

# Asia Notes

2023-2024

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From left to right: Collett Cox, Richard Salomon, Cris and Melissa Upton Cyders, Joseph Marino, and Zev Handel celebrate the new endowed professorship in Buddhist Studies

## NEW ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP JOE MARINO NAMED TO ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP IN BUDDHIST STUDIES

*Thanks to the generosity of Cris & Melissa Upton Cyders, the Department of Asian Languages & Literature has established an endowed faculty position starting Autumn 2023: the Cris & Melissa Upton Cyders Professorship in Buddhist Studies.*

The purpose of the endowment is to strengthen and enhance the Buddhist Studies program in the department. The first holder of the professorship will be Assistant Professor Joseph Marino, who has been directing the Buddhist Studies program following the retirements of Profs. Collett Cox and Richard

Salomon. In addition to granting prestige to the program and the holder of the professorship, the endowment will provide funding that can be used for research, student support, and program support. This will ensure that Buddhist Studies research and teaching at UW will continue to have a significant and growing impact across the state,

*continued on page 5*



Joe Marino, Collett Cox, and Zev Handel

# Asia Notes

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The Department of Asian Languages and Literature traces its founding to 1909, as the Department of Oriental History, Literature, and Institutions. Its current name and incarnation date back to 1969. Sanskrit was part of the department's language offerings from the beginning. Chinese and Japanese language instruction began in the 1920s.

Today the department provides instruction in ten languages spanning all of Asia and grants degrees that combine instruction in language, linguistics, literature, and culture. We offer five undergraduate majors, seven undergraduate minors, six masters degrees, and seven doctoral degrees. These degrees are administered through five internal "programs": configurations of faculty organized by geographic area. The five programs are South Asian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Southeast Asian.

But despite the expansion that has taken place over the last century, the department's roots still exert a strong influence. Only three of the five programs offer graduate degrees: South Asian, Chinese, and Japanese. Korean language instruction began here in the 1940s, and Thai language instruction in the 1960s. But despite the many decades in which we have had scholars and teachers specializing in Korean and Southeast Asian languages, these two programs have held secondary status in the department — until now. In the last few years, several exciting developments have catalyzed these two areas of our department and paved the way for future growth.

In early 2022 we established the first tenure-track research professor position in Southeast Asian with the hire of Assistant Professor Nazry Bahrawi. At the same time, we hired a second teaching professor of Vietnamese to accommodate the robust growth in our Vietnamese language program. In one fell swoop the faculty in the Southeast Asian program doubled in

size, and the department began to pursue a strong research agenda in Southeast Asian literature and to offer courses in literature and culture. This has enabled the Southeast Asian program to enrich its course and degree offerings, foster deeper connections with faculty and students who work on Southeast Asia in other units across campus, and begin laying the groundwork for enhanced degree offerings in the future. Beginning this Autumn, the department will be offering Khmer language courses for the first time. (Until now, the Khmer language program has been housed in the Jackson School of International Studies.)

Our Korean program has had an active research component for decades, but with only one tenure-line faculty member, it has not been possible to maintain a graduate degree program. Now the Korean program is growing rapidly. In Autumn 2021 we created a new position in Korean film studies with the hire of Assistant Professor Ungsan Kim, strengthening the program's research agenda and forging new ties with Cinema and Media Studies, Taiwan Studies, and Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies. (See "New Faculty" on page 10 of the Autumn 2022 issue of Asia Notes). As demand for our Korean language courses continues to grow, we have added a new teaching professor in Korean, Dr. SeaHee Choi, beginning this autumn. The Korean program is now well positioned to develop new MA and PhD programs.

This welcome re-balancing of the department's regional programs is not happening in a vacuum. Across the country there has been a growing academic interest in Korea and Southeast Asian cultures, partly as a corrective to past over-emphasis on what Western scholars saw as the dominant cultures of Asia: China, Japan, and India. Beyond academia, global trends have raised the cultural profile of Southeast Asia and Korea on the world stage. And at the University of Washington, shifting demographics are driving changes



in language course enrollments and increasing demand for courses in literature and culture, focusing not just on Asia today and in the past, but also on the current Asian-American experience.

As chair of the department, I'm excited to witness and support these dynamic developments. And I'm eager to see where our talented faculty and students will take our Southeast Asian and Korean programs over the next decade.

With best wishes for the 2023-2024 academic year,

**Zev Handel**  
Department Chair  
Professor of Chinese  
September 2, 2023

*Note: 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 study of 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 lives in Seattle with his wife and son.*



## ZEV HANDEL PROVIDES VIDEO GAME AGE OF EMPIRES IV WITH ANCIENT CHINESE PRONUNCIATIONS

If you know Chinese and have played Age of Empires IV, the real-time strategy game released in 2021 by Relic Entertainment, you may have been surprised by the language spoken by the denizens of the medieval Chinese empire during the Tang Dynasty. It doesn't sound like any kind of Chinese spoken today.

That's because it isn't.

In Age of Empires IV, the player can take charge of one of eight world "civilizations", developing the military and the economy to advance their empire through four "ages" spanning centuries. One of those civilizations is Chinese. The game begins in the Tang dynasty (618–907), advancing through the Song (960–1279), Yuan (1279–1368), and Ming (1368–1644) dynasties.

A key innovation in the game is that the language spoken changes along with the passage of time. In the English module, the language advances from Old English (the language of Beowulf) to Middle English (the language of Chaucer) to Early Modern

English (the language of Shakespeare). The game makers enlisted the help of historical linguists and specialists in pre-modern language and literature to generate the voiceovers for the game.

"I was approached in 2018, to ask if I would be able to provide ancient Chinese appropriate to each era that the game was set in," says Handel. "It was an exciting opportunity. I'm in a pretty esoteric field, historical Chinese phonology. I'm fascinated by ancient pronunciation and have never lost my sense of wonder that we have the tools to recover it with some degree of accuracy. But it's not something that has any practical application, so I never thought anybody outside of a small circle of scholars would have a use for it."

Over the last century, linguists have analyzed various kinds of textual evidence in order to reconstruct Chinese pronunciations at different times in history. The first thing Handel had to do was decide which published reconstructions best aligned with each of the game's four ages.

With the assistance of some simple computer programs, Handel then generated ancient pronunciations, in phonetic notation, for the scripted sentences that the game company provided. A more significant challenge was delivering the pronunciations in a way that could be emulated by the voice actors.

"I had to make a series of compromises, in discussion with the folks at Relic. Historical accuracy had to be balanced against practical considerations, and also production deadlines. The private sector has a different relationship with deadlines than academia.

"One of the compromises involved grammar and vocabulary. For expediency,

Pinyin (Modern Mandarin)	Character	Early Mandarin	Old Mandarin	Late Middle Chinese	Early Middle Chinese
jiǔ	酒	ziǔ	tsiw	tsiw	tsuw
jiǔ	久	giǔ	kiw	kiw	kuw
jiǔ	就	ziǔ	tsiw	tsfiw	dzuw
jiǔ	舊	giǔ	kiw	kfiw	guw
jū	舉	gū	ky	kyǝ	kiǝ
jū	據	gū	ky	kyǝ	kiǝ
jū	懼	jū	ky	kfiyǝ	guǝ
jué	覺	güé	kjaw	kjawk	kæwkw
jué	決	güé	kqé	kjyat	kwet
jué	絕	zúé	tsqé	tsfiyat	dzwiat
jué	掘	güé	kqé	kfiyat	guat
jūn	軍	gūn	kyn	kyn	kun
jūn	君	gūn	kyn	kyn	kun
kāi	開	kāi	k <sup>h</sup> aj	k <sup>h</sup> aj	k <sup>h</sup> aj
kāi	凱	kāi	k <sup>h</sup> aj	k <sup>h</sup> aj	k <sup>h</sup> aj

Some of the language data compiled by Zev Handel for use in Age of Empires IV

these are all based on modern Mandarin. It's only the pronunciations that are changing over time. Even so, you get a real sense of how much Chinese has changed over the centuries when you listen to the progression. The earliest pronunciations, in what we call Early Middle Chinese, aren't really understandable by anyone. But by the time you get to the early Mandarin of the Ming dynasty, it's clearly something closely related to what is spoken in northern China today."

As an example, here's the way the word "enemy troops", which is *díjūn* in Modern Standard Chinese, looks in the notation that Handel provided for each of the four stages:

Early Middle Chinese: *dejk kun-*

Late Middle Chinese: *thiajk kyn<sup>-</sup>*

Early Mandarin: *ti' kyn<sup>-</sup>*

Nearly Modern Mandarin: *dí gūn*

In the end, Handel generated over 3,000 lines of dialog, spoken by villagers, archers, monks, horsemen, foot soldiers, scouts, and a variety of other specialized military roles. He then recorded all of them as a model for the voice actors, since phonetic notation isn't easy for people to read if they haven't been trained in linguistics. He doesn't know how many of the lines ended up in the game, but it's a lot. "I'm not a gamer, but of course I was excited to try it out. It's pretty wild to hear these animated video-game characters bringing the sounds of ancient Chinese to life."



A family member plays the Chinese civilization in Age of Empires 4



# Asia Notes

## 2023 CONVOCATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY AND RECEPTION

Asian Languages and Literature's annual Convocation and Awards Ceremony and Reception was held on Friday, June 9 in Kane Hall on the UW campus. Approximately 200 people attended, including graduating students, family, friends, faculty, staff, and special guests. This year the department awarded 61 BAs, 11 MAs, and three PhDs. The Convocation Remarks were given by Robin Leong, a UW alum who has worked in Asia and the U.S. as a film and television actor/producer, Kung Fu master teacher, and children's book author. Robin spoke about his life journey and its lessons for our graduates. The student Address to Graduates was given by Grayson Modica, who earned a BA in Japanese and History. Special guests in attendance were the Consul General of Japan in Seattle, Hisao Inagaki with his wife Yuki, the Consul General of the Republic of Korea Eunji Seo with her staff member Kyonghee Baek, and several members of Washin Kai – Friends of Classical Japanese. Our annual student awards were presented, and a reception followed in the Walker-Ames Room.



Robin Leong, Davinder Bhowmik, Amy Ohta, and Grayson Modica



2023 BA recipients

## 2023 GRADUATE DEGREES AND AWARDS

### MASTER OF ARTS

John Aguilar  
Grace Anne Barber  
Ruiming Cash  
Chris Chesbro  
Elizabeth Mitchell Fitterer  
Hung-Yun (Stephanie) Liu  
Sihan Ma  
Zhifan Sheng  
Ami Tanahashi  
Yifan Wu  
Anjali Yadav



2023 MA recipients

### CANDIDATE IN PHILOSOPHY

John Carlyle  
Liyao Chen  
Benjamin DeTora  
Grainger Lanneau

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Corbett Costello  
Nobuko Horikawa  
Rie Tsujihara

### SCOTT H. SWANER MEMORIAL BOOK AWARD

Philip J. Kim

### DISTINGUISHED TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARD

Ami Tanahashi

### HENRY S. TATSUMI SCHOLARSHIP

Daniel Hance  
Grayson Modica  
Rory Eric James Weseloh

### TURRELL V. WYLIE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Nobuko Horikawa



## CHINESE FLAGSHIP NEWS



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP  
Creating Global Professionals

*Five UW Chinese Flagship Students, Philip Kim, Alyssa Kuraishi, Reanna Wong, Gabriela Unguez and Monita Keo, have successfully completed their Capstone Year in Taipei through the Flagship Overseas Center.*

Alyssa is now pursuing her MA at American University in D.C., and Reanna is pursuing her PhD at the School of Optometry at U.C. Berkeley.

Two more UW students, Alicia Ing and Ronya Tan, are now in Taipei for their Capstone Year!

**Alicia writes:** Over the next ten months,



Alicia Ing

I hope to deepen my understanding of my own cultural background as a Chinese-American, and how to leverage this in the international workspace. Through

finding an internship within the corporate social responsibility (CSR) field and building professional fluency in Mandarin, I hope to build momentum towards my goals post-graduation: bringing more awareness to the diversity within Chinese-speaking communities, and championing representation for women of color in business leadership.

**Ronya writes:** Being a product of the



Ronya Tan

Chinese diaspora and generations of refugees has given me a passion for bridging communities together. Through this capstone project in Taiwan, I not only hope to improve my Chinese skills, but to also develop professional skills around immigration that I can bring back after I graduate. I hope to further explore the different immigration issues and aspects of the Chinese diaspora in Taiwan. My aim during this year abroad is to have a deeper understanding of the different minority communities that exist in Taiwan and how they all interact with each other. I hope to find innovative ways to improve the immigrant experience in the US. After I

graduate, I hope to use my skills to pursue a career in immigration advocacy in Seattle. As the Chinese diaspora has extended greatly around the world, the Chinese skills that I have developed here and in the future will allow me to connect with more people within different immigrant communities.

graduate, I hope to use my skills to pursue a career in immigration advocacy in Seattle. As the Chinese diaspora has extended greatly around the world, the Chinese skills that I have developed here and in the future will allow me to connect with more people within different immigrant communities.

*The University of Washington Chinese 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) 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 Chinese Flagship Programs around the nation.*

## NEW ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP *(continued from cover)*

the country, and the world.

In addition to the endowed professorship, the donors have also generously supported graduate students in Buddhist Studies over the last three years through their Husky Buddhist Studies Fellowship.

A celebration was held on September 29 to thank the donors and to honor Prof. Marino. Speakers included department chair Zev Handel, Profs. Cox and Salomon, and recent Buddhist Studies MA Elizabeth Fitterer, as well

as Cris and Melissa. Prof. Marino spoke about his research and future plans. We are excited about the opportunities this professorship will afford to Buddhist Studies, South Asian languages and literature, and the entire department as we carry this vital area of study forward into future decades. We are proud of the connections that our Buddhist Studies program has forged with local communities, and are grateful for the support of friends and donors like Cris and Melissa.



Cris Cyders, Elizabeth Fitterer, and Richard Salomon



## FACULTY NEWS

**Paul Atkins**, Professor of Japanese, presented papers at four conferences: "The Brokerage of Literary Labor and Capital in Late Medieval Japan" at the Modern Language Association (MLA) annual convention in San Francisco; "Reading China in the *kanshi* of Zekkai Chūshin" at the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) annual meeting in Boston; "Reconsidering the Authenticity of *Hyakunin issshu*" at the III Congreso Internacional de la Asociación Española de Estudios de Asia Oriental (AAEAO) in Salamanca; and "The Genesis of *Hyakunin issshu*" at Asian Studies Conference Japan (ASCJ) in Tokyo. With Nobuko Horikawa (PhD '23), he was one of 14 co-authors of the article "Lunar eclipses illuminate timing and climate impact of medieval volcanism," published in *Nature*, vol. 616, pp. 90–95 (2023). He received a Third Book Fellowship from the UW Simpson Center for the Humanities to complete his annotated translation of the classical Chinese poems of Zekkai Chūshin (1336-1405), a medieval Japanese Zen abbot.



Dr. Nazry with Prof. Randall C. Kyes and his wife at the UW Converge alumni event in Jakarta

**Nazry Bahrawi**, Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Literature and Culture, was appointed Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for Spatial, Environmental and Cultural Politics at University of Brighton, UK between April and June 2023. There, he conducted a work-in-progress seminar on Alfred Russel Wallace's racial and animal taxonomies of Southeast Asia and two workshops on Southeast Asian decoloniality as well as animal folklores of the Malay Archipelago. In addition, he helmed a workshop on speculative fiction for creative writers at Singapore's National Gallery on August 21. He presented his chapter

'From Grime to Shine: The Gentrification of Singapore's Vernacular Literature' published in *Of Peninsulas and Archipelagos: The Landscape of Translation in Southeast Asia* (2023) edited by Phrae Chittiphalangsari of Chulalongkorn University and UW's own Vicente L. Rafael at the launch of the book in Bangkok on August 25. Professor Nazry represented the department at the Converge conference for UW Alumni in Jakarta between August 11 and 15. He also met with faculty members of Ateneo de Manila University in the Philippines to explore collaborations.

**Jennifer Dubrow**, Associate Professor of Urdu, presented an invited lecture, "The Prose Poetry of Partition: Saadat Hasan Manto's *Siyah Hashiye* (Black Margins) and Formal Experimentation," at the University of Michigan. Her essay "Saadat Hasan Manto and the Poetics of the Urdu Short Story" is forthcoming in *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Indian Literatures*, which will be published online and in print. Prof. Dubrow also received a Curriculum Development Grant from the South Asia Center to support development of her new course, "Partition Literature and Film." She organized and served as discussant on a Book Roundtable on Preetha Mani's *The Idea of Indian Literature: Gender, Genre, and Comparative Method* (2022) at the Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin, for which she delivered prepared comments.

**Ungsan Kim**, Assistant Professor of Asian Cinema, published an article titled "Cruising the Art Museum: On the Migration of Queer Experimental Cinema in South Korea" in *JCMS* in June, 2023. In the same month, he also published a Korean translation of Judith Butler's book, *What World Is This?: A Pandemic Phenomenology* with Changbi Press. This is the third Korean translation of Judith Butler's books by Prof. Kim. In addition, Prof. Kim was invited by the English Department at Seoul National University and delivered a lecture on queer Asian media as well as led seminars for 2022 SNU CORE Overseas Scholar Guest Lecture & Block Seminar in October, 2022. He also gave a presentation titled

"Collapsing Words: Language, Media, and Translation in Decision to Leave (2022)" at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference in Denver in April, 2023. In June, 2023, he presented a paper titled "A Skeleton in the Closet: Ghostliness, Repurposing, and Queer Temporality in Kim Dujin's Digital Media Arts" at the Association for Asian Studies in Asia Conference in Daegu, South Korea. On July 2, 2023, he was invited by the Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival and spoke on "Folklore and Horror Film in Asia and Korea: Locality, Tradition, Folklore, and Violence" as a roundtable speaker.

**Chan Lü**, Associate Professor of Chinese, published two peer-reviewed journal articles in 2022. Two graduate students in her Bilingual and Biliteracy Research Lab, Jieyu Zhou and Yifan Wu, presented at the 2023 annual meeting for the American Association for Applied Linguistics in Portland; one undergraduate student from her lab, Xinyue Cui, presented her work at the 2023 UW Undergraduate Research Symposium. Former members of her lab also went on to graduate schools to study related fields: Ashley Xiao (UW 2022) to UPenn's Graduate School of Education; Jasmine Xie (UW 2022) to Northeast University; Alan Li (UW 2022) to Gonzaga University and Xinyue Cui (UW 2023) to Oxford University. Chan also embarked on a trip to Mainland China in February 2023, as soon as the P.R.C. opened up. The trip was for her research project "Multilingualism and biliteracy in Central China", funded by the China-US Scholars Program (CUSP). Dr. Lü was one of the 13 U.S. scholars to have received this award and was one of the few to have been able to travel to Mainland China post-COVID. While there, she gave two public lectures at Hunan University, her host institution.

**Amy Snyder Ohta**, Professor of Japanese, was promoted to the rank of Professor in September. She is planning a research trip to Japan in December to study Japanese language development of JET program participants. Professor Ohta published the article "Casual Friday: Organizational Change, TA Development, and





**Rie Tsujihara and Amy Ohta**

Linguaculture Learning in an Advanced-Beginning Multi-Section Japanese Language Course” in *Language and Sociocultural Theory*. She also has a book contract with Routledge for a coauthored book: *Concept-Based Language Instruction: Usage-based linguistics and sociocultural theory in teaching Japanese*, coauthored with Kyoko Masuda and Rie Tsujihara (UW PhD, 2023).

**Kaoru Ohta** has been promoted to the rank of Teaching Professor in Japanese. He is also the first teaching professor in the department to take a sabbatical. During his sabbatical, Professor Ohta developed materials for first-year Japanese to deepen cultural connections and student-centered learning. The highlight of the sabbatical was a trip to Japan, funded by Japan Studies and the East Asia Center, where Prof. Ohta visited three of our exchange partners: the Hokkaido International Foundation in Hakodate, Hokkaido University in Sapporo, and Rikkyo University in Tokyo. These visits served to support our inter-institutional relationships as well as provide an opportunity to discuss post-pandemic study abroad trends. While in Tokyo, Prof. Ohta did on-the-ground research for his course, Virtual Tokyo (Japan 412), through site visits.

**Heidi Pauwels**, Professor of South Asian Studies, published the article “Rethinking the Early Sufi Romance: The Case of Cāndāyan” in *International Journal of Hindu Studies*. During Spring Quarter Prof. Pauwels organized an informal reading group of the famous Classical Hindi version of the story of the Rāmāyana by the 16th-17th century poet Tulsīdās, sometimes referred to as the Bible of North Indian Hinduism. This was occasioned by the new publication of a reading guide featuring selections from the text (by Rupert Snell and Neha Tiwari), and the upcoming exhibition that features folios of a famous

illustrated manuscript from the Ramnagar (opposite Benares) royal library. Students enjoyed reading the texts with sneak peeks of the images courtesy American Institute of Indian Studies. Highlight of the class was learning to chant the verses in the musical style common in Benares (where Tulsīdās lived part of his life) during a visit from Professor Philip Lutgendorf (retired from University of Iowa), who has written



**EunYoung Won, Jeanne Choi (UW Informatics '23), SeaHee Choi, Jeongha Park (Oneworld Now)**

extensively about the “Life of the Text”. Professor Lutgendorf also shared insights from his recent translation of the whole work for the Murty Classical Library of India Series.

**EunYoung Won**, Associate Teaching Professor of Korean, and **SeaHee Choi**, Assistant Teaching Professor of Korean, participated in the UW GenCyber Korean Cybersecurity Summer Camp, as lead instructor and instructor, respectively. The program was hosted by UW's Language Learning Center, and was funded by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the National Science Foundation (total grant of \$117,190). The first GenCyber camp focused on Korean culture and language, this dual language stem camp was developed to allow high school students in the US to become familiarized with the principles of cybersecurity while learning and improving their Korean language skills. The program consisted of two weeks of pre-camp (semi-synchronous) and one week of in-person camp; both were successfully completed with full enrollments. The camp participants enjoyed learning through various lectures and hands-on activities (in Korean and English) related to cybersecurity, as well as guest speakers from Microsoft, Doosan Corporation, and the NSA.

## FAREWELLS

### Yen Kim Nguyen

In light of growing demand for modern Vietnamese language courses, the Department of Asian Languages and Literature hired Dr. Yen Kim Nguyen as Assistant Teaching Professor of Vietnamese more than two years ago to help us expand our offerings. Between the Winter 2021 and Spring 2023 quarters, Dr. Nguyen taught Vietnamese at first year non-heritage and heritage, intermediate, and advanced levels, proving herself to be an instrumental part of the early years of responding to our students' increased interest in Vietnamese and Southeast Asian courses. Dr. Nguyen has since returned to Hanoi to work for the Faculty of Vietnamese Studies and Language at Vietnam National University. The department would like to thank her for her crucial contribution. We wish her success in her future undertakings.



### Anna Schnell

Anna Schnell earned her Bachelor's degree with Asian L&L before spending over half a decade serving the Asian L&L community in several staff roles, most recently as the department's Program Coordinator. A talented illustrator and comic artist, she brought warmth and character to even the simplest correspondence with faculty and students alike with personalized doodles that represented all her colleagues. Anna helped create a real sense of family and camaraderie. She is now fulfilling her dream of studying in the Tokyo Metropolitan Area in the prestigious Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies. Powered by undying ambition that saw her through many challenges, there is no doubt that she will find much success and continue to grow in her light novel translation pursuits. She will be greatly missed, but we can look forward to her return in autumn of 2024 to finish her graduate degree.

## ALUMNI NEWS

### *Three South Asian Program alums took part this summer in the Tenth Early Hindi / Braj Bhasha Workshop 2023 held at Brijuni, Croatia.*

Organized by Biljana Zrnica of the Department of Languages and Cultures, Ghent University and running from 15 through 25 July, the workshop brought together leading experts from India, Europe and North America to facilitate specialist readings of early modern texts in a hybrid format. **Anne Murphy** (MA, now Chair of Punjabi Studies at UBC, Vancouver), **Robin Rinehart** (BA and MA, now Professor at Lafayette College) and **Heidi Pauwels** (PhD, now Asian L&L faculty) reminisced fondly about their classes with now-retired Professors Michael Shapiro and Richard Salomon, which laid the basis for their scholarly work in this area.

**Sariah Burdett** (BA, Korean and Asian Languages & Cultures, 2022) is the Program Coordinator for the UW Department of French and Italian Studies (FIS). Sariah says, "After graduating in 2022, I joined FIS at UW to continue my passion for language education. The position allows me to work with students and faculty with similar passions and has given me the ability to pursue my own language study post-graduation. I now have the ability to continue studying Korean, Japanese, and now Spanish with UW and surrounding community colleges."

**Charles Cox** (BA, Chinese, 1997) is Vice President, Engineering and Supply Chain for Ampd Energy in Hong Kong. Charles has lived and worked in Mainland China since 2003, most of the time living in China. He moved to Hong Kong with his family in 2013. Charles has held positions with increasing responsibilities managing product development and production in Asia.

**Evan Miller** (BA, Japanese, 2018) Since graduating, Evan has been taking JLPT



Anne Murphy, Heidi Pauwels, Robin Rinehart

tests every December in order to work for Japanese companies in America as an interpreter. He is now studying to take level 2 of the JLPT, and planning to take JLPT 1 next summer in Tokyo. Evan is also working on getting certified as an interpreter through the Department of Health and Social Services in Olympia to work as both a social services interpreter and a medical interpreter. Evan says, "I love Japan and its culture, so I am a big fan of things like manga, anime, and Nintendo. Sports too."

**Arden Taylor** (MA, Japanese literature, 2021) has just begun the PhD program in Classical Japanese literature at the University of Edinburgh and will also work as a tutor in Asian History there. Arden says, "I am very excited to work with Professor Helen Parker, who runs a research group on expressions of femininity in classical theater, as my own focus is the shifting identities of privileged masculinity as expressed in warrior noh plays."

**Kokoro Terukina** (BA, Japanese, 2020) worked most recently in the King County Prosecutor's office and has just started law school at the UW this year.

**Kai Xie** (PhD, Japanese literature, 2017) has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure at Kenyon College. Since graduating from the UW, Kai has been directing the Japanese program and teaching courses in Japanese language, literature, and culture at Kenyon College. With research interests and background in both Japanese and Chinese literature, Xie is especially interested in how "China" was conceptualized, transmitted, mediated, and manipulated by Japanese authors within their literary creations. She has published articles in peer-reviewed journals such as *Japanese Language and Literature* and *Asian Theatre Journal*. She is currently working on a monograph that examines the juxtaposition, interaction, and integration of what Japanese authors conceived of as "Japanese" and "Chinese" elements within linked verse compositions of Japan, spanning from the 14th to the 17th centuries.

## NEW ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES TRACK FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The department faculty recently approved a new pathway (or "track") to the MA and PhD: the Asian Languages and Cultures Program. The program offers flexible degree tracks to students whose academic interests are not currently met by existing graduate programs within the department. Students are encouraged to apply to the Asian Languages and Cultures MA or PhD program if they aim to focus on fields including but not limited to (1) transregional and interdisciplinary studies (such as Asian film and cultural studies), (2) fields that currently do not have a program-specific MA or PhD track (such as Korean and Southeast Asian studies), and (3) fields that are not covered by existing tracks in a specific program (for example, Japanese/Chinese linguistics and art).

A group of faculty members in the relevant fields that the student is interested in will form a preliminary supervisory committee at the time the department considers offers of admission. The supervisory committee will consist of a minimum of two faculty members for the MA program and a minimum of three for the PhD program.

Once admitted, the preliminary supervisory committee will be formalized and the student will propose a set of specific courses for the committee's approval to satisfy either the MA or the PhD requirements for the Asian Languages and Cultures track.



## NEW FACULTY



### SeaHee Choi

SeaHee Choi, Assistant Teaching Professor of Korean, received her PhD in 2021 in Linguistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-

Champaign, where she also earned a certificate of Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education (SLATE). Prior to joining the University of Washington, she worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Korean in the department of Asian Studies at Vassar College. At Vassar College and the University of Illinois, she taught different tracks and levels of Korean language courses, receiving student praise and an award for her teaching. Dr. Choi specializes in second language acquisition/bilingualism and Korean linguistics, and her research focuses on identifying sources of difficulties for second language learners in acquiring their target language and how to overcome these challenges. She also investigates various aspects of Korean, particularly phenomena related to the syntax-semantics interface in Korean. Her work has been published in conference proceedings, edited books, and peer-reviewed journals such as *Second Language Research*, *Applied Psycholinguistics* and *Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism*. At the University of Washington, she will be teaching quiz sections of first-year Korean in 2023-2024 as well as KOREAN 442A: Special topics in Korean language and Culture in Autumn 2023.

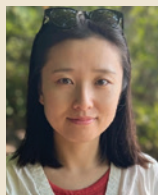


### Diep Le

The Southeast Asian program welcomes Dr. Diep Le as Lecturer in Vietnamese for the academic year 2023-24. She comes to AL&L with

extensive pedagogical experience, having taught Vietnamese language courses remotely at the Arizona State University, in hybrid format for the University of Wisconsin-Madison and in-person at the

University of Washington between 2007 and 2008, to name a few. Dr. Le received her MA and PhD in Comparative Linguistics at University of Social Sciences and Humanities at Ho Chi Minh City in 2010 and 2019 respectively.



### Xi Ma

Xi Ma joins the Chinese Program as Assistant Teaching Professor in Autumn 2023. Xi holds a doctoral degree in Second Language Acquisition,

a master's degree in teaching Chinese as a second language, and a K-12 teaching licensure, each from the University of Iowa. Since 2008, Xi has been teaching Chinese at both collegiate and K-12 levels. She served as the Chinese language curriculum coordinator at Fordham University in New York and a visiting instructor in the Chinese program at University of Iowa. She has also served as curriculum consultant and head instructor for the STARTALK programs in Iowa from 2017-2023. Her interests are curriculum design, Chinese pedagogy, and pedagogical grammar. Xi is teaching CHIN 101 for non-heritage learners in Autumn 2023, an introductory-level course in Mandarin Chinese targeting learners with little or no prior learning experience.



### John Park

John Park joins the department as a temporary Part-Time Lecturer in the Korean Program. John received his BA in Comparative

Literature from the University of Michigan in 2006 and PhD in Comparative Literature from Princeton University in 2020. His research interests include the modern Korean novel, aesthetics and politics, and philosophy and literature. He has written about comparative thinking in the PMLA and the relationship between architecture

and literary form in the *Journal of Korean Studies*. His book *Prosaic Times* examines the relationship between literary style and temporality and will be published by Bloomsbury Press in December 2023. Before moving back to the Seattle area in 2022, he taught at the Mercer County Community College, the Baruch College of the City University of New York, New York University, and Princeton University. At Princeton, he taught a course entitled "Literature and Religion: Christianity in Korean and Korean-American Novels and Films." As his partner and brother are both Huskies, he is excited to teach this course at the University of Washington in the Autumn quarter. We hope there will be more opportunities in future for Dr. Park to contribute to our Korean curriculum.



### Gian Rominger

Gian Duri Rominger joins the Chinese Program as Assistant Professor. He studies early Chinese literature, intellectual history, and data science

in the humanities. His current research focuses on the history of cultural and literary production in China during the Warring States period and early imperial China, while also integrating data science approaches into philological research.

His current project, Aural Texts and the Association of Sound and Meaning in Early China, examines the soundscape of early Chinese texts, especially from the third to first centuries BCE. This project analyzes the widespread presence of poetic structures in early literary texts and philosophical treatises, as well as how sound in language use is employed to express conceptual and ontological connections valid for ancient language users. Additionally, the project parses these poetic structures – long obscured by the nature of the Chinese writing system – by reapplying findings from historical linguistics, rendered as data,

*continued on page 10*

# Asia Notes

## NEW FACULTY

(continued from page 9)

to a large corpus of historical texts. He also leads a cluster of projects that apply Natural Language Processing (NLP) and text analysis to early and middle Chinese texts, including training an NLP model based on Medieval Chinese data.

A native of Switzerland, he earned a BA and MA in Sinology from the University of Zurich, earned his PhD from Princeton University in November 2023, and has held fellowships with Princeton's Center for Digital Humanities.

Professor Rominger will offer the following course in Fall 2023: ASIAN 498 D / TXTDS 403: Early Chinese Texts and Their Datafication



**Luoth Yin**

The Southeast Asian program welcomes Luoth Yin as Part-Time Lecturer in Khmer for the academic year 2023-24.

Luoth has been teaching

the Khmer language at the University of Washington since 2011. He holds an MA in Creative Writing from Southern New Hampshire University, which he earned in 2017, a BA in Journalism and Mass Communications from Ashford University, obtained in 2012, and a BA in Political Science from Seattle University, awarded in 1986. Luoth is also a published poet and writer, with a portfolio of works in the Khmer language, including 'Land of Tears' (1998), 'Drifting Clouds' (2005), 'Deep Wistfulness' (2005), 'The Heart's Legacy' (2006), 'Lives in this World' (2008), and 'Drizzling Rain' (2008).

Prior to his teaching career, Luoth served in various roles for the Cambodian government, USAID, Asian Counselling, and Referral Services.

## STAFF NEWS: NEW STAFF!



**Belle Arkham,**

Department Coordinator, earned her Bachelor's degree in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies with a Minor in Japanese at the

University of Washington before relocating to the Kansai region of Japan for nearly a decade. While abroad, she worked with the Kobe Board of Education helping to develop a pilot program and speaking skill assessments for ESOL in public elementary schools with a focus on bilingual instruction. She returned to the US in 2020, when she shifted into education administration. She nurtured her curriculum development skills by building a four-level Japanese program at a local private school focused on 1:1 education for students with special needs. She joined the Asian Languages and Literature team in 2023, achieving a longtime goal of working for her alma mater. Belle enjoys a lively performance art life and continues to teach Japanese with the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington when she isn't in the office passionately supporting the department.



**Amanda Kristine**

**Burks,** Interim Program Coordinator, holds a degree in Business from the UW Milgard School of Business and has a background in

administration and marketing. In her free time, she likes to cafe hop, plant shop, indulge in golfing and is a self-proclaimed hot pot connoisseur. Amanda Kristine has a music bug and enjoys karaoke nights. She used to write lyrics, sing and play piano for talent shows and coffee shops during her teenage years as she is also a "retired" National Anthem singer. Amanda Kristine loves exploring the West Coast, but she also enjoys visiting her family and friends in the Philippines and Vietnam. She plans to pursue recruitment and marketing projects with English teaching

centers/schools in those countries. In the US she enjoys working in the administrative side of academia, as she is passionate about student engagement and wants to contribute to student success.



**Nathan Loggins** joined the department in October as the Chinese Flagship Program Coordinator. He lived abroad from 2010-2013, teaching English at

universities in Beijing and Dalian in China, and assistant-teaching for the JET Program in rural Kagoshima, Japan. In 2013, he came to the University of Washington to pursue a PhD, where he took a wide array of classes related to Asian Studies, Chinese and Japanese, and taught courses in Linguistics, English, and Asian Languages and Literature. He completed his dissertation in 2022, on the topic of language contact and mixed languages in minority areas along China's historical and cultural borders with Tibet. He lives in Seattle with his wife and two cats, and enjoys following music, film and literature from China, Korea and Japan.



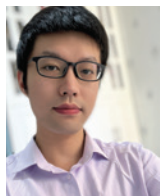
**Frances Zielonka,**

Department Administrator, received her MA in Chinese literature and BA in Chinese from our department, where

she was the recipient of the 2008 Yen Fu Translation Prize and the 2009 Scott H. Swaner Memorial Book Award. Frances was most recently the UW Chinese Flagship Program Coordinator, where she managed the Department of Defense-funded scholarship program and advised undergraduates. Prior to joining the department as staff, she was a longtime digital, brand, and product strategy consultant. Born in Taipei and raised on the West Coast, Frances is also a painter and R&B vocalist. She shares her life with her husband Ryan.



NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS



**Yunhui Gao**

BA, Chinese Language and Literature, Anhui Normal University

MA, Chinese Philology, University of Chinese

Academy of Social Sciences

Research Interests: Chinese Dialectology, Comparative and historical syntax, Historical Linguistics, Language contact



**Will Gershman**

BA, Japanese language and literature, Carleton College, 2022

Research Interests:

Japanese, Japanese online culture, Language Pedagogy, Literature, Localization of Japanese Popular Media, Translation and Interpretation



**Bauhinia Ho**

M.Phil., Literature, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Research Interests:

Diaspora Studies, Modern Chinese Literature, Popular Culture, Sinophone Studies, Vernacular Cantonese Literature



**Lisa Jiang**

BA, Global Japanese Studies, Meiji University Tokyo, 2023

Research Interests:

Japanese Media and Literature



**Raechel Kundert**

BA, Japanese, Linguistics, Asian Languages & Cultures, University of Washington, 2021

Research Interests:

Comparative Linguistics; Culture; Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies; Japanese Language acquisition; Linguistics; Mongolian



**Jonathan Laiman**

BA, Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Houston, 2023

Research Interests:

Buddhist Manuscripts, Buddhist Studies, Early Buddhism, Meditation, Philology, Philosophy, Sanskrit



**Nicholas Malik**

BA, Japanese, University of Washington, 2021

Research Interests:

Culture, Japanese, Literature, Translation



**Jordan Niver-Johnson**

B.S. Biological Sciences, SUNY Oneonta

Research Interests:

Comparative Literature, Contemporary Japanese Literature, Language Pedagogy, Linguistics, Localization, Translation



**Daniel Kobina Ofori-Dankwa**

M.S., Computer Science, Michigan State University

Research Interests:

Japanese, Manga and Comics Theory, Twi language

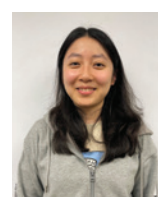


**Aidan Seipke**

BA, Japanese, University of Vermont, 2022

Research Interests: Film/Cinema, Hibakusha Experience, Japanese

Modern Literature, Translation and Interpretation, War Literature



**Qinwei Shi**

BA, Japanese, Tongji University, 2023

Research Interests:

Culture, Japanese Literature, Popular Culture



**Haruki Shimonagane**

BA, Chinese, University of Washington, 2023

Research Interests:

Chinese, Early and Medieval China, Literature, Premodern Asian Studies



**Linjia Weng**

BA, Chinese Language and Literature, Fudan University, 2020

MA, Linguistics, Fudan University, 2023

Research Interests: Chinese, Chinese dialects, Historical Linguistics, Old Chinese, Phonology, Proto-Min

## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Three of Asian L&L's Japanese Program MA students are spending the 2023-2024 academic year in Japan to work on their Japanese language skills in intensive programs: **Tzu-Lu (Lulu) Hung**, **Anna Schnell**, and **Wenyue (Evangeline) Zhang** are at the Inter-University Center (IUC) in Yokohama.

**Tetiana Andriuk** (Japanese Program) is doing research related to Japanese Language Teaching at Kyoto University for the academic year. The program is called "Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program" and Tetiana will be receiving a Research Student Scholarship for the research as well as advanced Japanese language courses.

**Juan Felipe Arroyave** (Japanese Program, Japanese language TA) has won two awards in the last year: the FIUTS Ogawa Award, an award recognizing students actively promoting US-Japan cultural exchange and understanding, and the Kasai-Buerge Scholarship in Japan Studies, a fund created by two UW alumni that supports students with an interest in, or connection to Japan to deepen understanding between Japan and the United States. Juan Felipe also had a busy summer! In June, he traveled to Salamanca University with his adviser Professor Paul Atkins and presented a paper at the 3rd Congreso de la Asociación Española de Estudios de Asia Oriental, the biggest of its kind for Hispanic scholars of East Asia Studies. In July, Juan Felipe worked as a program leader for the Smithsonian Institute's Exploration Japan Student Travel Program, leading a group of American middle and high school students to some of the major cities in the country, visiting the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, spending a night at a Buddhist temple in Koya san (Wakayama prefecture), seeing Todai-ji (and the deer!) in Nara, and visiting the Studio Ghibli Museum in Tokyo. In August, he volunteered as a lecturer for Komatsu Summer School's 10th (and unfortunately final) iteration. This bilingual summer camp, held in a rural area of Ishikawa prefecture, attracted high school students from all over Japan

who were eager to engage with liberal arts topics in English, and figure out pathways for sustainable development in Japan. Juan Felipe says, "On a professional level, KSS gave me the chance to teach in Japan for the first time, and take a closer look at classroom dynamics and student expectations. On a personal level, it allowed me to connect with many fantastic individuals, not only those in the Japanese and American volunteer groups, but the high school students themselves."

**Liyao Chen** (Doctoral Candidate in Chinese, Chinese language TA) presented "Logography versus Phonography: Literature Review and Arguments" at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Western Branch of the American Oriental Society, and "The Adaptation and Use of Sinograms in Korean hyangga Poems" at the 233rd Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society.

In August, **Chris Chesbro** (Chinese Program) completed his thesis, titled "Character Amnesia: A Sociolinguistic Study on the Different Effects in the Decline of Handwriting Literacy of Chinese Characters," and earned his MA degree in

Chinese. He plans to petition to proceed to the PhD program at UW and some other universities. Chris says, "Presently, I'm back in Portland, Oregon, working while trying to stay sharp on all that I've learned over the past two years at AL&L."

**Ying-Hsiu Chou** (Doctoral Candidate in Chinese) has received the Young Scholar Award from the China Times Cultural Foundation. Established in 1986, the China Times Cultural Foundation is committed to fostering and promoting academic endeavors in Chinese culture and related studies. The prestigious Young Scholar Award is designed to support emerging scholars in North America as they pursue original research in Chinese studies within the humanities and social sciences. This scholarship will further Ying-Hsiu's research on the figure of the Romantic Male in Modern Chinese Popular Culture. Her dissertation illuminates the intricate landscape of competing masculinities in modern China. Her work not only challenges conventional narratives surrounding Chinese masculinity but also offers alternative, more nuanced stories of gender dynamics in modern China.



Chris Chesbro (center) with Professors Chan Lü and Zev Handel



## SOUTHEAST ASIAN PROGRAM NEWS

*In the Spring 2023 quarter, the Southeast Asian program applauded the Department of Asian Languages and Literature's (AL&L) approval to incorporate Khmer as its third language offering alongside Indonesian and Vietnamese.*

Khmer is the official language of Cambodia and is spoken by about 18 million people worldwide. At the University of Washington, Khmer language courses have garnered strong interest from the American Cambodian community judging from enrollment figures. Currently offered as elective courses by the Center for Southeast Asia and its Diasporas (C-SEAD) at the Jackson School of International Studies, Khmer language courses will be progressively phased into our department's offerings over the next few quarters. This development is the happy result of several rounds of discussions between administrators from AL&L, C-SEAD, American Ethnic Studies and the deans of the Humanities and Social Sciences divisions within the College of Arts and Sciences—all of whom share the belief that Khmer will flourish at our department in the company of our other Southeast Asian languages, Indonesian and Vietnamese.

Ying-Hsiu has also written a paper titled "Girl Friends and Boy Friends: Exploring Alternative Models of Masculinities and Femininities in Modern Chinese Magazines" that has been accepted for the 2024 Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference, which will take place from March 14 to 17 in Seattle, Washington. As part of her dissertation project, titled "The Deorbiting Planet: The Romantic Male in Modern Chinese Popular Culture," the paper is a pioneering scholarly exploration into the intriguing dynamics between a unique pair of magazines from pre-war Republican-era China (1911-1937), *Ladie's Friend* [sic] and *Boy's Friend* [sic]. These magazines refract a deviant alliance of the "Girl Friends" and the "Boy Friends," whose boundary-pushing experiments with gender roles and relationships offer radical alternatives and open up new possibilities.

**Grainger Lanneau** (Doctoral Candidate in Chinese) says, "During the summer I went to Vietnam with a FLAS fellowship. I continued to study Vietnamese and I took courses on Vietnamese Historical Linguistics in Vietnamese. I spent time with old friends/teachers/colleagues such as Nguyễn Kim Yến, one of our former UW Vietnamese instructors, and new teachers/colleagues/friends such as Bùi Duy Dương, Professor of Historical Linguistics at Vietnam National University. On my way back from Vietnam I stopped by Taiwan where I met with Yao Yuwen 姚瑜雯, an old friend and former Chinese teacher of mine from UCLA. I also stopped by Japan where I met Shimizu Masaaki 清水政明, a professor at Osaka University who researches Sino-Vietnamese. Overall, it was a fulfilling summer where work and play went hand in hand.

**Sam Patwell** (Chinese Program) was granted a Blakemore Freeman Fellowship to study in Taiwan at National Taiwan University's International Chinese Language Program for the 2023-2024 academic year.

**Zhifan Sheng** (Chinese Program, Chinese language TA) presented two papers: "Printing Letter Collections in Late Qing China: Calligraphy, Biography, and Lithography" (at the 2023 Annual Meeting



Grainger Lanneau (center) with friends/teachers/colleagues in Vietnam, including former AL&L instructor Yen Kim Nguyen (far left)

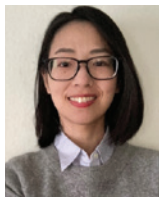
of the American Comparative Literature Association) and "Qiu Miaojin and the Affective Memories of Queer Death" (at the 2023 AAS-in-Asia conference).

**Anjali Yadav** (South Asian Program) was the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS) Senator for the department for 2022-2023. Yadav graduated with a Master's from the department in Spring 2023. During the Summer of 2023, she attended the American Institute of Indian Studies' (AIIS) language program in Sanskrit, held in Pune, India. Yadav also put together a roundtable titled "Khabar Lahariya" or "Writing with Fire: Whose Story it Really Is?" at the 50th Annual Conference on South Asia (ACSA) held at U. of Wisconsin-Madison between October 19-22, 2022. She also presented a paper, "A Sant of One's Own: Religious Appropriation of Kabir between 1600-1800 CE" at the South Asia Conference of the Pacific Northwest (SACPAN) hosted at the University of Washington, Seattle between May 5-6, 2012. She is set to present her paper, "Of Wells, Premchand, and Dalit Feminism: Formation of Dalit Political Identity in Modern Hindi Literature" at the 51st ACSA scheduled for October 2023.

# Asia Notes

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: NOBUKO HORIKAWA

**Nobuko Horikawa** (PhD 2023, *Classical Japanese Literature*) had a big year in 2022-2023.



Nobuko was the recipient of the Washin Kai Fellowship for 2022-2023, which provided full funding for her final year as a graduate student, including

support for summer 2022 travel to Japan to do research for her dissertation. She also received a Fritz Fellowship (UW Graduate school's International Research Fellowship) to supplement the Washin Kai funding for the summer research. She declined the Washin Kai fellowship for the autumn quarter because she also won the Graduate School's Presidential Dissertation Fellowship, which provides funding for one quarter of a PhD student's final year. During spring break, she gave a panel presentation on her dissertation topic at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) in Boston. Nobuko and her committee chair/adviser Professor Paul Atkins were co-authors, with an international team of researchers, of "Lunar eclipses illuminate timing and climate impact of medieval volcanism," published in *Nature* on April 5. The article describes how medieval records, including Japanese records from the poet and scribe Fujiwara no Teika in the early 13th century, have allowed researchers to narrow down the probable



dates and intensity of volcanic eruptions in medieval times.

In the spring, she won the UW Graduate School's 2023 Distinguished Dissertation Award.

The title of Nobuko's dissertation is "The Sinitic Poetry of the Zen Abbess Taisei Shōan (1668-1712)," and her supervisory

committee reflects its interdisciplinary scope: Paul Atkins, committee chair and professor of classical and premodern Japanese literature; Davinder Bhowmik, associate professor of modern Japanese literature; Ping Wang, associate professor of Chinese literature; and Joseph Marino, assistant professor of Buddhist studies. In his nomination letter, Prof. Atkins wrote, "The dissertation breaks new ground in the fields of early modern literature, literature in Chinese by Japanese authors, literature in Japanese by women authors, and monastic literature. Due to the dearth of printed sources and previous scholarship, Nobuko has conducted archival research *in situ* in Japan, transcribed some sources herself, and translated texts that have never been annotated before, much less translated." Because Nobuko's dissertation falls within the current year's fields of competition for the Council of Graduate Schools/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award, the Graduate School has submitted it as the UW's institutional nomination for this prestigious recognition.

Nobuko successfully defended her dissertation and graduated in June. At our Convocation and Awards Ceremony, she was presented with the 2023 Turrell V. Wylie Memorial Scholarship for outstanding students in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature. In the summer, Nobuko continued at Asian L&L as a Temporary Lecturer in Japanese. She is now an Assistant Teaching Professor of Japanese at Seattle University.

Congratulations on a great year,  
Dr. Horikawa!



## FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2023-2024

### KHYENTSE-HUSKY BUDDHIST STUDIES FELLOWSHIP

Jonathan Laiman

### LI FANG-KUEI AND HSU YING GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN CHINESE LINGUISTICS

and

### PANG HSIN AND CHEN CHI TING GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN CHINESE LINGUISTICS

Grainger Lanneau

### MAURICE D. AND LOIS SCHWARTZ GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

Bauhinia Ho

Anjali Yadav

### TAKAHASHI FELLOWSHIP

Raechel Kundert

Nicholas Malik

Daniel Ofori-Dankwa

Kaiyin Zhang

### UW GRADUATE SCHOOL TOP SCHOLAR AWARD

Aidan Seipke

### UW SIMPSON CENTER SECOND AND THIRD BOOK FELLOWSHIPS (FACULTY)

Paul Atkins (2023) *Annotated Translation with  
Critical Introduction of Shōkenkō, Selected  
Poems of Zekkai Chūshin (1336-1405)*

Davinder Bhowmik (2022) *Off Base: The  
Rhetoric of Peace in Japan's Military Basetown  
Literature*

Ping Wang (2022) *Nature Re-configured: Early  
Medieval Chinese Literary Culture and the  
Least Read Major Poet, Xie Lingyun (385-433)*

## IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened to pass on the news that **Harold ("Hal") Schiffman**, for many years a professor of Tamil in the UW's Department of Asian Languages and Literature, died on December 14, 2022, at his home in Haddonfield, New Jersey. He was 84 years old at the time of his passing. Hal was born in Buffalo, New York in 1938. He earned his BA (in German and French) from Antioch College and his MA (in Slavic and Dravidian Linguistics) and PhD (in Dravidian Linguistics) from the University of Chicago, where his teachers included A. K. Ramanujan and James McCawley. After a brief stint at U.C. Davis, Hal came to the University of Washington in 1967, where he remained until 1995, when he accepted a position at the University of Pennsylvania. While at the University of Washington, in addition to teaching a variety of courses in Tamil language, linguistics, and culture, Hal served in several instructional and administrative capacities. He was an adjunct faculty member in Linguistics and Anthropology. He served as Chair of Asian L&L from 1982 to 1987 and Director of the Language Center from 1994 to 1995. Hal was an internationally renowned scholar not only of Dravidian linguistics, but of language policy and language maintenance. He wrote grammars, reference materials, and linguistic studies of Tamil, Kannada, and the Dravidian language family. He had many publications on the sociolinguistics of South Asia. His studies of Tamil diglossia were well-known and respected. His book *Linguistic Culture and Language Policy* (1996) was a major and widely recognized contribution to the field of language politics. Hal was a dedicated and caring teacher, as well as a generous and thoughtful colleague and administrator. He will be greatly missed. Hal is survived by his wife Marilyn and son Tim.

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**Pang-Hsin Ting** (丁邦新), one of the late 20th century's most prominent scholars in Chinese dialectology and historical phonology, passed away on January 30 at the age of 85. He had a number of connections to the Department of Asian Languages and Literature at the University of Washington. Professor Ting was born October 15, 1937 in Rugao 如皋, in China's Jiangsu province. He moved to Taiwan following the Communist Revolution of 1945, where he earned his BA and MA degrees from National Taiwan University. He came to the University of Washington to pursue a doctoral degree under the eminent Chinese linguist Fang-Kuei Li (李方桂). After earning his PhD in 1972, he returned to Taiwan to take up faculty positions at National Taiwan University and Academia Sinica. After a period serving as Director of Academia Sinica's Institute of History and Philology, he moved to the University of California at Berkeley, where he held the Agassiz chair in Chinese linguistics during the 1990s. AL&L professor Zev Handel studied under Prof. Ting at Berkeley, earning an MA and PhD in Chinese linguistics. Prof. Ting then became Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Prof. Ting made major contributions to Chinese dialectology, historical phonology, and Sino-Tibetan comparative linguistics. His PhD dissertation, later published as *Chinese Phonology of the Wei-Chin Period: Reconstruction of the Finals as Reflected in Poetry*, remains an important reference on the early history of the Chinese language. He was also an accomplished literary stylist who composed Chinese poetry in the classical tradition. As the student of the late UW professor Fang-Kuei Li and teacher of current UW professor Zev Handel, Prof. Ting is part of a long and distinguished tradition of teaching and scholarship in Chinese linguistics at the Department of Asian Languages and Literature.



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### WASHIN KAI LECTURE

"From Chinese characters to Japanese kanji and kana: continuity and transformation"

Zev Handel, Professor and Chair, Department of Asian Languages and Literature  
**Wednesday, April 3, 2024 | 6:30 PM, Kane Hall 210**

### THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ANDREW L. MARKUS MEMORIAL LECTURE

Professor Hendrick Maier, Professor of Southeast Asian and Indonesian Literature, UC Riverside

**Monday, May 6, 2024 | 5:00 - 8:00 PM, Kane Hall 210**

Registration required (see Upcoming Events at [asian.washington.edu/news](https://asian.washington.edu/news))

### ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE CONVOCATION AND RECEPTION

**Friday, June 7, 2024 | 3:30 - 6:00 PM**

Location TBD  
by invitation only

'Pidan' (sacred banner) from Cambodia, Khmer, 1880-1910

SAVE THE DATE

*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.

Editorial Staff: Belle Arkham, Amanda Kristine Burks, Kirk L. Van Scoyoc, Frances Zielonka

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