwanese university, I will not only improve my Chinese but also make cross-cultural connections by talking to the Taiwanese people about how they view East Asian politics."

Reanna Wong,

a Biology and Chinese double major, is eager to be at the intersection of both her interests. She is going to relish the opportunity to expand her vocabulary and apply her language skills in a work environment more suited to her career interests. She is happily awaiting the chance to travel around Taiwan, learn more about Taiwanese culture, and secure an internship in the medical field.



"I believe that this Capstone Program and finding a medical internship will help improve my Chinese proficiency to the point where I can confidently converse with a patient. In addition, I want to broaden my experiences being in the medical field within an international setting and learn more about this culture. My end goal is to become an English-Mandarin bilingual medical professional who can provide medical care to economically and linguistically underprivileged patients."

Monita Keo, a Chinese major, is keen to experience an immersive Chinese language environment both at school and in the workplace. She is enthusiastic about utilizing her language skills within a supportive internship environment and making Taiwanese friends. She is looking forward to furthering her language skills in hopes of pursuing a career as a Foreign Service Officer.



“Upon completing my Capstone studies and internship, I will apply my knowledge to my career goal as a Foreign Service Officer. With my diverse background, I will share my knowledge and provide my utmost assistance to immigrants and citizens around the country.”

The Chinese Flagship Program is also pleased to share that our first University of Washington student, **Philip Kim**, is currently completing his Capstone study abroad in Taiwan. Philip is a Chinese major and has been thoroughly enjoying his daily exposure to Mandarin, rigorous language

training, and cross-cultural opportunities to expand his understanding of Chinese culture. Philip will be working with the Overseas Center Internship Office in the upcoming quarter to hopefully secure a translation and/or interpretation focused internship. He is hoping to leverage his improved fluency and translation skills to support his career goals of becoming a Chinese translator.



REFLECTIONS ON FIFTY YEARS OF SANSKRIT STUDIES WITH PROFESSOR EMERITUS RICHARD SALOMON

The Sanskrit language is the key to a storehouse of information about the world and the human experience recorded over more than 3,000 years in South Asia. It is the language in which the Vedas were composed in the second millennium B.C.E., and is still used today as a language of religion and scholarship. It is also the parent of the modern Indo-Aryan languages of north and central India, including Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, and many others.

On Wednesday, Apr. 20, 2022, William P. and Ruth Gerberding University Professor Emeritus of Sanskrit Richard Salomon gave a talk titled **“Entwined Like a Word and its Meaning: Reflections on Fifty Years of Sanskrit Studies.”** Professor Salomon shared some of the insights and inspirations he has gained from studying Sanskrit and classical Indian literature and culture for over fifty years. He also outlined the long-standing tradition of Sanskrit instruction at the University of Washington that goes back well over 100 years. Professor Salomon presents readings of classic verses and lines from well-known Sanskrit authors to show how their complexity, subtlety, and imaginativeness set flowing the *rasa*, the “nectar” that is the aesthetic essence of Sanskrit literature. He focuses in particular on the works of Kālidāsa, widely acclaimed as the greatest of Sanskrit poets, and his unique and



remarkable retelling of the history of King Rāma and the story of the Rāmāyaṇa in his epic poem, “The Dynasty of Raghu.”

Professor Salomon retired several years ago after teaching Sanskrit and related subjects at the University of Washington for over forty years. Through publications and public appearances around the world, he continues to support and encourage the study of Sanskrit and the classical Indian world, to which he dedicated his entire adult life.

You can view the recording of this event on the department’s YouTube channel,

<https://www.youtube.com/user/UWAsianLL>

The Department of Asian Languages and Literature has long been a world-renowned center for Sanskrit studies. However, in the wake of several retirements and a lack of sufficient dedicated funding to support the program, we can no longer provide a full course of instruction in Sanskrit with state funding. In response to this urgent need, Friends of Sanskrit at UW was established in 2018 with the support of a group of devoted community members to ensure

continued instruction in Sanskrit at UW and to help connect the local community with UW’s Sanskrit programming. The Friends of Sanskrit at UW fund has supported the hiring of a Sanskrit lecturer, enabling the Department to continue to offer all levels of the language as well as courses on various aspects of Sanskrit culture and literature. (To learn more, see the video “Learn Sanskrit at UW Seattle!” on our YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/user/UWAsianLL>.) Our ability to continue this program in the future depends on continuing support from the community. If you would like to contribute to the Friends of Sanskrit fund, visit

<https://asian.washington.edu/donate-friends-sanskrit>

or use the department contact information on the back cover of this newsletter.



Asian Languages and Literature Sanskrit faculty: Joseph A. Marino III, Richard Salomon, and Amruta Chandekar

FACULTY NEWS

Paul Atkins, Professor of Japanese, was awarded the Kyoko Selden Memorial Translation Prize by the Department of Asian Studies at Cornell University in 2021, based on excerpts of his unpublished translation of *Shōkenkō*, selected poems in Chinese by the Japanese Zen abbot Zekkai Chūshin (1336-1405). He gave online lectures on “*Kanbun kundoku* as (mis) translation: The 1670 annotation of Zekkai Chūshin’s *Shōkenkō*” for the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) in June 2022 and on “Translating Medieval Japanese Zen Poetry” for the UW Translation Studies Colloquium in January, 2021. Washin Kai (Friends of Classical Japanese at UW) presented his online lectures “What is Noh?” in September 2021 and “*Hyakunin isshu* and the World of Medieval Japanese Poetry” in March, 2021. He will speak on “What is Haiku?” in October, 2022 and about the Katsura Detached Palace in April, 2023.

Nazry Bahrawi, Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Literature and Culture, received a UW Translation Studies Hub grant from the Simpson Center for the Humanities to design a course on Southeast Asian translation studies for the academic year 2022-2023. He has published two essays on Malay-Indonesian literature in edited volumes by Edinburgh UP. In addition, he has conducted a writing workshop on Southeast Asian literature for the Hugo House in Seattle, delivered a public lecture for the Malay Heritage Centre in Singapore and presented at a panel co-organized by NYU’s Postcolonial, Race and Diaspora Studies Colloquium and Asian/Pacific/American Institute for the 5th Singapore Literature Symposium in New York.

Heekyoung Cho, Associate Professor of Korean, has edited and published *The Routledge Companion to Korean Literature*. Consisting of 35 chapters written by leaders in the field, the collection highlights the most dynamic current scholarship on Korean literature, presenting rigorous literary analysis, interdisciplinary methodologies, and transregional thinking so as to provide a valuable and inspiring

resource for researchers and students alike. Contributors to the book include new Asian L&L faculty member Dr. Ungsan Kim as well as UW Korean Studies Librarian Hyokyung Yi, among many others.

Chan Lü, Associate Professor of Chinese, has received a China-U.S. Scholars Program (CUSP) fellowship to conduct a project titled Multilingualism and Bilingualism in Central China. This project will explore the dynamics of English, Mandarin and different local dialects in daily lives within the homes and how parents’ beliefs, values and practices of different language/dialects may have an impact on children’s language and literacy outcomes. CUSP is a one-time fellowship exchange program for China, Hong Kong SAR (China) and U.S. scholars and students in the arts, humanities and social sciences in 2021-2022. The program is funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York, Ford Foundation, Harvard-Yenching Institute, Henry Luce Foundation and Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Dr. Lü is one of 12 U.S. scholars to have received this fellowship.

Ted Mack was promoted to Professor of Japanese. He published a new book, *Acquired Alterity: Migration, Identity, and Literary Nationalism*, with the University of California Press. This is the first book-length study in English of the Japanese-language literary activities of early Japanese migrants to Brazil. It provides a detailed history of Japanese-language bookstores, serialized newspaper fiction, original creative works, and critical apparatuses that existed in Brazil prior to World War II.

Izumi Matsuda-Kiami, Teaching Professor of Japanese, has just received the Teacher Award (College Level) from the American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ). She also

received the 2021 Inspirational Leadership Award from the Washington Association for Language Teaching.

Itsuko Nishikawa, Associate Teaching Professor of Japanese, organized a lecture titled “Presence of Cherry Blossoms in Haiku and Anime” in March. The speaker was Makoto Aoki, Associate Professor at Ehime University. The talk was in Japanese, and Nishikawa’s fourth-year Japanese students provided English translation.

Heidi Pauwels, Professor of South Asian languages and literature, was awarded a collaborative fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, together with Professor Purnima Dhavan in the History Department for a book project on “Urdu’s Origins Revisited: Vali Dakhani’s Reception in Multilingual South Asia.”

Prof. Pauwels gave a research presentation “Forgotten Colloquies: Synergy of an eighteenth-century Kishangarhi author-pair” at the 14th International Conference on Early Modern Literatures in North India, on July 17, 2022 at Osaka University, Osaka,



Professor Heidi Pauwels (back row, 5th from R) with colleagues at the 14th International Conference on Early Modern Literatures in North India, at Osaka University, Osaka, Japan

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Japan. She was also asked to serve on the Editorial Board for the publication of the proceedings.

Prof. Pauwels co-organized an international workshop for advanced students and young professionals (from the Sorbonne in Paris, Univ. of Exeter in the UK, McGill U. in Canada, U. of Chicago, NYU, and elsewhere) for close readings of manuscripts in Classical Hindavi with Prof. Purnima Dhavan (History), sponsored by the South Asia Center, Simpson Center for the Humanities, Departments of History, and Asian Languages and Literature at UW, Seattle (August 5–6, 2022).

Prof. Pauwels organized a reading group “Ancient Epic for the Modern World” with Profs. Catherine M. Connors and Olga Levaniouk (Classics), sponsored by the Simpson Center for the Humanities, UW (August 1–25, 2022).

Bich-Ngoc Turner, Assistant Teaching Professor of Vietnamese, was appointed to be Southeast Asian Language Council (SEALC) liaison on the SEALC Steering Committee for the term of Sept 2022–Sept 2023.

EunYoung Won, Associate Teaching Professor of Korean, organized a virtual colloquium titled *Fostering Proficiency Development in Online and Hybrid Language Courses*. The speaker was Dr. Florencia Henshaw, Director of Advanced Spanish Language at University of Illinois -Urbana Champaign. Various topics were discussed, including advantages and challenges of tech-based language instruction. Dr. Henshaw also demonstrated her online proficiency-based Spanish course development. The colloquium was open to K-12 and post-secondary educators across the world, and attracted a wide range of audiences from a variety of languages and areas including those participating in Asia.

Liping Yu, Teaching Professor of Chinese, authored a new book, published in April 2022 by Xin Xuelin Publishing House in Taipei. The title of the book is *Interaction and Chinese Grammar Pedagogy Vol. 2*. The book focuses on the teaching principles and methods of discourse teaching.

Ying-Hsiu Chou, Ph.D. candidate in Chinese, was awarded the 2022-2023 Taiwanese Overseas Pioneers Grant [top. stpi.narl.org.tw] (TOP Grant). Funded by the National Science and Technology Council of Taiwan, the goal of the TOP Grant is to nurture research talents overseas in the fields of humanities and social sciences. She will receive an award of \$30,000 to support her dissertation research and writing on the Romantic Male in early 20th-century Chinese popular culture.

Nobuko Horikawa, Ph.D. candidate in Japanese, was awarded the Washin Kai 2022-23 Graduate Fellowship and a UW Presidential Dissertation Fellowship in order to complete her dissertation, a study of the Sinitic poetry of the Japanese Zen abbess Taisei Seian (1668-1712). She spent summer 2022 in Tokyo conducting research at the National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL) and visiting archives and temples with the help of a UW International Research and Study Fellowship.

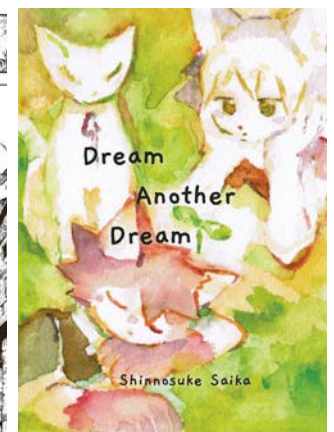
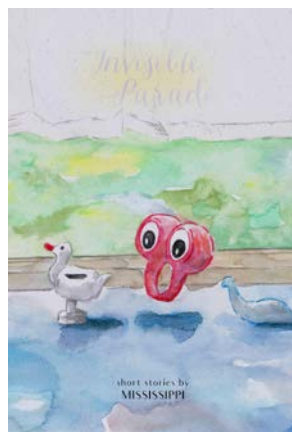
Grainger Lanneau has co-written a book for beginning students of Chinese language. Grainger says, “As I return to teaching Chinese and finish my last year of Vietnamese classes, I like to talk about my new book. *Oh, Jerry* is a pleasantly bizarre tale about a talented horse from Xi’an named Jerry. Jerry can speak Chinese, sing, cook and study the hobbies of humans. I worked on this book with my former

Chinese teacher from the College of Charleston Piotr Gibas (齐老师), and Werner Skalla, the co-founder of the language school Skapago. We hope that this bizarre tale will help and inspire those that are learning Chinese.”

Since 2020 **Anna Schnell** has worked with Glacier Bay Books, a small press based in Oregon that specializes in publishing independent and non-mainstream Japanese-language comics in English translation. Anna translated these works into English:

- The Mermaid and the Prince by Tada Yumi (2021)
- Glaeolia Volume 2 (2021) and Glaeolia Volume 3 (2022) (*various stories*)
- Red Riding Hood’s Wolf Apprentice: Final Testament to the Moon Volume 1 and the side story “False Stars” by Sayaka Mogi
- The Lullaby (2021), Dream Another Dream (2022), Tonio (2022) and “Hen na ichi nichi” (forthcoming) by Shinnosuke Saika
- Invisible Parade (2022) by MISSISSIPPI (*various stories*)

She has also been able to translate a number of articles by Komatsu Riken (小松理虔) into English for the Japanese group Creative Support LET’S as well as help work on the English translation of their web site.



Manga translated by graduate student (and Program Coordinator) Anna Schnell

continued on page 8

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

(CONTINUED)

Zhifan Sheng presented two papers: "Women's World: *Tianyi* and International Feminism in the Age of Early Globalization" (at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association) and "Queer In/visibility in Pai Hsien-yung's *Crystal Boys*" (at the Texas Asia Conference 2022).

Anjali Yadav attended the American Institute of Indian Studies (AIS) Summer Language Program in Sanskrit which was held this year in-person in Pune, India. To take on this program, she received a full-tuition scholarship from AIS and some financial support from the department's Entwistle Endowment for South Asian Studies. Yadav also put together a roundtable titled, "*Khabar Lahariya*' or 'Writing with Fire': Whose Story it Really Is?" that was accepted for the 50th Annual Conference on South Asia at UW-Madison held October 19-22.

Jieyu Zhou received a 2022-2021 Jiede Empirical Research Grant for Chinese Pedagogy/Chinese Applied Linguistics for her project: "Improving Elementary-Level Chinese Learners' Narrative Skill and Language Cohesiveness through Explicit Instruction and Practice on Topic Chain – A Pedagogical Intervention." Subsequently, she published a peer-reviewed article in a Q1 journal based on this project:

Zhou, J. & Lü, C. (2022). Enhancing syntactic complexity in L2 Chinese writing: Effects of form-focused instruction on the Chinese topic chain. *Frontiers of Psychology, section Educational Psychology*. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2022.843789

(Note: Q1 means the journal is in the top 25% of journals in the list)

Xi Zhu received a scholarship from the Chiang Ching-kuo foundation for AY 2021-2022 to support the writing of his doctoral dissertation. Since September he has been working at Pacific Lutheran University as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Chinese.

ALUMNI NEWS

Catie Bass (B.A. 2013, Japanese) is working as a product manager at Adobe, specializing in text implementation in Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and right-to-left languages. After graduating with a Japanese major and Technical Japanese minor in 2013, she spent 6 years working at Amazon, initially as a bilingual English/Japanese customer service agent, and worked her way into program management before returning to UW in 2019 for the MBA.

Alex Chu (B.A. 2012, Chinese) says, "I'm currently still living in Washington state, married and mother of 2 boys now. After UW, I went overseas to work in Macau (Macao) for almost 4 years. I worked at the Wynn Resorts (Macau) as a Guest Services Agents before becoming a Senior Agent and Supervisor. In 2016, I decided to move back to the States with my husband and start our lives here again. Was a stay-at-home wife/mom for a while before I took up a part-time job. Currently I am working remotely at NorthStar Law Group, P.S., a law firm located in Tumwater, Washington. My position there is Office Manager / Executive Assistant."

Marielle Harrison (B.A. 2012, South Asian languages) is currently a PhD candidate in the History of Religions area at the University of Chicago, studying vegetarianism in early Buddhist History.

Jon Holt (Ph.D. 2010) was promoted to Professor of Japanese at Portland State University.

Kevin Kim (B.A. 2022, Asian Languages and Cultures) received the Scott Swaner Memorial Book Award at Convocation 2022 and is now working for NBC Universal in Los Angeles.

Rebecca LeVeque (B.A. 2022, Japanese) says, "I am now working in Japan as a Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) through the JET Program in Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture! I arrived in Japan in late July. In my work I primarily translate materials and emails for the city, assist English-speaking foreign residents through interpretation at city hall, and participate in cultural events. I was featured in Minami

Nihon Shinbun (a local newspaper) in August, and in the article it was mentioned that I graduated from the University of Washington and wrote my (departmental honors) thesis about Matsuura Rieko's *Natural Woman*, a landmark work of lesbian literature.

Chris Lowy (Ph.D. 2021) was appointed Assistant Professor of Japanese at Carnegie Mellon University. We were delighted to welcome him back to UW to teach second-year Japanese this summer.

Jacob Nelson (B.A. 2011, Japanese; M.S. 2013, Information Management) has lived in Japan since shortly after getting his MSIM from the UW in 2013. He has been working in design, development, brand and marketing, working across a variety of spaces such as digital, print, web, mobile, and gaming. Jacob says, "Thanks to the University of Washington, I went from being a Japanese L&L undergrad to being featured in Japan as a global design expert. It's been and continues to be a long and exciting journey. One that started with me sitting underneath cherry blossoms in the quad, filled with uncertainty, wondering how my life would unfold. So, how did everything turn out? Better than I ever imagined. The UW was without a doubt the catalyst that catapulted me into my bright future. Thank you to all my friends, classmates, and amazing teachers - you mean the world to me! I love you all!"

Zack Sand (B.A. 2019, Japanese) says, "I began self-studying music production during Washington state's COVID-19 lockdown and recently collaborated with a vocalist from Japan to compose and release a full-length song. I have always loved music and finally being able to produce a song myself is a dream come true for me. To everyone else who is passionate about being creative: your endeavors are worthwhile and meaningful. I wish you all the best in your journey to share that creative spirit with the world."

Elizabeth Thelen (B.A. 2006, Asian Languages and Cultures) has published a new book, *Urban Histories of Rajasthan: Religion, Politics and Society (1550-1800)*.

Focused primarily on Nagaur and Ajmer, the book examines how religious and caste communities lived together and negotiated shared spaces, and the impact of changing political and economic situations on these communities. The book is available in the U.S. here: <https://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/U/bo184795723.html> and everywhere else here: <https://www.gingko.org.uk/title/urban-histories-of-rajasthan/> with a 30% discount using code UHR30.

This spring was also the official launch of the online primary source collection Elizabeth co-edited during her postdoc (lawforms.exeter.ac.uk). It features transcriptions and translations of 79 documents, most accompanied by high-resolution images, and a number of teaching resources, such as introductory historical essays. The site mostly has Persian documents on it - but there's also some Hindi, Rajasthani, and Marathi.

Maggie Thorpe (B.A. 2013, Japanese) goes by Maggie Le professionally. Maggie says, "For the past year, I've started working as a manga editor at Penguin Random House for our client, Kodansha. Recently, one of the series I edit (*Blue Lock*) has been nominated for the Harvey Awards Best Manga of 2022, which is one of the biggest awards for the comics industry. The term "editor" can be a bit misleading, but I basically work as a project manager/localizer for a variety of manga titles. I work with the translator, letterer, cover designer, and production team in creating a print edition localized in English. This particular series will have an anime starting in October."

Sin Yi (Cindy) Tsang (B.A. 2011, Japanese) says, "I got my PhD in Mathematics at UC Santa Barbara in 2016. After that, I spent four years in China working as a postdoc and research fellow. Since April 2021, I have been a tenure-track Assistant Professor (in Mathematics) at Ochanomizu University in Tokyo. My research is of course in Mathematics, but I use Japanese in my teaching and to conduct administrative duties.

STAFF NEWS

New Staff!

Lena Eagan joined the department in November 2021 as the new department Assistant. She graduated from Western Washington University with a major in Economics and a Russian minor. She is originally from the Czech Republic, and this is her 35th year as an American. Lena has had a variety of jobs, from cash management for a retirement benefits firm, inside sales for a software licensing company to creative services at Ernst and Young. In most recent years her job has mostly been taking care of her family: husband Chris, son Michael (14), and daughter Monica (11). Lena was an avid runner but now is transforming into an avid bicyclist. She loves anything outdoorsy like camping, skiing and mountain biking. Lena says it's been great getting to know the department and meeting everyone.

Anna Schnell's first stint with Asian L&L was as an undergrad in Japanese literature from 2011-2014. There's no keeping her away from the department - she returned to Asian L&L in 2015, this time as a member of the main office staff (and also eventually joined the ranks of graduate students in 2018). Busy! In August of 2021, she followed in the footsteps of the great Jennifer Miller and ascended to the position of Program Coordinator, and has been buried in spreadsheets ever since. In her copious spare time, Anna loves to paint, draw comics, and translate manga, video games, picture books, and novels from Japanese to English.

Kirk L. Van Scoyoc joined the department in October 2021 as the new Academic Counselor and Graduate Program Advisor. He had a 33-year career as an English language instructor, most of which was in the UW's International and English Language Programs, but started with four and a half years in Tokyo on the faculty at Obirin Daigaku (now called J.F. Oberlin University). Kirk has master's degrees from the UW in TESOL and Library and Information Science, and he graduated from Oberlin College with a BA in East Asian Studies and Theater. His other job is raising teenagers, and his main hobby is transcribing and playing J.S. Bach solos on the five-string banjo.

Frances Zielonka joined the department in September 2022 as the new Chinese Language Flagship Program Coordinator. Frances is a two-time graduate of the UW Asian Languages and Literature's Chinese program (MA, 2011 and BA, 2009). She brings to the department 10 years of experience in digital, brand, and product strategy consulting for multinational clients across sectors. Frances seeks to apply her experience and knowledge in her role as Chinese Flagship Program Coordinator, guiding students through successful Flagship experiences, strategizing pathways to globally-engaged careers, and promoting the rewarding intellectual journey of learning Chinese at UW.



Asian L&L staff at Youngie Yoon's retirement picnic (L to R): Kirk L. Van Scoyoc, Youngie Yoon, Lena Eagan, Anna Schnell

NEW FACULTY

Nazry Bahrawi

In December 2021, the department welcomed Nazry Bahrawi as Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Literature and Culture. His current scholarship examines the intersections between animal fables and racial discourses in Malay-Indonesian literary texts and films. He has published on racialism, modernism, literary Islam and translation as cultural rewriting in maritime Southeast Asia in relation to other Indian Ocean cultures. Dr. Bahrawi is an editor-at-large at *Wasafiri* magazine and the essay & research editor for the *Journal of Practice, Research and Tangential Activities (PR&TA)*. He has also translated Malay literary works to English.



Dr. Bahrawi offered these courses in 2021-2022:

WINTER 2022: **ASIAN 207 - Special Topics in Literature and Culture of Asia**

SPRING 2022: **ASIAN 263 - Great Works of Asian Literature**

In Winter quarter, Dr. Bahrawi's first course at the UW was "Speculative and Science Fiction of Southeast Asia," exploring selected literature and films from Vietnam, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia between the nineteenth and twenty-first centuries.

**Winter 2022, Asian 207:
Speculative and Science Fiction
of Southeast Asia**

A black market for swapping bodies, manipulative bisexual dogs and indigenous Medusas. These are some of the unique tales of magic and science to have come out of Southeast Asia, a region home to some 661 million peoples of diverse beliefs and traditions spanning the Abrahamic and non-Abrahamic faiths, animism and everything in between. This module will explore selected literature and films from Vietnam, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia between the nineteenth and twenty-first centuries to get a sense of how residents in these nations use the genres of speculative and science fiction to articulate themes, tropes and theories in response to modernization and technological change in one of the world's most culturally diverse regions.

Instructor: Nazry Bahrawi
TTH 1:30-3:20pm // Location TBA // SLN TBA
5 CREDITS // VLP/A/BS

W ASIAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Ungsan Kim

The Department of Asian Languages and Literature is excited to announce that Dr. Ungsan Kim has joined the department this autumn as our newest Assistant Professor. Dr. Kim received his BA in 2000 in German Language and Literature and MA in 2008 in Comparative Literature, both from Seoul National University. He received his PhD in 2019 in English and earned a graduate certificate in Cinema and Media Studies from the University of Washington. Since Autumn 2021, he has been working as Assistant Professor of Asian Cinema jointly appointed in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures and the Department of Film, Television, and Media at the University of Michigan. Dr. Kim is a specialist in film studies whose work has focused on queer Asian cinema. Dr. Kim will teach undergraduate courses such as "Film Culture in Korea" and "Asian Horror Cinema." Dr. Kim will offer the following Asian L&L courses in Winter and Spring 2023:



WINTER 2023: **KOREAN 365 - Korean Cinema: History and Aesthetics**

SPRING 2023: **ASIAN 498 - From Korea to Taiwan: Queer Asian Cinema**

In addition to his home in Asian Languages and Literature, his work at UW will be enhanced by research and teaching connections with other departments on campus, including Korea Studies, Cinema and Media Studies, Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies, and English. In collaboration with the Center for Korea Studies, Dr. Kim will also be facilitating a variety of film screenings during his time with the University. Welcome (back) to UW and to the department, Dr. Kim!

Yen Kim Nguyen

The department recently welcomed Dr. Yen Kim Nguyen as Assistant Teaching Professor of Vietnamese. Yen started her career as a lecturer of Vietnamese language and culture for foreigners in 2006 at the Faculty of Vietnamese Studies and Language, Hanoi University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University (VNU). From 2011 to 2013, she served as a Visiting Lecturer in Vietnamese language and culture at the Faculty of Southeast Asian Languages, College of Foreign Languages, Guangxi University in China. In July 2016, she acted as a Teacher Trainer in the training course on Methods of Teaching the Vietnamese language at Udorn Thani Rajabhat University in Thailand. Yen is the author of many articles related to Vietnamese language teaching and linguistics, which were published in Vietnam and China. Her interests are in language pedagogy, comparative linguistics, and writing online novels. She received a BA in Chinese Studies in 2002 and a Ph.D. in Linguistics in 2019. She is a welcome addition to our growing modern Vietnamese language program.



**Viet 134: First-Year
Intensive Vietnamese!
Offered Remotely Summer 2021**

An exciting new non-heritage intensive Vietnamese language course will be offered remotely over Zoom this summer for the first time! Earn 15 credits plus VLP/A credit and learn an entire year's worth of first-year Vietnamese grammar, vocabulary, and idioms in just nine weeks. Viet 134 is equivalent to Viet 100, 102, and 103. No experience with Vietnamese required; beginners welcome!

University of Washington Summer Sessions classes are open to everyone, including the general public, high school students, and non-UW students!

Find out more here:
<https://www.summer.uw.edu/registration-costs/how-to-register/non-uw-students/>

Time schedule information will be available at a later date. Questions about the course? Feel free to reach out to instructor Nguyễn Kim Yên at skimyen@uw.edu!

Instructor: Nguyễn Kim Yên (skimyen@uw.edu)
(Further Course Information To Be Announced)

W ASIAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

Tetiana Andriiuk

B.A., Philology, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, 2021

Research Interests: Philology, Language Pedagogy, Japanese Linguistics, Translation Studies



Juan Felipe Arroyave

B.A., Journalism, Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, 2005

M.A., Ph.D., Hispanic Studies, University of Washington, 2014, 2019



Research Interests: Japanese to Spanish Translation, Premodern Japanese Literature, Natsume Soseki, Japanese literature, Translation and Interpretation

Juan Felipe conducted a series of introductory lectures on Japanese literature in his native Medellín, Colombia, with topics ranging from Japanese folktales to Yosano Akiko's Midaregami. These lectures were presented in collaboration with the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana and the city's public library system.

Parker Cassidy

B.A., Asian Studies, Bard College, 2019

Research Interests: Japanese, Film/Cinema, Folklore and Mythology, Literature, Novel/Prose Fiction, Translation and Interpretation



In March of 2020, Parker worked as an English language teacher in Japanese elementary schools through Borderlink, and visited the four major islands throughout the year during his vacation time.

Tzu-Lu (Lulu) Hung

B.A., International Studies, University of California – Irvine, 2021

Research Interests: Gender and Feminist Studies, Postcolonial Studies, Modern and Contemporary Japanese Literature and Criticism



Born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan, Lulu graduated from UC Irvine (major in international studies) and enjoys piano, crochet, watching Japanese TV shows, and reading manga.

Jiwon Song

B.A., Chinese Language and Literature, Ewha Womans University, 2018

M.A., Chinese Linguistics, 2021



Research Interests: Writing systems, Chinese Linguistics, Comparative linguistics, Language Acquisition, Bilingualism

Wenyue (Evangeline) Zhang

B.A., Linguistics, Gordon College, 2020

Research Interests: Japanese, Linguistics, Japanese culture and literature, Language Pedagogy



Wanmin Zhu

B.A., Chinese, Fudan University, 2019

M.A., Ancient Chinese Literature, Fudan University, 2022

Research Interests: Funeral Rituals, Ritual Texts, Stele Inscriptions, Medieval Chinese Literature, Philology



WELCOME (BACK) TEMPORARY LECTURERS!

We are pleased to have wonderful temporary lecturers on our teaching staff this year, several of whom we are welcoming back “home” to UW.

Uma Attota, Telugu

Amruta Chandekar (Asian L&L PhD, 2015), Sanskrit and Hindi

David Fowler (Asian L&L BA, 2005), Hindi

Emily Hall (UW PhD, History, 2019), Korean

Helen Lee (UW PhD, Comparative Literature, 2022), Korean

Yingying Sun (Asian L&L PhD, 2017), Classical Chinese

Yan Zhu, Modern Chinese

Asia Notes

RETIREMENTS

This year the department saw four retirements of core faculty and staff who have been part of our community for decades.

Youngie Yoon

After three decades serving the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, Youngie Yoon retired in August. Youngie joined the department staff as an administrative assistant in 1992, and moved up into the position of administrator in 2002. In that role, she ran the department office, managed the department's finances and payroll, and, in a very real sense, kept the whole department functioning. Over the decades she touched the lives of nearly every person connected to the department: faculty, staff, and students. Her competence, compassion, and good judgment were a source of stability and ensured the success of all aspects of our departmental mission. She will be greatly missed.

Nyan-Ping Bi

Bi Laoshi, as she was known to her students and colleagues, joined AL&L as a Lecturer of Chinese in 2000, following teaching appointments at Washington University, Mount Holyoke College, and MIT. She co-authored a popular series of Chinese language textbooks, and was a phenomenally skilled instructor who brought out the best in her students. She was the first faculty member in AL&L to be promoted to the rank of Teaching Professor (then called Principal Lecturer), in 2017. In 2016 she received the high honor of being inducted into UW's Teaching Academy with the Distinguished Teaching Award.

Prem Pahlajrai

Originally trained in computer engineering and design, Prem came to the University of Washington in the early 2000s to study Indic texts and philosophy. He received his MA here in 2005 and his PhD in 2013. As a student teaching assistant, Prem taught Hindi from 2002 to 2006, and was appointed as Senior Lecturer (now Associate Teaching Professor) in 2007. In

addition to his skill as a language instructor, Prem taught popular courses in philosophy and texts, including "Introduction to Indian Philosophical Literature" and "Karma and Free Will in Indian Philosophy."

William G. Boltz

Bill Boltz taught in the department starting in 1981, teaching early Chinese texts and civilization, as well as Classical Chinese language. A renowned scholar whose research had a major impact on his field, his expertise in excavated manuscripts, textual history, and early Chinese script provided students with unique and valuable training that set the University of Washington apart from other programs in Chinese language and history around the country. His grammatically rigorous introductory Classical Chinese course equipped generations of students, in a multitude of fields, with the skill to accurately read and make use of pre-modern Chinese texts in their research and teaching. His book *The origin and early development of the Chinese writing system* (1994) remains a vital study for researchers engaged with early Chinese script and texts.

IN MEMORIAM

David Allen Stone (M.A. 2009) died September 30, 2022, after a valiant two-year battle against non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

As a student in the department, David won the Yen Fu Translation Prize in 2006 and completed his Master's thesis, "Merely Because of This: A Study of Three Stories from the Sanyan," under the direction of Prof. Chris Hamm.

David graduated from the University of Georgia and then traveled to Harbin, China, where he met his future wife, Weiguang Cui, while teaching English and studying Chinese. After completing a Master's degree at St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico, he returned to Shenyang, China, to teach and study. Now married, David and Weiguang returned to Washington, DC, where David worked for the East Asia and Pacific division of Voice of America, then moved to Seattle, where he completed the Master's degree in Chinese literature and worked in linguistics for the technology industry.

After being diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, David selflessly participated in experimental trials and contributed to lymphoma research through Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and the University of Washington Medical Center. Memorial gifts, in lieu of flowers, may be made to the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Research, online at <http://www.fredhutch.org/memorial> or mailed to Fred Hutch, 1100 Fairview Ave N, Mail Stop J5-200, Seattle, WA 98109. Please include David Allen Stone's name with your donation.



THE PAPER TIGERS By Prof. Chris Hamm

Every other year for over sixteen years now, Professors Chris Hamm (AL&L) and Yomi Braester (Cinema and Media Studies, adjunct appointment in AL&L) have co-taught “Asian Martial Arts Film”—a lecture course on one of the most distinctive and internationally visible expressions of Asian popular culture. While Profs. Braester and Hamm both focus their research on Chinese culture, the course undertakes a broader view, encompassing kung fu classics from Hong Kong, recent mainland Chinese blockbusters, Japanese “samurai cinema,” irreverent reimaginings of the period film from Takeshi Kitano, and the impact of these films on global cinema from Bollywood to Hollywood. The entertainment factor is high; but the films also provide a lively point of entry into questions of film history, cinematic technique, genre, and global culture.

The structure of the course has evolved over the years. Enrollments, responding to student demand and to vicissitudes of scheduling and room availability, have ranged from 140 to 250 students in any given iteration. In the early years of the course, all films—two a week—were screened in Kane Hall. More recently, these spirited live screenings have given way to the practicality of on-demand streaming via Canvas. The COVID pandemic has inescapably shaped the design of the

course as well. In the most recent iteration, in Autumn 2021, the biweekly lectures were also prerecorded and made available online; but the instructors still held optional in-person meetings once a week in Kane Hall, with special highlight reels and open discussion.

The content of the course has continuously evolved as well. Films that were new (or at least recent) when the course was first offered have now become relics released before most of the enrolled students were even born! So while some classics from the original syllabus remain—*The Chinese Connection*, starring one of the UW’s most famous alums, Bruce Lee; Kurosawa’s cinematic masterpiece *The Seven Samurai*; *The Matrix*, which both embraces the conventions of Hong Kong action film and marries them to sci-fi—other films and the units into which they are integrated have shifted over the years. The changes reflect changing audience (and student) tastes, the increasing globalization of the film industry over recent decades, and the mainstreaming in popular culture of what was once a “niche” genre.

The most recent addition is *The Paper Tigers*, a martial arts movie shot on location in Seattle and Shoreline, ushered into the syllabus in Autumn 2021 with a special screening and a panel with the local filmmakers, Bao Tran and Al’n Duong.



Al’n Duong, Chris Hamm, Bao Tran, Yomi Braester

The Paper Tigers is a 2021 action comedy telling the story of three middle-aged ex-martial artists brought back together by the death of their old master, a teacher in Seattle’s International District. Writer and first-time director Bao Tran, a graduate of Seattle University, has worked for years as a film editor and action director. Producer Al’n Duong, a Seattle-based producer and consultant in the film and gaming industries, is a graduate of the UW’s own DXARTS program. The two joined the class for a special session in December 2021, attended in person by students and streamed live for members of the UW community. In conversation with the instructors and in response to questions from members of the audience, they offered their insights into a wide range of issues: their careers as independent film-makers; the nuts and bolts of putting together an independent film, from fundraising and casting to choreographing and shooting fight scenes; the balance they sought between drawing on the conventions of classic martial arts cinema on the one hand, and telling a story about contemporary society and the experiences of actual martial artists on the other; the limitations and opportunities of working in a genre heavily associated with Asian stereotypes; and the particular challenges faced by Asian Americans working in the US film industry. For Profs. Hamm and Braester, *The Paper Tigers* makes unique contributions to the course, showcasing the most recent expressions of a nearly century-old tradition and linking what students study in the classroom to career paths they themselves might choose to follow.

ASIAN 207/CMS 272, Asian Martial Arts Film, will be offered again in Autumn 2023. *The Paper Tigers* is available for viewing on Netflix!



The filmmakers Al’n Duong and Bao Tran discuss the film and their careers with Professors Braester and Hamm

WASHIN KAI (FRIENDS OF CLASSICAL JAPANESE) By Paul Atkins

Washin Kai launches endowment



Consul General Inagaki and guests, including AL&L faculty and Washin Kai steering committee members

Washin Kai, also known as Friends of Classical Japanese at UW, has launched an endowment to support the teaching and study of classical Japanese in perpetuity. The Washin Kai Endowed Program Support Fund, created with a generous initial donation from Leslie Yamada and the late Dr. Tadataka Yamada, will support a broad range of activities, including fellowship funding for graduate students, who represent the rising generation of scholars and teachers in classical Japanese language, literature, and culture. The founding of the endowment was celebrated at a reception held August 12th at the official residence of the Honorable Hisao Inagaki, consul general of the consulate-general of Japan in Seattle. In addition to representatives of Washin Kai, guests giving brief remarks included Dianne Harris, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Jeffrey Riedinger, vice provost of global affairs; Zev Handel, department chair; and Paul Atkins, professor of Japanese. Dean Harris and Consul General Inagaki ceremonially broke open a barrel of sake, brewed locally by Shirafuji Sake, to mark the event.

Nobuko Horikawa named Washin Kai fellow

Nobuko Horikawa, Ph.D. candidate in Japanese, was awarded the Washin Kai 2022-23



Graduate Fellowship and a UW Presidential Dissertation Fellowship. These awards will allow her to complete her dissertation, a study of the Sinitic poetry of the Japanese Zen abbess Taisei Seian (1668-1712). She spent summer 2022 in Tokyo conducting research at the National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL) and visiting archives and temples with the help of a UW International Research and Study Fellowship.

Upcoming and previous events presented by Washin Kai

Readers with an interest in traditional Japanese architecture should save the evening of April 19, 2023 for two talks on the Katsura Detached Palace (Katsura Rikyū) in Kyoto by Professor Paul Atkins and Professor Ken Tadashi Oshima of the College of Built Environments at UW. The program will be moderated by local architect and Washin Kai member Hiroshi Matsubara. For more information, please see the department website or washinkai.info.

Washin Kai presented "What is Haiku?," a lecture by Professor Paul Atkins, on the evening of October 19 at Kane Hall. It was followed by a roundtable including remarks by the haiku poets Mitsuko Miller and Scott Oki and moderated by Bruce Rutledge.

During the pandemic, Washin Kai maintained an active schedule of events, thanks to the blessings of videoconferencing. These included a performance of Rakugo by Katsura Sunshine presented online with Town Hall (October, 2020), the lecture "*Hyakunin Isshu* and the world of Japanese medieval poetry" by Paul Atkins (March, 2021), Professor Atkins' lecture "What is Noh?" (September 2021); and a performance of noh drama by the Tokyo-based actor Takeda Munenori and company in October 2021. Videos of past events may be viewed online at washinkai.info or the department's YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/user/UWAsianLL>.

GENDER AND THE HINDU GODDESS



Kali, 1986, Ink and color on paper; **Baua Devi**, Indian, born 1942; Private collection, T2021.23.10 (with permission)

This past Winter, Professor Heidi Pauwels taught a class "Gender and the Hindu Goddess" (RELIG 456), during which the students were treated to a virtual visit (and an in-person one for those who wanted) to the Seattle Asian Art Museum's special exhibit "Embodied Change: South Asian Art Across Time." The students were given the option to write a final exhibition essay in lieu of the usual research paper, with the possibility of it being selected for the "Object of the Week" website of the Seattle Art Museum. Several availed themselves of the opportunity and the winner was Ji In, an undergraduate student in the class.



Ji In

She wrote a strong essay on a Kālī image (shown above) from the folk tradition of Mithila, called Madhubani.



Professor Davinder Bhowmik (back row, 4th from L) with colleagues at the “Okinawa’s ‘Reversion’: 50 Years On” workshop

OKINAWA’S ‘REVERSION’: 50 YEARS ON



Musical guests Mako and Munjuru perform for the “Okinawa’s ‘Reversion’: 50 Years On” workshop

Associate Professor of Japanese Davinder Bhowmik hosted a workshop from May 12-14, 2022, “Okinawa’s ‘Reversion’: 50 Years On,” to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the historic May 15, 1972 ‘reversion’ of Okinawa to Japan from the United States. Professor Bhowmik invited an interdisciplinary and international group of Okinawa Studies scholars to present research that considers the reversion movement and its aftermath.

Ten scholars—from North America, Europe, and Japan—discussed the ongoing legacies of Okinawa’s colonial history, which began in the early 1700s with the Satsuma clan’s invasion of the Ryūkyū Kingdom, and was followed by imperial Japan’s annexation of the region in 1879, the trauma of the Battle of Okinawa in 1945, and decades of American occupation, which continues today in the form of a massive concentration of U.S. military bases in Japan’s poorest prefecture. Scholars in attendance included Linda Angst, Alan Christy, Ikue Kina, Laura Kina, Wendy Matsumura, Christopher Nelson, Yuichiro Onishi, Victoria Young. UC Santa Cruz graduate student Alexyss McClellan-Ufugusuku also participated actively. Musical guests Mako and Munjuru performed a variety of songs on the traditional Okinawan *sanshin*, a three stringed instrument. In addition to support from the Asian Languages and Literature Department, the funding for the workshop came from the UW Japan Studies program, The Simpson Center for the Humanities, The East Asia Center, and the departments of History, Art History, and American Ethnic Studies.



“Okinawa’s ‘Reversion’: 50 Years On” workshop participants

TAKAHASHI ENDOWMENT AND AWARDEES



Thanks to the generosity of George Takahashi, the Takahashi Endowment is able to support a number of graduate students pursuing degrees in Japanese literature, culture, or linguistics.

2022-2023 AWARDEES:

Grace Anne Barber

Parker Cassidy

Tzu-Lu (Lulu) Hung

Daniel Ofori-Dankwa (deferred admission to Autumn 2023)

Wenyue (Evangeline) Zhang

DEPARTMENT OF ASIAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE
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Katsura Rikyū (photo by KimonBerlin (cc-by-sa-2.0))

WASHIN KAI LECTURE ON THE KATSURA DETACHED PALACE

Ken Oshima, Professor, Department of Architecture
Paul Atkins, Professor, Asian Languages and Literature

April 19, 2023 7:00 – 8:30 PM, GOWEN HALL 301

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL ANDREW L. MARKUS MEMORIAL LECTURE

Michel Hockx, Professor of Chinese Literature, University of Notre Dame

Monday, May 8, 2023 5:00 – 8:00 PM, KANE HALL 225

Registration required (see Upcoming Events at asian.washington.edu/news)

ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE CONVOCATION AND RECEPTION

Friday, June 9, 2023 3:30 – 6:00 PM LOCATION TBD

For information on how to support the department and to see a list of giving opportunities, visit our donations page at asian.washington.edu/support-us.

Asia Notes is the annual newsletter of the Department of Asian Languages and Literature in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Editor: Kirk L. Van Scoyoc

We'd like to hear from you!

Send comments, feedback, or corrections to Kirk L. Van Scoyoc (asianadv@uw.edu).

For address and subscription changes, contact asianadv@uw.edu.

If you would like to discuss targeted donations to the department, please contact the Chair directly at asianllchair@uw.edu.



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