

ASIAN NETWORKS

TRANSNATIONALISM, TECHNOLOGY, AND EQUITY

53RD ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC REGION ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE



University of
Pittsburgh

NOVEMBER 14 - NOVEMBER 16, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

PITTSBURGH, PA

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CONFERENCE TECHNOLOGY AND WIFI

WI-FI NETWORK: PITT GUEST WIFI
NO PASSWORD REQUIRED

If you need help setting up your presentation or if you encounter any issues, please find help at the technology help desk located on the floor of your panel.

**Please upload a
copy of your
presentation to
this link:**

<https://tinyurl.com/maraas2025>

Please scan QR
code to upload.



IN MEMORY OF

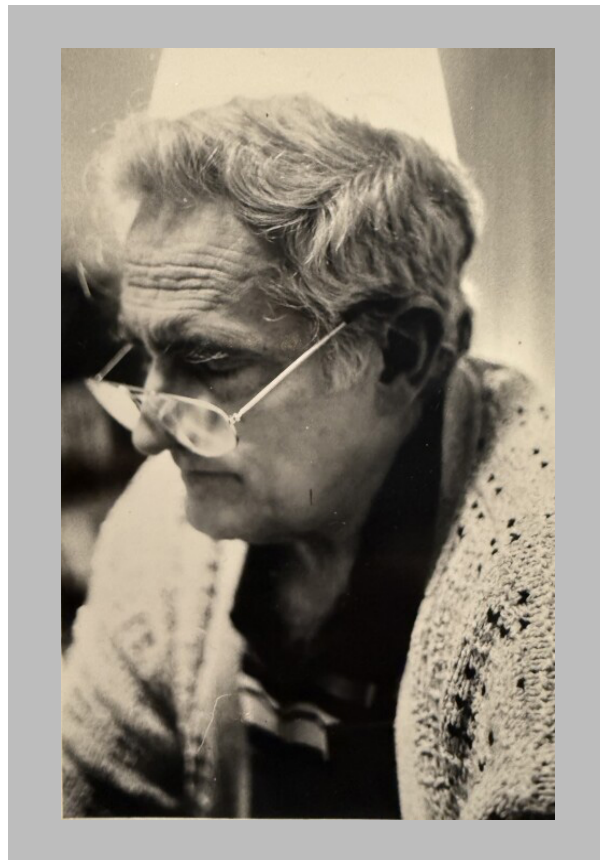
FREDERICK W. CLOTHEY

Dr. Frederick W. Clothey

(February 29, 1936 - May 18, 2025)

Survived by Ann, devoted wife of 63 years, occasionally frustrating but always loving children Phillip, Rebecca, Frederick M., Sharmali, and Fathima, daughters-in-law Gaby and Wendy, grandchildren Ari, Elijah, Anika, and Kyle, and numerous nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by sisters Dorothy Gransee, and Phyllis Roberson.

Fred W. had a brilliant mind and very successful academic career, having attended Kodaikanal International School (class of 1954), Aurora University for a B.A. and B.Th., Naperville Seminary for a B.Div, and the University of Chicago for an M.A. and P.h.D, leading to a career dedicated to the history of religions.



He taught in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Pittsburgh until his retirement as Professor Emeritus. He was the recipient of several awards, such as Distinguished Asianist from the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies, and four Fulbright scholarships. He wrote numerous books and scholarly articles and produced seven documentaries.

Despite this success, he remained a humble, honest, practical man with a gentle spirit, and for 80 of his 89 years, he was an unwavering Red Sox fan. Having spent decades living in India and travelling extensively influenced his worldview. His vision for the world was for everyone to be understood and to get along regardless of religious background, cultural background, or educational background. Given his practical nature, he instilled in us to take our corner, the one we could change, and make it the best corner possible.

It's exactly the example he set with his own corner, impacting so many people he met, taught, and loved. He will forever be missed, but our grief will never surpass the influence he had on those of us who knew him.



I am delighted to welcome you to the 53rd annual conference of the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies! We are thrilled to return to the University of Pittsburgh after ten years for what will no doubt be another highly successful and memorable conference. Its vibrant, urban campus boasts a thriving Asian Studies Center which offers certificates at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and expertise spanning East Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Linda Lieu, our site manager, and Dr. Kirsten Strayer, program manager for this year's conference. Linda, along with her team, has been instrumental in coordinating our panel rooms, catering, speakers, musical performances, and dozens of other details behind the scenes that make a gathering of this magnitude happen. As was the case in 2015, this year's conference is one of the largest in MARAAS history.

We are also grateful to the ongoing support of the Asian Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh: from Dr. Joseph Alter, Director of the Asian Studies Center, Dr. James Cook, Associate Director of the Asian Studies Center (and former conference site manager in 2015) and Dr. Jessica Sun, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs. Dr. Patrick Hughes, Interim Director of the National Coordinating Site for the National Consortium for Teaching About Asia (NCTA), planned and hosted the Teaching Asia Workshop, held in conjunction with the conference.

Our keynote address will be given by the Journal of Asian Studies editor Dr. Joseph Alter. Our Distinguished Asianist Award this year goes to Dr. Ruth Mostern and will be presented at the banquet on Saturday evening. Professor Mostern is well known for her work directing the Institute for Spatial History Innovation here at Pitt; her most recent monograph *The Yellow River: A Natural and Unnatural History* received the Joseph Levenson Prize from the AAS in 2023. This year we would also like to recognize the contributions of Dr. Fred Clothey, who for many years taught Religious Studies here at the University of Pittsburgh and was highly regarded for his ethnographic fieldwork and studies of religious practice in India. We are thrilled to honor all these distinguished scholars and educators this weekend.

As you attend the panels, please make note of outstanding graduate student presenters and nominate them for one of the MARAAS graduate student paper prizes on East, Southeast, and South Asia. Nomination forms will be available throughout the venue, or you may use the electronic submission via QR code in your program. The best of these papers will be selected as winner of the Marlene Mayo Graduate Paper Prize which also awards \$500 to the winner. The Mayo Prize winner is also eligible for participation in a panel at the annual AAS conference and will receive financial assistance for travel and accommodations to that meeting.

I am grateful for the service of our current officers and members of the advisory council and look forward to working further with our incoming president, Dr. Suzie Kim of the University of Mary Washington. Most importantly, thanks to each of you for attending the conference and sharing your research. Some of you have travelled great distances while others are based right here in Pittsburgh. I look forward to attending the wide and varied slate of panels this weekend and hearing about your scholarly work.

Erik Ropers
2025 MARAAS President



WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

FOR THE 53RD ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC REGION ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

A very warm welcome to the 53rd Annual Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies Conference!

Asian studies produces academic focus on a region of the world that is characterized by increasing strength and global influence, as well as tremendous diversity. This year, the MARAAS Conference brings together scholarship to examine how intra-regional connectivity, mobility, and global networks animate Asia and how the interdisciplinarity of Asian studies provides the intellectual architecture for understanding the world as an integrated whole. The call for papers generated tremendous interest with over 250 submissions, of which 156 were accepted. These have been organized into 35 panels and half a dozen poster sessions. Thank you all for joining us!

Under the University Center for International Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, the Asian Studies Center is a global resource for research and education about Asia, as well as a regional center for building Asian connections. In partnership with over one hundred affiliated faculty from across the university, we develop innovative research, foster community engagement, and create rigorous academic programming. Founded in 1969, the Center is widely recognized as one of the most comprehensive programs in Asian studies, with a focus on regional, transnational, and interdisciplinary scholarship.

The strength, reputation, and influence of the Asian Studies Center is based on the commitment and tremendous contribution of individuals and institutional partners here at the University of Pittsburgh, as well as nationally and internationally through the Association for Asian Studies. I would like to thank President Erik Ropers and the MARAAS Executive Committee for the work they have done to make this conference possible. Here at the University of Pittsburgh, Linda Lieu, Assistant Director for Partnerships and Programming, working closely and tirelessly with Dr. Kirsten Strayer, Christopher Kraemer, and Katherine Kwan, has done a tremendous job coordinating the Asian Studies Center team as a whole to organize the conference and prepare this program. I am very fortunate and grateful to work with such a dedicated team, including Associate Director, Dr. James Cook.

It is a great honor to serve as the host to this year's MARAAS Conference. As the regional conferences lead up to the annual international conferences of the Association for Asian Studies, I hope to see you in Vancouver, Canada in March of 2026 and in Karachi, Pakistan, in September of 2026 for AAS-in-Asia on the campus of the Lahore University of Management Sciences.

Thank you for your contribution to what I expect to be a highly productive and enjoyable conference!

Joseph S. Alter
Director, Asian Studies Center

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND PERFORMERS



DR. JOSEPH ALTER
Director of
The University of Pittsburgh
Asian Studies Center

Joseph S. Alter is the Director of the Asian Studies Center and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh. In this capacity he has co-edited (with Dr. Enrique Dussel Peters and Dr. James A. Cook) a volume entitled *Connecting China, Latin America, and the Caribbean: Infrastructure and Everyday Life*. He is also the editor of The Journal of Asian Studies (2021 – present). His research is on environmental health, the globalization of Asian medical knowledge, and the cultural history of Yoga’s development within the institutionalized structure of Nature Cure in contemporary India.

Current research concerns the practice of Nature Cure in contemporary India. The focus of the project is on the question of how health regimens – that involve such things as mud baths and hydrotherapy – produce an embodied ecology of being, and how distinctions of social class relate to the public health implications of this ecology as well as to the problems and politics of environmentalism.



DR. ERIK ROPERS
Director of
Townson University
Asian Studies and
International Studies

Erik Ropers is a historian of modern Japan. His first book, *Voices of the Korean Minority in Postwar Japan*, examines the ways in which Japanese-language scholars have understood and represented colonial Koreans subject to enforced labor and enforced military prostitution, as well as Korean victims of the atomic bombings in Japanese post-war historical writing.

Current projects include a book manuscript looking at visual representations of wartime Japan in Japanese comic culture, partly drawing on past research, and a second book manuscript examining the legal history of the Hanaoka Incident, its appearance at the Yokohama War Crimes Tribunal, and concomitant local memories of the Chinese uprising in rural Akita Prefecture.

Dr. Ropers serves on the executive board for the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies.



PITTSBURGH TAIKO
Performers

Pittsburgh Taiko is dedicated to bringing Japanese group taiko drumming (kumidaiko) to the city of Pittsburgh. Open to anyone interested in learning about the art form, we seek to educate members of the community about taiko and about Japanese culture through performances and outreach activities.

Pittsburgh Taiko performs both regional Japanese drumming styles arranged for the group and original compositions. In this way, we not only look to pass on knowledge of what has come before, but also work to create new possibilities for taiko performance.

2025 DISTINGUISHED ASIANIST

DR. RUTH MOSTERN

Ruth Mostern is Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Spatial History Innovation at the University of Pittsburgh and Vice President and President Elect of the World History Association.

She is the author of two single-authored books: *Dividing the Realm in Order to Govern: The Spatial Organization of the Song State, 960-1276 CE* (Harvard Asia Center, 2011), and *The Yellow River: A Natural and Unnatural History* (Yale University Press, 2021), winner of the Joseph Levenson Prize from the Association for Asian Studies in 2022.



She is also co-editor of *Placing Names: Enriching and Integrating Gazetteers* (Indiana University Press, 2016), and of a special issue of *Open Rivers Journal* (2017). In 2025, Ruth joined the authorship team of *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart* (Norton), the leading college textbook in world history. She is the author of more than thirty articles in peer-reviewed books and journals. Ruth is also Principal Investigator and Project Director of the World Historical Gazetteer, a prize-winning digital infrastructure platform for integrating databases of historical place name information.

Her research has been funded by entities that include the US National Endowment for the Humanities, the US National Science Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, and others. She has held visiting positions in China, Australia, and the United States. Ruth received her Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 2003 and was Founding Faculty at the University of California, Merced, where she spent 13 years before moving to Pitt in 2017. Her newest work in progress is a book entitled *Where We've Been: The Global History of Placemaking from Songlines to Satellites*.

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

5:30PM - 6:30PM	MARAAS Board and Academic Chairs Dinner	WWPH 4130
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5:30PM - 7:30PM	Opening Reception	Hillman Library 340
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:30AM	Light Morning Refreshments	WWPH Galleria
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8:15AM - 9:45AM	First Session of Panel Presentations	WWPH 1st, 3rd, 5th Floors
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9:55AM - 11:25AM	Second Session of Panel Presentations	WWPH 1st, 3rd, 5th Floors
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11:30AM - 1:00PM	Business Lunch organized by MARAAS	University Club
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1:15PM - 2:45PM	First 20 person Nationality Room Tour	Cathedral of Learning
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1:15PM - 2:45PM	Third Session of Panel Presentations	WWPH 1st, 3rd, 5th Floors
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1:15PM - 2:45PM	First Poster Presentation	WWPH 4130
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2:55PM - 4:25PM	Second 20 person Nationality Room Tour	Cathedral of Learning
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2:55PM - 4:25PM	Fourth Session of Panel Presentations	WWPH 1st, 3rd 5th Floors
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5:00PM - 6:00PM	Evening Reception	University Club
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6:00PM - 7:30PM	Distinguished Asianist Banquet	University Club
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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

8:30AM	Light Morning Refreshments	WWPH Galleria
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9:00AM - 10:30AM	First Session of Panel Presentations	WWPH 1st, 3rd, 5th Floors
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9:00AM - 10:30AM	Second Poster Presentation	WWPH 4130
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11:00AM - 12:30PM	Second Session of Panel Presentations	WWPH 1st, 3rd, 5th Floors
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1:00PM	Conclusion of Conference	Thank You!
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PRESENTATION PANELS

8:15 - 9:45 AM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

A1 - Asian Topics and Asian Voices in Rural American Places

WWPH 1501 | Karen Kingsbury

Karen Kingsbury, "Eileen Chang Grapples with Small-Town America"

Sophia Geng, "The China Monthly: Discovering A Distinctive Catholic Voice on China"

Sam Pack, "Not One of Us: Being Asian in Rural America"

A2 - Borderland Networks of Mobility and Identity in Twentieth Century Asia

WWPH 3415 | Peng Hai & Benno Weiner

Zachary Clark, "Moving Towards a City of Eternal Spring: Transregional Mobility and Militarized Infrastructure in Kunming's Urban Transformation"

Qianyu Ma, "Commemorating Chen Keli: The Collective Memory of Hui Community (1970-2013)"

Victoria Liu, "Tibetan-Owned Cameras and Newar Merchants: Photographic Encounters and the Politics of Social Presence in 20th Century Tibet"

Jamphel Shonu, "He Walks; She Waits: Trans-Himalayan Mobility and Intimacy in Lhasa"

A3 - Transnational and Translation: Moving Meaning

WWPH 3610 | Yuping Zhang

Ali Hassan, "Listening Across Borders: Ghazals, Cultural Memory, and Digital Audiences"

Raymond Kyooyung Ra, "Queerness as Epiphany: The Transnational Movement of Gay Dance 'Waacking' from the United States to South Korea Since the 1980s"

Zhinan Ji, "Constructing a Straits Chinese Public Discourse: Lim Boon Keng's Writing and Translation in the Straits Chinese Magazine (1897-1907)"

Edgar Legaspi, "Translating Culture Across Screens: Culturally Intelligent Storytelling as Narrative Infrastructure in Southeast Asia"

A4 - Negotiating Foreignness: Rethinking Religious Art

WWPH 5108 | Mengtian Bai

Aria Diao, "Lineage, Brotherhood, and Identity: An Unconventional Obaku Portrait of Mu'an Xingtao"

Mengtian Bai, "Beyond the Ogee Arch: Rethinking the Intersections of Identity in Quanzhou's Religious Tombstones"

Qinlin Li, "Employing Her Powers: Zhunti (Cundi) and the Tianningsi (1119)"

Discussant: Michelle McCoy

8:15 - 9:45 AM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

A5 - Teaching Across Cultures

WWPH 5200 | Mahua Bhattacharya

Jeffrey Grubbs, "The Lack of Theological Religious Context Within Non-Western Art History Books"

Grace (Yuxuan) Gao, "Choosing South Korea: What Makes South Korea's Education System Uniquely Attractive to Mongolian Students"

Masako Hamada, "Sophia Irwin, Founder of the Irwin School in Tokyo and Benjamin Franklin's Descendant"

A6 - Biopolitics, Technologies of Governance, and Media Environments in Modern East Asian Cultures

WWPH 5201 | Xiaohan Hou

Xiaohan Hou, "Debating the Ethics of Listening: Population Regulation, Media Technologies, and Transnational Encounters in Li Yongping's *The Eagle Haidong Qing* (1992)"

YuHao Chen, "In Error: Miscaptions of Frozen Hands"

Kate Zhou, "The Rise and Fall of a Cosmopolitanized and Sexual Revolution in China"

Yifan (Frank) Xu, "Militarization and Women's Underrepresentation in Japan"

A7 - Historical and Contemporary Negotiations of Asian Diasporic Postionalities

WWPH 5401 | James Cook

Marco Stefan Lagman, "Marriages, Births, and Transactions: The Chinese Presence in Bicol's Socioeconomic Life from the Late 1800s to the Early 1900s"

Michihiro Ogawa, "The Socioeconomic Activities of Jews and Parsis in the Development of Bombay City in the 19th Century"

Lance Collins, "Asians in the Kingdom of Hawai'i, Before and During American Occupation"

Discussant: Michael Liu

A8 - Mediating/Retelling Chinese and Japanese Mythology, Culture, and Literature

WWPH 5405 | Eleanor J. Hogan

Eleanor J. Hogan, "Retellings, Revisions, Translations: Stories from Japan and China Re-rendered"

Jing Li, "Chinese Animation, The 'National Style 2.0' and the Shifting Modes of Mythology Retelling"

Sasha Dudek, "Layers of Retelling: Intentional Unintelligibility in the Works of Tawada Yoko"

9:55 - 11:25 AM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

B1 - The Praxis of Yoga in Asia

WWPH 1501 | Sanghamitra Das

Joseph Alter, "Nature Cure and Yoga in Modern India: Public Health, Spirituality and Self Care"

Mahua Battacharya, "Gandhi's Satyagraha and Its Intimate Connections with Yoga"

Jeffery Long, "Yogas of Integration: Swami Vivekananda and Mahopadhyaya Yasovijaya in Dialogue"

B2 - War, Law, Lawlessness: Politics & the Military

WWPH 3415 | Hiroko Naito

Hiroko Naito, "Who Judges the 'Tigers'?: Focusing on the Judicial Processes of High-Ranking Officials' Corruption Cases"

Ken Ning, "Rescued Americans as Defenders of the Chinese Communists: The Political Spillover Effect of Wartime Humanitarian Operations"

Emily Craig, "Military Indigestion: Tasting the Korean War through An Analysis of Food and Sex Work"

Zakir Hussain, "Ladakh in the Direction of Equity After Article 370 Abrogation, but At the Cost of its Identity and Physical Environment"

B3 - Questions of Literature

WWPH 3610 | Seokwon Lee

Luzhi Xu, "A Study on the Relationship Between the Gaze and Tokyo Perception in Park Tae-won's Novels in the 1930s"

Seokwon Lee, "The American Minds: Race, Democracy and War in Pearl Buck's Asian America, 1931-1945"

Vibha, "Redefining Engagement with Fiction in India: A Study of Emerging Formats in AI-Generated Electronic Fiction"

Rachel McCoy, "Remembering Place: A Case Study of Nostalgia in Liang Shiqiu's Three Essays: "Ham" (Huotui 火腿), "Cuttlefish Eggs" (Wuyu Qian 乌鱼钱), and "Mixed Duck Feet" (Ban Yazhang 拌鸭掌)"

B4 - Violence and Non-Violence: Modes of Resistance

WWPH 5108 | Seung-Hwan Shin

Mashaekh Hassan, "Crossing the Line: Felani Khatun's Tragedy and the Gendered, Racialized Politics of the Bangladesh-India Border"

Xiao Ding, "Blaming the Outsider: Foreign Intervention Claims and Support for Protest in China"

Emily Rook-Koepsel, "Teaching Non-Violence: India's Political Pedagogy in a Post-Colonial World"

Yao Li, "Desiring the Undesirable: 白瘦幼 Aesthetics and the Gendered Machinery of Social Control in Contemporary China"

9:55 - 11:25 AM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

B5 - Asian Linguistics/ Transnational Pedagogies

WWPH 5200 | Mi-Hyun Kim

Nami Kim, "Effects of Asynchronous Pronunciation Feedback for Intermediate Korean Learners"

Diana Purwaningrum, "Indonesian Women's Language Practices and Heritage Language Maintenance in English-Speaking Countries"

Cody Hmelar, "Advocating for Language Preservation: Roles of the Institution of Higher Education on Language Acquisition for 2nd Generation American Non-Heritage Speakers"

Mi-Hyun Kim "Beyond Instructor Humor: Sharing Laughter in the Second Language Classroom"

B6 - Chinese Political and Social Networks

WWPH 5201 | Cecilia Chien

Matthew Douthitt, "Transnational Anti-Manchuism: Ethnicity and Revolution in the Chinese Diaspora"

Shen Qu, "In Transit: Chinese Diasporic Routes Between the Americas Through the Life of Paifeng Cheng"

Julian Cerminara, "China in a Can: Oriental Exoticism Within Mid-Century Advertising"

Cecilia Chien, "A Shanghai Family Association Blog: Family Instructions, Identity, and Intangible Cultural Heritage"

B7 - Spaces & Place in East and Southeast Asia

WWPH 5401 | Nicole Constable

Shikuang Han, "Revolution in Moderation?: Land Reform and Socialist Transformation in Rural Xinjian, 1949-1957"

Florian Zhang, "Shared but Differentiating Infrastructures: Burmese Exile and Chinese Sojourning in Chiang Mai's Transnational Urban Space"

Shreya Hari Nurani, "Temples as Thresholds: Political Patronage and Spatial Negotiation at Mahakaleshwar Temple"

Jiating Liu, "Mapping Sino-Southeast Asian Maritime Flows: Reconstructing Spatial Networks of Zhufanzhi in the Song Dynasty"

9:55 - 11:25 AM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

B8 - Music Across Media

WWPH 5404 | Frank Mondelli

Xinlei Wang, "Queering the Past on Stage: Korean Musical Fan Letter and Its Chinese Adaptation"

Mathieu Berbiguier, "K-Pop,

K-Nationalism and Multiculturalism in the Era of the Transnational: The Making of a Narrative through Children Educational Comics"

Elad Sobol, "Digital Musical Instrument Technology, The Materiality of Culture: A Case Study of Shanghai's Electronic Jazz Band +++++"

Jiting Cao, "Fan Economies and Cultural Hybridity: Reimagining Anime-to-Musical Adaptations in Shanghai"

B9 - Vietnam: Then & Now

WWPH 5405 | Kristy Kelly

Hien Do, "Discourse on National Identity through the Selection of Classical Literature in Vietnamese Textbooks After 1954"

Zhuoyu Zhang, "Legitimacy-Restoration Strategies in Authoritarian Regimes Under Economic Pressure: A Comparative Case Study of Vietnam and China"

Helen Van, "Haunting the Cyberspace: Buried Memory and the Specter of Indigenous Resistance in Upland Vietnam"

Patricia Norland, "Voices Missing from the War in Vietnam: Vietnamese Women"

POSTER PRESENTATIONS - WWPH 4130

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15: 2:55 - 4:25PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16: 9:00 - 10:30AM

Courtney Christensen, "Threads That Bind: Kogin-zashi and Hishi-zashi in Aomori Prefecture"

Kyunghee Pyun & Evelyn Jin, "History of Long Island through War Memorials"

Lucinda Morgan, "Pediatric Care Delivery in a Low-Resource, Multicultural Setting at Lao Friends Hospital for Children"

Dong Hoon Shin, "Historical Study of the Post-Mortem Examination Report of the Korean Empire"

Xiaowei Tang, "Digital Embodiment and Sensory Experience: Cultural Mediation and Reflexivity in Asian Museums from a Digital Anthropological Perspective"

Zihan Yuan, "Bodhisattva with a Camera: Reimagining Subjectivities in Contemporary Photography Portraiture with Buddhist Philosophy"

**C1 - Roundtable Discussion:
Crossroads of Innovation: A
Collaborative Dialogue on East
Asian Print Traditions and
Technology**

WWPH 1501 | Runxiao Zhu

Panelists: Runxiao Zhu, Dan Kaple,
Shannon Fink

**C2 - Enemies, Friends... Power in
East Asia**

WWPH 3415 | Paul Barclay

Jing Li, "Central Power and Regional
Control: The Shuffling of Senior Chinese
Communist Officials Between Yan'an and
the Outlying Base Areas, 1937-1945"

Paul Barclay, "The Tongzhou, Musha, and
Niko Incidents as Enemy-Defining Events"

Ningning Fong, "A Regretful Emperor:
Yelü Hongji and Buddhist Repentance"

Yi Meng Cheng, "The Devil in the Details:
A Bottom-Up Perspective of Mainland
China's 'Youdai Huaqiao' Policy During the
1950s and 60s"

C3 - Gender & Texts

WWPH 3610 | Kristy Kelly

Yu Stearns, "Indian Women and China
Daughters"

Rex Tsung-wei Lin, "Re-Situating Queer
Films in Taiwan New Wave Cinema
Movement"

Keyi Chen, "Politics of Term: 'Lao Deng
Films' as Gendered Film Criticism in
Chinese Digital Culture"

Arnav Bhattacharya, "Colonial India as
a Laboratory for Sexual Science: Tracing
the Global Historical Origins of Sexology
(1870s-1940s)"

**C4 - Women's Subjectivity in
Letters and Narratives**

WWPH 5108 | Yuqing Wang

Jing Xu, "Interrogating Illusory
Subjecthood: The Chinese Modern Girl in
Ding Ling and New Sensationist Fiction"

Yuqing Wang, "Text, Virtue, and Emotion:
Female Educational Pathways in *Dream of
the Red Chamber*"

Haruka Fuji, "Redefining Jōruri as a Means
of Education: Women's Morality and
Karukaya Dōshin Tsukushi No Iezuto"

Brooke Li, "Leaving China's Rural Void:
An Entanglement Perspective On the
Migration and Literacy of Left-Behind
Women Sexology (1870s-1940s)"

1:15 - 2:45 PM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

C5 - Dynastic Histories

WWPH 5201 | David Dettmann

Da Ha, "Translating Central Asia for the Qing Court: The Long Route from Persian to Manchu"

Austin Hudgins, "Between When the Snow Falls and the Spring Growth Arises: The Qing-Kazakh Land Lease System, 1768-1810"

Jiaqi Chao, "Gaining Reputation in Civil Society: A Study on the Grassroots Practices and Intellectual Transformations of the Song Dynasty's Scholars Who Failed the Imperial Examinations"

Yuyang Huang, "Reterritorialized in Chinggisid Service: Identity Construction of the Tutqaq Family"

C6 - Directors, Markets Today in Film

WWPH 5400 | Tom Chen

Yuping Zhang, "Through Her Lens: Chinese Women Directors and the Creation of Women's Space Between the State and the Market"

James Bretzke, "Bong Joon-Ho's Parasite's 'No-Plan' (무계획 無計劃) That Can Never Fail"

Tom Chen, "Resisting the Diasporic: Chloé Zhao's Non-Native Americanas"

Yihe Zhang, "From TIFF to Office Kitano: Positioning Japan in the Global Circuit of Contemporary Chinese Cinema"

C7 - Topographies & Landscapes

WWPH 5401 | Elizabeth Oyler

Ifrah Asif, "Ravi River Ecologies: Unraveling Colonial Legacies, Slow Violence, Cultural Dispossession, and Environmental Inequities"

Filippo Gtassi "Nature, Human, Crisis, Tradition: Ecological Perspectives in the Work of Chuang Che and Huang Chih-yang"

Thomas Noel, "Hierological Landscapes and Prosodic Topographies: Onomatology, Pareidolia, and the Many Literary Faces of the Mount Lu Range"

Apala Kundu, "Sampling the 'Sampan' in Amitav Ghosh's River of Smoke: Tracing Asian Nautical Networks in the Indian Ocean"

C8 - Musical Culture Across Asia

WWPH 5404 | Jiyeon Auo

Jiyeon Auo, "Farewell Ferry: Colonial Memory and the Postwar Reframing of a Korean Song in Enka"

Yi Ching (Kevin) Tam, "Kang Youwei's 'Travelogue of Denmark' and Two Logics of Musical Judgment in Early 20th Century Chinese Musical Discourse"

Silvio Lorenzo Ruberto, "River Names Within Song Loyalist Discourses in Wang Yuanliang's Ci Lyrics"

1:15 - 2:45 PM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

C9 - Modern Progress

WWPH 5405 | Darryl Flaherty

Sakshi Narang, “How Work Conditions Impact the Length of Stay and Retention of Foreign Residents in Japan”

Darryl Flaherty, “Making the International Global in Bakumatsu Japan: Wheaton and the Modern Legal Transformation”

Bianca Chiu, “Shifting Norms? Examining the Drivers of Changing Child Sex Preferences in East Asia”

Khushboo Bhutani, “Media Ecology of Resistance and Solidarity”

**HAVING TROUBLE
FINDING YOUR WAY
AROUND CAMPUS?**

**REFER TO THE MAP ON
PAGE 34 FOR SOME
BASIC LANDMARKS.**

**OR ASK AN ASIAN
STUDIES STAFF
MEMBER!**

2:55 - 4:25 PM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

D1 - Roundtable Discussion: Publishing in Peer Reviewed Journals

WWPH 1501 | Ruth Mostern

Panelists: Joseph Alter, Shelome Gooden, Vanitha Swaminathan, James Cook

D2 - Asian Security & Trade

WWPH 3415 | Cecilia Chien

Kyle Nguyen, “Analyzing Taiwan’s ‘Go South’ Policy and Its Role in Taiwan’s Path Towards Economic Sovereignty”

Ainur Kenzhetayeva, “Underexplored Operational Barriers for SMEs in Post-Soviet Central Asia: Comparative Analysis of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan”

Joshua Hill, “Nie Rongzhen at Ghana’s 1957 Independence Celebration: Rethinking Chinese Discourses of Diplomacy, Race, and Revolution in the Era of Decolonization”

John Liu “Trade Corridors as Security Arteries—Intra-Regional Networks Under RCEP”

MARAAS 2025 GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER PRIZE



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2:55 - 4:25 PM. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

D3 - Art Across Forms

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Jinghua Wangling, "Beyond the Confucian Moral Lens: Bai Juyi's and Yuan Zhen's 'Delicate and Sensual' Poems"

Christina Huang, "Kalacakra Mandala"

Natalie Sarrazin, "Sonic and Visual Representation of Rock Music in Hindi Cinema"

D4 - Care & the Physical Body

WWPH 5108 | W. Evan Young

Maya Best, "Reframing Indian Filial Responsibilities: The Moralized Marketing Strategies of Ethnic Indian Nursing Homes in the US compared to in India"

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Yuki Terazawa, "An Immigrant Japanese Midwife, Toku Shimomura (1888-1968), in Pre-World War II Seattle"

Naw Moo Moo Paw, "Civil War and Disability: Political Implications of War-Related Injuries Among Civilians in Myanmar"

D5 - Asian Education

WWPH 5200 | Yu Zhang

Hui-Chun Cheng, "Teaching East Asian Languages and Cultures through 'Linguistic Landscape'"

Junyu Sun, "Instruction to Become a Manchurian: A Survey of National Ideology and Colonial Education in Manchukuo (1932-1945)"

Juliana Wijaya & Chan Lwin, "Enhancing Southeast Asian Studies through Open-Access Burmese and Indonesian Language Resources"

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Yukako Ishimaru, "Fostering Cross-Cultural Engagement through a Decade of Partnership between Slippery Rock University and Saga University"

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Jieon Yoo, "Gobau's Gaze: Satirical Cartoons, Smuggling, and Popular Consciousness in Cold War Korea"

Andrea Keene, "Sailor Moon and Sailor Saturn: Female Interplay Between Senex and Puer Consciousness"

Sherry Huang, "Desire to Lose: Sexual Arousal as Disempowerment in Contemporary Japanese Eromanga"

D8 - Dress, Style, and Decoration: Visual Objects in North & East Asia

WWPH 5201 | Mrinalini Rajagopalan

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James Cook, "Bringing It All Back Home':
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Sanoop Sajan Koshy, "Reviewing Intra-
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Imprinting the Past

November 15, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF
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MAIN CAMPUS

NCTA K-12 EDUCATORS WORKSHOP NOVEMBER 15, 2025 8:30 - 11:30 AM

In-person at the University of Pittsburgh,
Main Campus at Hillman Library (Room 340) & Posvar Hall (Room 4130)

This free, in-person NCTA workshop for K-12 educators will highlight how the production practices and processes in the creation of woodblock printing impacted the development of East Asian civilizations and how those techniques can be harnessed to better “imprint” on our students a deeper understanding and connection with the past.

This workshop will include an overview of the history and practice of Japanese woodblock printing, will explore examples of different East Asian forms of woodblock prints in Pitt’s library archives, and will give participants a hands-on experience of creating woodblock prints using both traditional techniques and 3D printing and scanning technologies in Pitt’s Text & ConText Lab maker space.



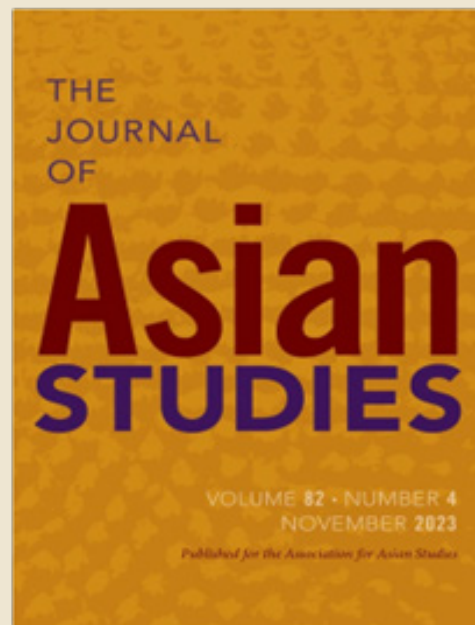
Workshop Schedule (subject to change)

8:30-9:45am: Dr. Brenda G. Jordan, Japanese Print Specialist on “Shared Knowledge and Common Understanding: Japan’s Woodblock Print Industry (1600-1900)”

10:00-10:45am: East Asian Library’s Dr. Runxiao Zhu and Hiro Good on the prints and printed materials collections in the University of Pittsburgh’s University Library System.

10:45-11:30am: Hands on workshop in the Text & conText Lab with Center for Creativity and Open Lab

11:30am-1pm: Lunch at MARAAS conference



Since its founding in 1941, *The Journal of Asian Studies* has been recognized as the most authoritative and prestigious publication in the field of Asian studies. The journal publishes the very best empirical and multidisciplinary work on Asia, spanning the arts, history, literature, the social sciences, and cultural studies. Experts around the world turn to the journal for the latest in-depth scholarship on Asia's past and present, for its extensive book reviews, and for its state-of-the-field essays on established and emerging topics. With coverage reaching from South and Southeast Asia to China, Inner Asia, and Northeast Asia, *The Journal of Asian Studies* welcomes broad comparative and transnational studies as well as essays emanating from fine-grained historical, cultural, political, or literary research and interpretation. With the addition of a fifth special issue in each volume the editor welcomes proposals that break new intellectual ground.

The Journal of Asian Studies is edited by Dr. Joseph S. Alter with dedicated institutional support from the University Center for International Studies, the Asian Studies Center, and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh.

CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING NATIONALITY ROOM TOURS



Limited tours are available of the University of Pittsburgh's world-famous Nationality Rooms. Please talk to Asian Studies Center staff at the registration desk on the first floor of Wesley W. Posvar Hall to learn more.

100TH ANNIVERSARY:

The Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Programs' preservation and sharing of cultural knowledge through educational programming benefits the Pitt and broader community intellectually, empathetically, and socially. Through relevant programming and support of global experiences, the NRIEP engages the diverse perspectives of students, faculty, staff, and the community to participate and co-create in the exploration of historic and intercultural themes and experiences.



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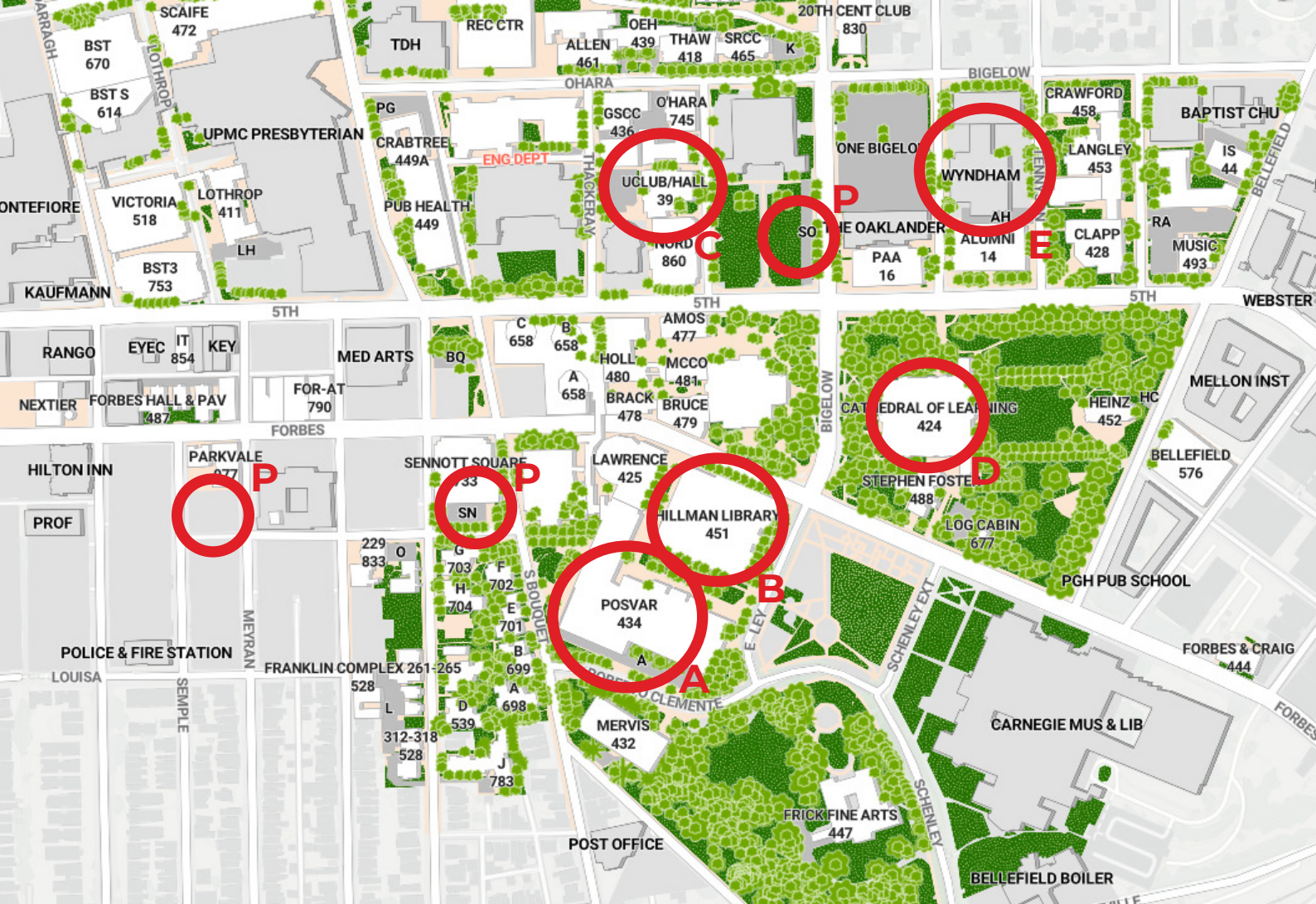
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E: COURTYARD MARIOTT HOTEL

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