The year of 2019–2020 turned out to be a year of fundamental change. When we started this year, who would have thought that the entire world would have to face this enormous challenge? Due to the COVID–19 pandemic, we had to cancel our EASC 50th anniversary conference, “The Role of East Asian Studies in the 21st Century,” along with 12 events in Spring and Summer. We decided to focus on this theme for our conference because before the COVID–19 crisis, international education and area studies appeared to be losing momentum. For example, a Chronicle of Higher Education article from March 2019 reported that global emphasis in higher education was declining nationwide. According to Modern Language Association data, over 650 foreign language programs in the US were closed in a recent three–year period, and the number of students in foreign language courses dropped 15 percent since 2009. While this unfortunate trend continued, as its economic and geopolitical importance grew, hardly a day went by without hearing about China, Japan and Korea. In fact, a survey reported in International Studies Quarterly, showed that close to 240 current and former senior US policymakers considered area studies knowledge to be one of the most important contributions that social scientists make (Avey and Desch, 2014). As members of this one world, we all have obligations to understand what is happening in different parts of the world. To move forward and to prepare for future challenges, we all need to work together and help each other across national boundaries and cultural differences. There is so much that area studies, especially East Asian studies, can contribute. Therefore, although the conference was cancelled, EASC is determined to continue to think about our role, create East Asian studies knowledge, and train students to be global citizens to make the world a better place.

We are in a time of uncertainty. However, the EASC community remains robust and resilient. This academic year, despite numerous cancellations in Spring, EASC and the three Institutes hosted 80 academic and outreach events reaching more than 5,000 students, faculty and community members (p. 8–9, 12), including several events that were transitioned to be offered online. Over the summer, EASC will host two online teacher seminars so that the participating K–12 teachers will be able to teach about East Asia in the next academic year and beyond. In August 2020, I will step down as director of the East Asian Studies Center, and Prof. Mitch Lerner, an experienced and dynamic advocate for East Asian studies and area studies, will start the position. I feel lucky to pass the torch to a great leader like Prof. Lerner. EASC faculty and students are an amazing group of people who are committed to make a difference with East Asian studies. The Office of International Affairs, the Graduate School, the OSU Libraries, OSU departments and colleges, and our project partners provide tremendous support to us to do what we need to do. We also have wonderful staff, Amy Carey, Dani Cooke, Stephanie Metzger and Janet Smith. With Prof. Lerner, Prof. Ying Zhang (Institute for Chinese Studies director), new Institute for Japanese Studies and Korean Studies directors, and our dedicated EASC staff, I am confident that EASC will come out of this challenge and continue to perform strongly.

Etsuyo Yuasa
PhD, Director, East Asian Studies Center and Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Center News

Reports from the institute directors

From the Institute for Chinese Studies Director

by Ying Zhang, director, Institute for Chinese Studies, and associate professor, history

My academic expertise is premodern Chinese history. But almost counterintuitively, when I reflect on the year of 2019–2020, I cannot help but think of the events that would have happened if we did not experience the pandemic. In addition to the many wonderful things that actually happened at ICS last year—the lecture series, newly institutionalized workshops on research and teaching methodology, critical film screening, etc.; in late March 2020, we would have held our very first special event for African-American students on campus. ICS planned with and received enthusiastic co-sponsorships from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, African and African-American Studies, and the History Department. I was excited about this event and was terribly saddened when we had to cancel it due to the pandemic.

Yes, we could have accomplished more, because ICS has so much potential to help bring people from different backgrounds to learn together and grow together. We thrive because we are dedicated to this ordinary but noble cause.

As I sit down to write this reflection at the end of my first year as the director of ICS, Sino-US relations are dominating the news headlines in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. I have been doing stay-at-home and social distancing for more than two months in Columbus. During this challenging time, I keep recalling an outreach lunch I attended before the pandemic hit us, where I met a leader from the Nationwide Children’s Hospital. He told me much about their fruitful collaboration with colleagues in Hubei, China, and stressed why such collaboration would benefit the people of these two countries. This is the “human face” of the Sino-US relations I want to remember as I look forward to the future.

We now have the opportunity to conduct more innovative planning for 2020–2021. I trust that, with resilience, resourcefulness, and the determination to facilitate informed dialogue, ICS will make more important and unique contributions to the many communities at OSU, in Columbus, and in Ohio.

So, stay tuned!

From the Institute for Japanese Studies Director

by Hajime Miyazaki, director, Institute for Japanese Studies, and professor, economics

The novel coronavirus pandemic has outlined high reliefs of diverse patterns in cultural, institutional and political responses as people and countries around the world make choices to cope with emergent challenges. In the course of overcoming the pandemic, there will emerge a new normal in social relations, business operations, and the conduct of political economy, all of which will affect the pace and direction of changes that have taken place since the information revolution. One vector of transformative changes that will almost surely accelerate is the production, delivery, and nature of education.

I recently had a glimpse of what was to come when I hastily converted a class of 70 students into online mode after the campus lockdown. Students, though scattered widely across time zones, all successfully participated in lectures, group project presentations, daily quizzes, and term paper submissions. Arguably, I even became better acquainted with individual students via Zoom interactions than in traditional in-person classes. This class was about US-Japan comparative economics analysis, and the pandemic only made students more appreciative of common threads and diversity in markets, institutions, and political economy. Generally, the public has gained a comparative perspective and greater awareness of heterogeneous socio-cultural patterns as people are exposed to daily pandemic news peppered with statistics and policy implementations in various countries. In particular, the contrasting experience

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
From the Institute for Korean Studies Director

by Mitchell Lerner, director, Institute for Korean Studies, and professor, history

As I sit down this morning to write the 2020 IKS director’s column, it is day 25 of the COVID-19 quarantine. I recently started working on a new book, and my goal when all of this began was to write at least 5 pages per day. At this point, I have slightly shifted the target, and now my goal is just to gain less than 5 pounds per week. So far, I am failing miserably, unless you measure “failing” in terms of total number of Oreos consumed, in which case I am approaching unprecedented levels of success. But while I am not being very personally productive right now, I take some solace in the fact that IKS was again very productive over the past year. And as the current crisis reminds us, having a productive and vibrant center that focuses on Korea is critical.

South Korea’s success in battling the coronavirus has received widespread praise, even while the reasons for that success seem so poorly understood in the United States. Every few days, I see some television pundit explain that the ROK’s accomplishment stems from its history of Confucianist paternalism and tradition of strongman leadership, which, the pundits explain, has produced a population that is more politically compliant and timid than those of the vibrant American polity. At that point, I do what any serious and mature scholar would do: I throw an Oreo at my television in frustration. Of course, I quickly scramble to retrieve it before the dogs eat it, but my anger at such ridiculous characterizations remains unabated. Meanwhile, my friends and colleagues of Korean heritage report increased harassment and prejudice, actions borne of tragic ignorance and deplorable racism. As one of the largest and most prestigious land-grant universities in the nation, Ohio State must play an important role in combatting such ignorance by continuing its efforts to expose our students and our community to the realities of life in East Asia. And IKS is proud to have played a small role in trying to advance this important mission.

Although the virus forced many cancellations, the Korea Institute still hosted a wide range of speakers, on topics ranging from modern Korean art to the Korean War to the roots of North Korean despotism. Through our e-school program, we continued to connect OSU students and faculty to those from other Big Ten universities. Overall, it has been a wonderful year for IKS and EASC, for which I need to thank the incredible EASC staff—Amy Carey, Dani Cooke, Stephanie Metzger, and Janet Smith—and the terrific leadership at OIA. And, for the final time, I need to thank our fantastic director, Etsuyo Yuasa, for all that she has done during her years at the helm of EASC. Her guidance, dedication, and friendship have been critical to everything that the Center has done over the past years. Her leadership will be missed, especially since her replacement brings little to the table, except Oreos.

From the US Director CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

and outcomes among China, Korea, Japan and the US have increased the demand for East Asian studies. And, the pandemic has compelled us to fast embrace information technology to produce, disseminate, and apply our expertise in international studies to a larger scale and wider audience.

Central to our academic business are public lectures where we deliver results as well as report on the in-progress state of research, outreach and education. We have averaged 40-45 attendants per lecture. Given our budget, manpower and structure, US can host several traditional lectures plus a couple of performance events per semester. But, if we conduct a majority of our lectures online, without constraining our resources, we can possibly deliver more in our core business by altering the frequency and mix of our activities.

For one thing, we can double the number of regular lectures, and reach a larger and more diverse audience. We will continue to hold events live where traditional audience interactions are a key to their success. Our Brad Richardson Memorial Lecture as well as stage performances such as rakugo and traditional music, for example, generate synergy in the face-to-face audience that can top 100 attendants. We will, however, be able to reallocate our effort and resources to outreach events to promote internship, placements, and career developments for our students. Information technology can also help us connect alumni and potential stakeholders to US activities. In this regard, we have already benefited from crowd funding that has raised contributions from local business and civic communities.

It is a challenge to optimize the use of information technology, but the returns from accelerating its utilization can enhance US’s ability to deliver on its mission more effectively. In the long run, such efforts will help US raise endowment-level contributions, promote better professional network opportunities, and better serve the public interest in East Asian studies.
Focus on curricular innovation

New course and IJS lecture explore Japanese monsterology

Inspired by a lifelong interest in the supernatural in Japan and research interests in storytelling, Prof. Naomi Fukumori (East Asian languages and literatures) developed and offered a new course in Autumn 2019, “EALL 4200: The Monstrous in Japanese Culture.” Twenty-five students, many with double majors in Japanese and other subjects like international studies, economics, criminology, psychology and history of art, signed up to learn more about Japanese monsters. These students actively gathered, analyzed, and created knowledge about Japanese monsters in a way that were intellectually rigorous and creative at the same time, Prof. Fukumori reports. Further, a partnership with EASC and IJS allowed Prof. Fukumori to bring in a guest speaker, “Dr. Godzilla,” to enrich the course. Excerpts from an interview with Prof. Fukumori follow.

- **What inspired you to develop this new course?**

  Monsters and the culture of monsters in any society can tell us a lot about its fundamental belief systems. Monsters are, after all, reifications of a culture’s collective fears and prohibited desires. Japan has great monsters—called yōkai (fantastic mystery) and kaijū (mysterious beasts)—throughout its history and across its geography, and these creatures have been transmitted through all sorts of media. I wanted to bring together folklore/urban legends, classical narratives, religious texts, performative arts, the visual arts, and scholarly discourses to examine an interdisciplinary cultural history of Japanese monsters.

- **Why is this topic important?**

  The monster studies scholar Jeffrey Jerome Cohen describes monsters as having “cultural bodies” —that is, monsters manifest aspects of the culture that created them. The study of Japanese yōkai provides a lens through which we can see the Japanese collective response to unusual or disruptive phenomena throughout its history. We have, for instance, in Japan’s earliest text Record of Ancient Times (Kojiki, 712) the eight-headed, eight-tailed serpent Yamata no orochi that allegorically represents annual flooding and the tsuchigumo “earth spiders” who represent the “uncivilized” rebels who defied the Yamato imperial family.

  Japan’s geographical location makes natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunami frequent threats. One of the most severe earthquakes in Japan’s history occurred in 1855 in the vicinity of Edo (current Tokyo), and a gigantic catfish (ōnamazu) emerged to become both the scapegoat for the destruction and a hero effecting social change. The ōnamazu resurfaced in conversations about the destruction and social disruption of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake.

  The current novel coronavirus pandemic has also resurrected a particular yōkai. Its name is amabié and it’s a mermaid or merman with three legs, long hair, and a bird beak. It was first documented in 1846 and was witnessed by a town official who reported its appearance. Amabié supposedly delivered a prophesy saying that harvest would be good for the next six years and also that if a disease were to spread, showing a picture of it would cure the illness. Pictures of amabié are circulating now across Japanese media, and the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare has even run a campaign with an image of amabié to urge social distancing.

- **What is unique about monsters in Japan?**

  Japanese monsters uniquely reflect Japanese culture. One element of Japanese belief that shapes Japan’s monster culture is the indigenous Shinto religion’s basis in animism. Everything—nature and the human-made objects shaped out of natural resources—is sentient and can be a kami, a Shinto god. Japanese yōkai can be malevolent, but they often are playful, friendly beings who coexist with humans.

  Japan’s contact with other cultures throughout history has resulted in a syncretic amalgamation of religious and philosophical beliefs from the Asian continent and, later, the West. So, we see the influences of not only Shinto, but also Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Christianity, all manifesting as aspects of yōkai.
How have the monsters of Japan influenced other cultures around the world?

No doubt, the monsters of Japan exert worldwide influence, especially as elements of Japanese cultural exportation in the 21st century, aka “Cool Japan.” I think Godzilla and Pokémon are the two Japanese monster phenomena that have made the most global impact. Interestingly, they both shed their Japanese-ness and register to fans worldwide as simply being cool monsters. Godzilla and Pokémon have ignited interest in the broader world of Japanese monsters and in Japanese culture.

How did the students react to the course?

They really seemed to enjoy thinking about and talking about monsters! Presentation of their final projects, which took the form of a traditional research paper or the creation of new monsters that would convincingly fit into the existing culture of Japanese yokai, allowed the class to become part of the word-of-mouth mechanism of urban legends through which yokai are sustained and introduced.

How did partnership with EASC/IJS enrich the course?

Through EASC/IJS support, I was able to invite Dr. William M. Tsutsui, president and professor of history at Hendrix College, to give an IJS lecture on November 19, 2019. Dr. Tsutsui’s talk, “Beyond the Man in the Rubber Suit: Godzilla, Postwar Japan, and the Global Imagination,” drew an audience of over 80 people from across campus. Known as “Dr. Godzilla” for his incisive knowledge of this radioactive giant beast, Dr. Tsutsui demonstrated how the Godzilla films—the longest-running film franchise worldwide—reflect complex shifts within Japanese culture and in the global reception of Japan.

Nathan Stover (Japanese BA, 2019), a student in the course, rivals Dr. Tsutsui in his passion for Godzilla, and chose to curate his personal Godzilla collection under the guidance of Japanese Studies librarian Dr. Ann Marie Davis and me for his final project. Nathan mounted a pop-up exhibit at Dr. Tsutsui’s lecture (see page 4) and an exhibition which was on display at Thompson Library throughout Spring 2020.

A new Japanese educational web series produced by Ohio State Japanese professor Mari Noda (East Asian languages and literatures) is now available online. See the official trailer at easc.osu.edu/news/nihongonow.

NihonGO NOW!, a 12-part video series based on textbooks by the same name, takes a “performed culture approach” to language instruction. The series uses performance as a unit of analysis and learning, depicting personal relationships, scenes, situations, sounds, personal perspectives and other elements with which learners can empathize.

Prof. Noda is also the lead author on the NihonGO NOW! textbooks series which is slated to be released in July. The material, published by Routledge, supports beginning-level courses, two to three years of regular instruction at the college level.

Award-winning Japanese film maker Hiroki Ohsawa directed the web video series, which has won awards from several international film competitions.

The series, as well as the development of teaching plans for the new textbook, were supported with funding from a US Department Education Title VI grant for the East Asian Studies Center.
Korean eSchool increases access to area studies courses across the Big Ten

Since 2014, the Institute for Korean Studies (IKS), led by Prof. Mitchell Lerner, has paved the way for increased access to courses about Korea at OSU and across the Big Ten. As part of the Big Ten Academic Alliance’s (BTAA) Korean eSchool Initiative, funded by the Korea Foundation and administered by the University of Michigan’s Nam Center for Korean Studies, IKS has facilitated the sharing of 20 courses over the past six years on topics such as Korean history, popular culture, performance traditions, gender and class, politics and more.

The Korean eSchool model takes Korean studies courses offered at one BTAA institution and shares it via live, synchronous videoconference technology with up to two other member institutions. Students across the three campuses interact with each other and the instructors in real time throughout the course. When possible, instructors conduct in-person visits to other campuses, and occasionally students from the participating campuses travel to the other venues as well. For example, in 2016, students from both OSU and the University of Michigan enrolled in the “Performance Traditions of Korea” course, taught by Prof. Chan Park (East Asian languages and literatures), and came together to perform in a community concert in Columbus.

The Korean eSchool model allows each individual institution to increase the number of Korean-related courses at each campus significantly. To date, OSU has shared 10 courses with two additional institutions each and received 10 courses from other institutions (see table below).

As campus lead for the Korean eSchool program, Lerner feels this opportunity makes Ohio State a stronger leader in the e-learning world. “The Korean e-class program is a great opportunity for Ohio State students,” said Lerner. “Not only do they get to take courses from prominent professors from other major universities, but they get to interact with other students at those schools at the same time. Through programs like this, Ohio State is playing a prominent role in shaping the future of e-learning, while building connections and developing opportunities for students at the same time.”

OSU’s participation in the Big Ten Academic Alliance’s Korean eSchool, 2014–2019

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<td>Susan Strauss</td>
<td>Pennsylvania State University</td>
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Focus on curricular innovation  CONTINUED

ICS director shares experience with online and hybrid teaching and future plans for supporting digital innovation in East Asian studies

Prof. Ying Zhang, director of the Institute for Chinese Studies, teaches “History of Pre-Modern East Asia,” a 2000-level course, fully online, as well as “History of Early Modern China” and “Gender and Sexuality in Chinese History,” both 3000-level courses, in a hybrid format, incorporating both in-person and online components. In a recent interview, she shared her thoughts on online teaching in East Asian studies. See excerpts below.

- **What inspired you to begin exploring online teaching even before the COVID-19 pandemic began?**

To be honest, I was not inspired to do it. I was scared by the format and the possibility that I would have to do it, but there was a scheduling problem one year, and I thought, “I’ll give it a try. How hard could it be?” After teaching that first course and reading student feedback, though, I realized that what I was doing was not online teaching. I was trying to move what I did in the real classroom to an online format, and it didn’t work. Online teaching is a very different format. It took a real paradigm shift for me to take this format seriously.

- **How did it transform your teaching?**

Once I started trying to reimagine teaching through online classes, I got really excited about the potential. It transformed how I teach and how I imagined students learning. Ultimately, now, I think I talk less about teaching and more about learning. Online courses shouldn’t be centered around the professor, but around the students and their learning. Once you make that mental shift and really embrace this experiment, it becomes so fun. I started to look at everything through my students’ eyes. It was a process of discovery for me.

- **What types of courses lend themselves well to this format?**

I’ve found the 2000-level survey courses have worked well in an online format. The information I previously provided in these classes is everywhere. The students don’t need to be provided a timeline of medieval Japan; that’s searchable online. What I can give them is a different kind of experience. For instance, there are all these amazing museums, collections and archives online. When I teach about early Japanese myths, the students read these old myths and then I ask them to go to the State Department’s Office of the Historian and look up newsletter clips in their archive of the Emperor’s speech given on January 1, 1946 where he basically denounced the divinity of the imperial family. I could just give the students the information, but I make them do this to realize that there is an Office of the Historian in the State Department. They are experiencing it. They are learning about their own country, about history, and they’re doing it on their own.

For 3000-level classes, depth is very important, so I choose to teach them in a hybrid format.

- **Are there services or tools that you would recommend for other faculty moving to online instruction?**

I think digital tools, but also the human resources. Learning specialists in colleges and departments can help with course design, methodology and even student assignments. Our Japanese studies librarian, Ann Marie Davis, is also really good at this. There are also very experienced teachers and professors who can provide guidance. I’m currently preparing a training about hybrid teaching for colleagues in the College of Arts and Sciences. What I will share with them is that teaching is now about teamwork. It’s really what happens between these two groups that will determine the experience for the students.

- **What other advice do you have for teaching online?**

I think it’s very useful to read some literature about online teaching. Because if it involves a paradigm shift, it means you have to learn about the theories, learn some basics. In terms of workload, my lesson was less is more. If you let go of the idea that you have to do everything you do in the in-person class, it’s easier for you to think about where you want to simplify and where you want to add some texture and complexity.

- **What role can EASC and ICS play in this area?**

We hosted an event in February that was a collaboration between EASC Director Etsuyo Yuasa and me. We invited Mike Bierschenk, an educational technologist from the College of Arts and Sciences, to speak about online teaching. Faculty were really excited about it. We are hoping to organize another digital humanities workshop in the future that will focus more on scholarly production and research. We are also thinking about more pedagogical workshops that would allow faculty and graduate students to exchange experiences and to workshop their course designs among colleagues.

We have the advantage that East Asian studies is already interdisciplinary. When I’m speaking to colleagues in East Asian Studies, I’m talking to geographers, anthropologists, historians and literary scholars. It is easier for us to inspire another in such an interdisciplinary environment.

- **What are your thoughts about the future of online teaching in East Asian studies?**

I think this is going to be a great opportunity for us, because we can reach more students in this way and we can show them that there is so much more to East Asia than what they see in popular and social media. We all know that media elevates the most sensational stories, often perpetuating stereotypes or certain dominant images or narratives. But instead of avoiding these things, if we actively integrate these digital, interactive materials into our teaching, we will be able to show many faces of East Asia, and the richness and complexity of East Asia.
Focus on academic programming

35 lectures, conferences, forums offered to the campus community in 2019-20

- **SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

- **SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

- **SEPTEMBER 13, 2019**
  ICS Lecture: Ying Zhang, The Ohio State University, “Creative Environment, Creative Prisoners: Life in Confinement in the Ming”

- **SEPTEMBER 20, 2019**
  ICS Lecture: Jennifer Turner, China Environment Forum, “Can China Become the World’s Green Leader?”

- **SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**
  IJS Lecture: Akiko Takeyama, University of Kansas, “Sexual Self-Determinism in Japanese Adult Videos in the Age of the Internet”

- **SEPTEMBER 25, 2019**
  IKS Lecture: Steve Taaffe, Stephen F. Austin State University, “Failure in Command: The Korean War and American Military Leadership”

- **SEPTEMBER 27, 2019**
  IKS Lecture: Rian Thum, Loyola University New Orleans, “Borderlands, Minorities, and Alternative Archives”

- **SEPTEMBER 27, 2019**

- **OCTOBER 4, 2019**
  IKS Lecture: James Person, Johns Hopkins University, “Origins of North Korean Despotism”

- **OCTOBER 4, 2019**
  ICS Critical Film Screening: Crazy Rich Asians, Discussion by Meow Hui Goh, Namiko Kunimoto and Ying Zhang, The Ohio State University

- **OCTOBER 14, 2019**
  Dance/ICS Lecture: Emily Wilcox, University of Michigan, “Revolutionary Bodies: Chinese Dance and the Socialist Legacy”

- **OCTOBER 18, 2019**

- **OCTOBER 18, 2019**
  ICS Lecture: Ronald Egan, Stanford University, “Su Dongpo’s Artistic Expression in Multiple Genres and Forms”

- **OCTOBER 21, 2019**
  IJS Lecture: Steve Taaffe, Stephen F. Austin State University, “Book Talk: Imagining Prostitution in Modern Japan, 1850-1913”

- **OCTOBER 30, 2019**

- **OCTOBER 14, 2019**

- **OCTOBER 15, 2019**
  ICS Lecture: Xin Conan-Wu, College of William and Mary, “The Reminiscence of ‘Home Mountain’: Place-Making as an Art”

- **OCTOBER 15, 2019**
  ICS Lecture: Mi Zhao, The Ohio State University Visiting Scholar, “Revolutions in Memory: Singing Girls and China’s Socialist Transformation”

- **OCTOBER 15, 2019**
  IKS/History of Art Lecture: Jungsil Jenny Lee, California State University, Fullerton, “Roaring Bull, Stony Silence, and Abstract Nostalgia: The Trio of Korean Modern Art”

- **OCTOBER 16, 2019**
  EASC-Supported History of Art Symposium: “Art and Dissent in Japan Since 1945”

- **NOVEMBER 1, 2019**
  IJS Lecture: Eiko Ishioka, University of Michigan, “Re-centering Female Narratives through Murmurs and Song”

- **NOVEMBER 5, 2019**

- **NOVEMBER 7, 2019**
  IJS Lecture: Ikuyoshi Yamamoto, The University of Tokyo, “Can China Become the World’s Green Leader?”

- **NOVEMBER 7, 2019**

- **NOVEMBER 7, 2019**
  IJS Lecture: Rian Thum, Loyola University New Orleans, “Borderlands, Minorities, and Alternative Archives”

- **NOVEMBER 19, 2019**
EASC academic programming CONTINUED

- **JANUARY 9, 2020**
  - IJS Lecture: Hisae Miyachi, Tsukuba University, “Disability in Japan”

- **JANUARY 9, 2020**
  - DEALL/ICS Lecture: Min Zhang, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, “The Postverbal Constraint across Chinese Dialects”

- **JANUARY 13, 2020**

- **JANUARY 31, 2020**
  - ICS Brown Bag Workshop: Wenbo Chang, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Patricia Sieber, The Ohio State University, “How to Work with Literary Texts from the Yuan Dynasty”

- **FEBRUARY 7, 2020**

- **FEBRUARY 7, 2020**

- **FEBRUARY 14, 2020**
  - IJS Lecture: Joshua Hausman, University of Michigan, “Abenomics and Monetary Policy”

- **FEBRUARY 25, 2020**
  - EASC/ICS Teacher Training Workshop: Mike Bierschenk, The Ohio State University, “Introduction to Online Teaching in East Asian Studies”

- **FEBRUARY 27, 2020**
  - IJS Lecture: David Welch, University of Waterloo, “China’s Hot-Button Maritime and Territorial Claims: A Role for Japan”

- **FEBRUARY 28, 2020**
  - IJS Brad Richardson Memorial Lecture: Gil Latz, The Ohio State University, with Discussant David Welch, University of Waterloo, “Effective Leadership in Japan: The Case of Shibusawa Eiichi, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist”

- **MARCH 2, 2020**
  - IJS/IKS Lecture: Sherry Fowler, University of Kansas, “Buddhist Temple Bells and Transnational Connections Between Japan, Korea and the Ryukyus”

Due to COVID-19, many events planned for Spring 2020 were unfortunately cancelled or postponed for the safety of the EASC community.

For further information on EASC academic programming, visit easc.osu.edu/events or contact Stephanie Metzger, EASC program coordinator, at metzger.235@osu.edu.

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**WICL-5: From on-site to synchronous webinar conference welcoming the world**

The 5th Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL-5) was planned for Sunday, April 19, 2020, on the Ohio State campus. Instead, COVID-19 led to its reconceptualization as a synchronous, virtual event consisting of three parallel webinars. In order to accommodate presenters in both North America and East Asia, crossing 15 time zones, WICL-5 was split into Saturday evening (EDT), from 5:30 p.m. until midnight, and Sunday morning, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. According to the organizers, to their knowledge, this was the first Chinese linguistics conference in the world to be held as a synchronous webinar event.

The program (available at u.osu.edu/wicl/wicl-5/) consisted of two plenary sessions, with keynote speakers, Prof. Genevieve Leung (University of San Francisco) and Prof. Roxana Suk-Yee Fung (Hong Kong Polytechnic University); 9 regular sessions totaling 27 presentations; plus a pedagogy panel with 5 presentations that was organized and chaired by Prof. Dana Scott Bourgerie (Brigham Young University).

The keynote speakers and presenters—representing the US, Canada, Scotland, China, Hong Kong and Vietnam—were from 27 institutions (12 in the US, 3 in Canada, 1 in Scotland, 2 in China, 8 in Hong Kong and 1 in Vietnam).

Free and open to the public, WICL-5 attracted more than 200 registrants from all over the world. “While not everyone who registered attended the conference, it is clear that all the sessions were well attended, with meticulously-prepared presentations followed by rigorous, intellectual discussions,” said organizer Prof. Marjorie Chan.

The three synchronous webinars were manned by Prof. Marjorie Chan, Mineharu Nakayama and Zhiguo Xie, together with six graduate students, Skylar Gomes (tech leader), Jinwei Ye, Wei William Zhou, Yuhong Zhu, Seojin Yang and Junyu Ruan.

WICL-5 was supported by the Graduate Association of Chinese Linguistics, Graduate Students of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Department of Linguistics and Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures. It was sponsored in part by a US Department of Education Title VI grant to The Ohio State University East Asian Studies Center.
Featured academic events

ICS hosts critical film screening of Crazy Rich Asians

This year, the Institute for Chinese Studies hosted a film screening and discussion of the 2018 critical and box office success, Crazy Rich Asians. Based on the 2013 novel of the same name by Kevin Kwan, this film generated a great deal of conversation about Asia, culture, race and globalization across the Pacific. Set primarily in Singapore, Crazy Rich Asians follows Rachel Chu, an Asian American woman, and her boyfriend Nick Young, a Singaporean man living in New York, as they navigate the cultural differences between their families and communities. While both share a profession as professors in an American university, their backgrounds are vastly different—Chu is the daughter of a working-class single mother, and Young is the heir to a shipping fortune.

Professors Meow Hui Goh (East Asian languages and literatures), Namiko Kunimoto (history of art; director, Center for Ethnic Studies; program director, Asian American studies) and Ying Zhang (history; director, Institute for Chinese Studies) joined students and community members to share their thoughts on various aspects of this movie from comparative perspectives and join the audience for a conversation. The group discussed how history helps shape contemporary socio-cultural dynamics around the world, and why learning about Asian history and languages helps us imagine our roles in making positive changes.

The audience raised thought-provoking questions around the frameworks of class, gender, race, religion and ethnicity, while faculty shared critiques and lived experiences to add context to the film’s larger themes. This event gave the audience the opportunity to not only enjoy a film with friends and classmates, but also to practice how to apply critical thinking skills to everyday activities.

IKS guest speaker James Person delivers public and classroom lectures

The Institute for Korean Studies hosted several distinguished speakers this year, including James Person, senior faculty lead of Korea Studies at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Prior to joining SAIS, Dr. Person was the founding director of the Hyundai Motor–Korea Foundation Center for Korean History and Public Policy at the Wilson Center. Between 2007 and early 2017, he served as the founding coordinator of the North Korea International Documentation Project, and was deputy director of the History and Public Policy Program at the Wilson Center from 2013 to 2017. Dr. Person joined the IKS Lecture Series on October 4, 2019 for a public talk about North Korean history titled “Origins of North Korean Despotism.”

In the wake of the Korean War, North Korea was a country with a very diverse political leadership that also enjoyed close ties with countries throughout the socialist camp. Yet, just a decade later, North Korea went down a path toward despotism and isolationism. Dr. Person discussed two pivotal events in the history of North Korea that altered the domestic political landscape, led to a radical restructuring of society, and transformed Pyongyang’s ties with patrons Moscow and Beijing. The talk went on to describe how the impact of these events is still felt today.

History 2402, “East Asian History in the Modern Era, 1600 to the Present,” taught by doctoral candidate Melvin Barnes, also welcomed Dr. Person as a guest lecturer during his visit. He spoke to students about the Japanese annexation and colonization of Korea after 1910 and up until 1945. The talk divided the occupation into three phases and covered the social, political and economic policies Imperial Japan put in place in colonial Korea. Japanese language policies, which mandated Koreans speak Japanese and adopt Japanese names, garnered a lively discussion from the students.

Dr. James Person speaks as part of the Institute for Korean Studies Lecture Series in Autumn 2019.
Featuring academic events

IJS celebrates five years of Brad Richardson Memorial Lectures

2020 marked the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Brad Richardson Memorial Lecture (BRML) series in honor of Dr. Bradley M. Richardson, professor emeritus in political science and IJS founding director. To date, the BRML has featured five renowned Japanese studies scholars from prestigious institutions across North America, covering such topics as Abenomics, the US-Japan alliance, and environmental disasters in US-Japan comparative perspectives. Most recently, OSU Vice Provost for Global Strategies and International Affairs Gil Latz, an established Japan scholar himself in the field of geography, delivered the 2020 BRML, and David Welch, professor of political science at The University of Waterloo, served as discussant. Their theme was the role of Shibusawa Eiichi (1840–1931) in Japan’s modernization and the relevance of Meiji Japan to contemporary Japan and the world. In honor of Dr. Richardson’s designation as Honorary Consul General of Japan for Ohio, the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit has been a BRML sponsor.

Since 2016, under the leadership of Hajime Miyazaki, IJS director, and Janet Smith, EASC assistant director of outreach, and thanks to the many generous donations from students, faculty and staff members, community friends, organizations and local corporations, along with Dr. Richardson’s family, the Brad Richardson Memorial Fund (BRMF) has raised more than $40,000 towards the establishment of an endowment. For more information or to contribute to the BRMF, visit easc.osu.edu/ijs/richardson.

BRAD RICHARDSON MEMORIAL LECTURES

- FEBRUARY 28, 2020: Gil Latz, vice provost for global strategies and international affairs and professor of geography, The Ohio State University, “Effective Leadership in Japan: The Case of Shibusawa Eiichi, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist,” discussant: David Welch, research chair and professor of political science, The University of Waterloo
- FEBRUARY 22, 2019: Takatoshi Ito, professor, international and public affairs, Columbia University, “Abenomics: Japan’s Escape from its Lost Two Decades”
- FEBRUARY 26, 2018: Takeo Hoshi, Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Senior Fellow, Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, and professor of finance, Stanford University, “Has Abenomics Revived the Japanese Economy? Comparative Macroeconomic Perspectives with the US Economy”
- FEBRUARY 17, 2017: Richard J. Samuels, Ford International Professor of Political Science and director, Center for International Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, “Japan’s Grand Strategy and the US-Japan Alliance”
- MARCH 6, 2016: Brett Walker, Regents Professor and Malone Memorial Professor of History, Montana State University, “Natural and Unnatural Disasters in the US-Japan Comparative Perspectives: 3/11, 9/11, Asbestos, and the Unmaking of Japan’s Modern World”

OTHER LECTURES SUPPORTED BY THE BRAD RICHARDSON MEMORIAL FUND

- FEBRUARY 27, 2020: David Welch, research chair and professor of political science, The University of Waterloo, “China’s Hot-Button Maritime and Territorial Claims: A Role for Japan”
- FEBRUARY 14, 2020: Joshua Hausman, assistant professor, University of Michigan, and faculty research fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, “Abenomics and Monetary Policy”
- APRIL 3, 2017: Judy Tsu-Chun Wu, professor and chair of Asian American studies, University of California, Irvine, “Patsy Takemoto Mink and Anti-Nuclear Politics: Atomic Testing in the Pacific during the Cold War”

ABOUT BRAD RICHARDSON

Dr. Bradley M. Richardson was professor emeritus in political science, the founding director of the Institute for Japanese Studies (1985–2002) and director of the East Asian Studies Center (1977–1980, 1999–2002) at The Ohio State University. A former Honorary Consul General of Japan for Ohio and recipient of the most prestigious national decoration awarded by the Japanese government, the Order of the Rising Sun, Dr. Richardson continually raised awareness of Japanese studies and US-Japan relations until his passing in 2015. He was a leading scholar in Japanese politics as well as a notable academician, lecturer and author on Japanese culture, business and politics, and received the OSU Distinguished Scholar Award in 1996. He held a doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, a master’s from Columbia University and a bachelor’s from Harvard College.
Center News

Focus on outreach

2019-20 outreach events impact teachers, business leaders, students, community

Teacher training

- **JUNE 3 – 7, 2019**
  EASC Teacher Training with other area studies centers: “Global Environmental Issues: The Problems, Solutions and Potential Outcomes,” **Roger Williams**, The Ohio State University, and **Tami Augustine**, The Ohio State University

- **JUNE 10 – 14, 2019 & SEPTEMBER 28, 2019**
  EASC Teacher Training: “National Consortium for Teaching about Asia – Ohio 2019 Seminar,” **Ann Marie Davis**, The Ohio State University

- **SEPTEMBER 28, 2019 - MARCH 2020**
  EASC Teacher Training with other area studies centers: “Global Fellowship Program: Nuclear Pollution,” with film screening of “Day of the Western Sunrise” and comments from **Keith Reimink**, director and producer, and pedagogy session with **Angie Stokes**, Wayne Trace Junior High School (September 28, 2019); talk by **Timothy Mousseau**, University of South Carolina, “The Long-Term Effects of Radiation on Wildlife in Chernobyl and Fukushima” (November 16, 2019); pedagogy session by **Tami Augustine**, The Ohio State University (March 7, 2020)

- **NOVEMBER 2, 2019**

- **APRIL 26, 2020**
  IJS Outreach: Japanese Language Teacher Workshop and Ohio Association of Teachers of Japanese (OATJ) Spring Online Meeting, **Jessica Haxhi**, New Haven Public Schools, “Keep the Airline Flying! Advocacy for Japanese Language Programs”

Community college and minority-serving institution outreach

- **SEPTEMBER 27, 2019**
  EASC Outreach Lecture at Columbus State Community College: **Melinda Landeck**, Austin College, and **Morton Oxenboell**, Indiana University, at the CSCC Symposium: “When East Meets West: Knights and Samurai – Legends and Reality”

- **ONGOING PROJECT**
  EASC Curriculum Development: Columbus State Community College World History Curriculum Development Project

East Asian culture outreach

- **SEPTEMBER 3 – 5, 2019**
  IJS Outreach: “My Hiroshima Legacy: An A-Bomb Story of My Mother and Aunt,” **Michiko Yamaoka**, presentations at Marysville High School, Upper Arlington High School, Bowling Green State University, Columbus State Community College, University of Findlay, OSU Japanese Student Organization and OSU Oshaberikai

- **SEPTEMBER 20 – 21, 2019**
  ICS Outreach: “The Imperial Bells of China: Chimes in Concert”

- **SEPTEMBER 2019 & FEBRUARY 2020**
  EASC Outreach: Columbus Council on World Affairs’ Global Scholars Diploma Program lectures by **Ann Marie Davis**, **Christina Mathison**, **Roger Williams** and **Max Woodworth**, The Ohio State University

- **JANUARY – MARCH 2020**
  EASC Outreach: Granville High School Global Awareness Capstone Project, including “Introduction to East Asia” presentation (January 15, 2020), online panel and discussion with OSU staff about issues in China, Japan and Korea (March 11, 2020)

- **APRIL 5, 2020**
  IJS Outreach: Japanese Language Speech Contest Online Finals for Ohio High School and College Students

Business outreach

- **OCTOBER 1, 2019**

Professionalization events

- **SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**

- **OCTOBER 3, 2019**
  EASC Career Event: **Stephanie Ford**, The Ohio State University, “East Asian Language Skills and Global Competencies Workshop”

- **DECEMBER 1, 2019**
  IJS Event: Japanese Language Proficiency Test administered at The Ohio State University

Due to COVID-19, many events planned for Spring 2020 were unfortunately cancelled or postponed for the safety of the EASC community.

For further information on EASC outreach events, visit easc.osu.edu/events or contact Janet Smith, EASC assistant director of outreach, at smith.12674@osu.edu.
Featured outreach programs

NCTA seminar trains Ohio educators to bring East Asia to their classrooms

In Summer 2019, EASC brought back its popular “Teaching about Asia” seminar series for K-12 teachers, beginning with a week-long intensive summer seminar from June 10-14 and concluding with a follow-up event on September 28. Sponsored by the Freeman Foundation, with additional support from EASC’s Title VI grant from the US Department of Education, and supported by the University of Pittsburgh National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) site, the seminar trained 21 Ohio educators to bring East Asia to their classrooms.

Led by Prof. Ann Marie Davis (University Libraries), the seminar examined the major trends, global issues and historic foundations that shape East Asian society. Focusing on the regions that comprise present day China, Japan and Korea, the course emphasized print media, visual culture and archival collections. The seminar also included an introduction to digital humanities scholarship and teaching in East Asia. Drawing on diverse resources (readings, films, cartoons and newspaper articles), special collections at OSU Libraries, and the expertise of curators and scholars in Ohio, the course incorporated collaborative, hands-on learning experiences, and the development of K-12 curricular tools.

For further information on NCTA-Ohio programs, contact Janet Smith at smith.12674@osu.edu.

Global Teacher Seminar explores environmental issues and challenges

The area studies centers at The Ohio State University, led by EASC, collaborated in 2019 to offer an intensive week-long “Global Teacher Seminar” for K-12 educators on the topic of “Global Environmental Issues: The Problems, Solutions and Potential Outcomes.” Prof. Roger Williams (environment and natural resources), an affiliated faculty member of EASC and the Institute for Chinese Studies, served as the lead instructor while Prof. Tami Augustine (teaching and learning) led pedagogical sessions for the 20 participants from school districts across Ohio.

The seminar informed K-12 teachers on environmental issues related to the natural resources of various countries, including Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. The ecological footprints of various countries were examined as well as how each impacts resources and its people, including biodiversity, forests, wildlife, water, air, soil and the related economics and policy. The seminar deepened teachers’ understanding of the different environmental issues and challenges facing society now and in the future, and through pedagogical training, enabled the incorporation of this new content into their curricula.

The seminar was organized by EASC in partnership with the Center for African Studies, Center for Latin American Studies, Center for Slavic and East European Studies and Middle East Studies Center with support from US Department of Education Title VI grants. For further information on Global Teacher Seminars, contact Janet Smith at smith.12674@osu.edu.
Focus on leadership transitions

EASC honors the accomplishments of Director Etsuyo Yuasa

After completing seven years of service as the director of the East Asian Studies Center (EASC), Etsuyo Yuasa, associate professor of East Asian languages and literatures, has announced that she will step down at the end of Summer 2020. In the words of Prof. Mitchell Lerner, director of the Institute for Korean Studies, Prof. Yuasa led the center with “irreplaceable commitment, passion and skillful leadership.”

In order to augment East Asian studies–related academic programming and outreach, a major emphasis of Prof. Yuasa’s tenure was securing resources to supplement the generous support from the Office of International Affairs. Since Autumn 2013, under her leadership, EASC brought more than $5 million in external funding to the university, from federal sources, private foundations, corporations and individual donations. Perhaps most impressive is the two successful Title VI proposals written by Prof. Yuasa which led to $4.5 million in US Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center (NRC) and Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship funding during a time when such national competitions were fierce.

Under Prof. Yuasa’s leadership, EASC and its constituent institutes contributed significantly to the academic mission of the university, supporting dozens of new course offerings and organizing hundreds of academic conferences, lectures and more. In addition to overseeing the entire Center’s offerings, Prof. Yuasa initiated a number of academic projects of her own. For example, she organized two well–attended symposia on the theme of “Manga at a Crossroads” in 2015 and a conference to celebrate the Center’s 50th anniversary, “East Asian Studies in the 21st Century,” originally planned for Spring 2020 but postponed until 2020–2021. In partnership with other area studies centers at OSU, she also launched the OIA Area Studies Center Conference Grants in 2019 which has awarded two faculty groups funding to organize lecture series or conferences on area studies themes.

Supporting and professionalizing students were key areas of interest for Prof. Yuasa. Under her tenure, with a combination of EASC, Title VI and Graduate School matching funds, EASC awarded more than $4 million in student support, including 163 FLAS Fellowships and 39 scholarships. Recognizing the critical need to prepare students for careers after graduation, Prof. Yuasa worked with EASC staff to develop a portfolio of professionalization programs, such as career talks, panel discussions and job shadowing opportunities. In 2016, Prof. Yuasa initiated a series of events for students on professional Japanese interpretation, culminating in the offering of a course on the same topic in Spring 2019 and 2020 which received overwhelmingly positive reviews.

Looking beyond campus, in furtherance of Ohio State’s land-grant mission, Prof. Yuasa was passionate about sharing East Asian studies expertise and resources widely in the community. Under her tenure, EASC’s efforts to train K-12 teachers blossomed, through programs such as Global Teacher Seminars, Teaching about Asia seminars, language proficiency assessment workshops and more. Through development of a partnership with the Columbus Council on World Affairs, EASC reached hundreds of business professionals with seminars on East Asian business, economics and policy–related topics. In addition, EASC’s culture workshops, performances and film screenings brought the cultures of China, Japan and Korea to the general public.

Partnership cultivation and collaboration were hallmarks of Prof. Yuasa’s leadership. On campus, she united the EASC team, increased faculty involvement and participation in the Center and strengthened ties with numerous units, such as the University Libraries. Beyond Ohio State, she developed innovative and mutually beneficial partnerships with community colleges and minority–serving institutions, such as Columbus State Community College and Spelman College.

In the words of Prof. Hajime Miyazaki, director of the Institute for Japanese Studies, she was “a complete organizational manager for all EASC stakeholders.” Prof. Ying Zhang, director of the Institute for Chinese Studies, adds that Prof. Yuasa earned respect by “making productive connections among different perspectives, with a deep appreciation of the constituencies these perspectives represent.”

Finally, the staff of EASC who worked under Prof. Yuasa’s direction used the following words to describe her leadership style: authentic, transparent, ethical, supportive and compassionate. On behalf of the entire EASC team, please join us in thanking Prof. Yuasa for her leadership, commitment and many contributions to the East Asian studies community.
Mitchell Lerner concludes eight-year IKS directorship, appointed new EASC director

The Office of International Affairs, upon recommendation from the East Asian Studies Center (EASC) Director Search Committee, appointed Prof. Mitchell Lerner to the position of Director of EASC, effective September 1, 2020. Prof. Lerner is professor of history at The Ohio State University and holds a BA from Brandeis University, and two MA degrees and a PhD from University of Texas at Austin.

Prof. Lerner is one of the nation’s leading experts on Korean foreign policy and US–Korea relations. His first book, a study of US–Korean relations in the 1960s, won the John Lyman Book Prize and was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Since the book’s publication in 2004, he has authored nearly 20 journal articles and 3 edited volumes. He is also a regular public commentator on this topic, with op-eds in such venues as the New York Times, Washington Post, Korea Times, Cleveland Plains Dealer, The Diplomat and The National Interest, and appearances on television, radio and newspapers across the globe. Prof. Lerner has been a fellow at the University of Virginia’s Miller Center for Public Affairs, served on the governing council of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, and is on the advisory board of the North Korea International Documentation Project at the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars. He has also held the Mary Ball Washington Distinguished Fulbright Chair at University College–Dublin. He currently serves as associate editor of the Journal of American–East Asian Relations, and is a newly-appointed member of the Association for Asian Studies’ Distinguished Speakers Bureau.

At Ohio State, Prof. Lerner is an experienced administrator and educator. For the last eight years, he has served as director of the Institute for Korean Studies (IKS). Under his leadership, the institute has developed new partnerships both within the US and abroad, increased course offerings related to Korea, and organized numerous academic events as well as community outreach and teacher training events. Perhaps most notably, Prof. Lerner was an important member of a team of Korean specialists from across Big Ten universities that partnered to develop an e-school of Korean-related classes to be shared, live and interactive, among Big Ten universities (see page 6).

In addition to his role at IKS, Prof. Lerner is a faculty associate at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. For his work in the classroom, he has won both the OSU Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching and the Ohio Academy of History’s Distinguished Teacher Award. He has also trained numerous MA and PhD graduate students in both History and the Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies MA Program.

Please join us in thanking Prof. Lerner for his service to IKS and congratulating him on this new role.*

Hajime Miyazaki completes five years as US director, retires in 2020

After five and a half years at the helm of the Institute for Japanese Studies (IJS), Hajime Miyazaki, professor of economics, will end his term on June 30, 2020 upon his retirement from Ohio State.

Since 2015, under Prof. Miyazaki’s leadership, IJS expanded its academic profile, developing a vigorous lecture series featuring prominent speakers in Japanese studies. The series brought faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, as well as community members to campus to engage with the latest research in Japanese studies. Working with IJS faculty across campus, Prof. Miyazaki endeavored to make the lecture series encompass diverse topics and multiple disciplines.

Prof. Miyazaki has long been energetic in teaching an upper division economics course in comparative institutional analysis between the US and Japanese markets and organizations. Every spring his course was subscribed by about 60 graduating economics majors as well as a dozen masters students in economics–related disciplines including our MA students in East Asian Studies. For the IJS lecture series, he invited a dozen speakers on Japanese political economy and US–Japan relations. As a unique industry–academia collaboration, Prof. Miyazaki also led a lecture class in which management of a Japanese firm in Greater Columbus was invited to speak on innovation and workforce development.

In 2016, under the leadership of Prof. Miyazaki, IJS inaugurated the Brad Richardson Memorial Lecture (BRML) series to honor the institute’s founding director and established the Brad Richardson Memorial Fund which has raised more than $40,000 to date. The BRML has featured renowned Japanese studies scholars from Columbia University, Stanford University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Montana State University, University of Waterloo and The Ohio State University. (See page 11 for a full BRML report.)

Prof. Miyazaki was enthusiastic about IJS’s long-standing tradition in community outreach. Gagaku, rakugo, and other Japanese performing arts, both traditional and contemporary, were presented to the community and drew large audiences. Prof. Miyazaki has also given steadfast moral support to the Japanese Student Organization and its mission to involve the campus community with Japanese culture. He has been enthusiastic in developing internships for OSU students and took special pleasure with the establishment of a summer internship with a Tokyo firm, which allowed OSU students to experience Japanese work culture.

Finally, Prof. Miyazaki worked to develop enduring ties with the Japanese business community in Ohio, the Japan–America Society of Central Ohio and the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit which will benefit the institute and the university for years to come.

Please join us in thanking Prof. Miyazaki for his service to IJS and wishing him all the best in his retirement.*

*Announcements regarding the new IKS and US directors will be posted on the EASC website at easc.osu.edu/news
Faculty News

Faculty updates

Mark Bender (associate professor, East Asian languages and literatures) presented a paper titled “The Niu Su Book of Origins and Other Recent Yi Epic Translation Projects” at the Recent Advances in Yi Studies Workshop (SOAS University of London, February 2020). The workshop, which concerned an ancient written script used by priests of the Yi ethnic minority group of Southwest China, was organized by Nathan Hill, who does research on languages in the area from Northeast India to Southwest China.


Kirk Denton (professor, East Asian languages and literatures) participated in a manuscript workshop for the Society of Fellows (Princeton University, November 2019) and in a meeting of the Advisory Board for the project Globalized Memorial Museums: Exhibiting Atrocities in the Era of Claims for Moral Universals (Austrian Academy of Sciences, October 2019). He also published a book, The Landscape of Historical Memory: The Politics of Museums and Memorial Culture in Post-Martial Law Taiwan (Hong Kong University Press, 2020).

Meow Hui Goh (associate professor, East Asian languages and literatures) is the winner of the 2019–2020 cycle of the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation’s Scholar Grant, which has allowed her to be on sabbatical in fall 2019 and Special Assignment in spring 2020 to work on her book manuscript, The Double Life of Chaos: Living Memory and Literature in Early Medieval China, C.E. 180s-300s. She is at the last stage of completing the manuscript. She has published an article titled “Renewal in and Through Landscape: The Great Medieval Chinese Poet Xie Lingyun” (in Ken Seigneurie, et al., Wiley Blackwell Companion to World Literature) and two review essays, one of Nicholas Morrow Williams’ Imitations of the Self: Jiang Yan and Chinese Poetics (in Chinese Literature: Essays, Articles, Reviews) and the other of Wang Bing’s Classical Chinese Poetry in Singapore: Witnesses to Social and Cultural Transformations in the Chinese Community (in Journal of American Oriental Society).

Namiko Kunimoto (associate professor, history of art) published “Tactics and Strategies: Chen Qiulin and the Production of Space” in the College Art Association publication, Art Journal, and “Photographic Pluralities” in BlackFlash Magazine. She gave invited talks at Yale Union Contemporary in Portland and Sarah Lawrence University, and was part of a panel on the Aichi Triennale at the University of Chicago. She chaired a panel on “Art in Transwar Japan” at the College Art Association in Chicago, and also organized a symposium called Art and Dissent in Japan at OSU. Kunimoto was awarded the Ronald and Deborah Ratner Distinguished Teaching Award at OSU in March 2020. She will continue in her role as Director of the Center for Ethnic Studies in 2020–2021.

Mitchell Lerner (professor, history) was promoted to professor in 2020 and appointed to director of the East Asian Studies Center, effective September 1, 2020.

Guoqing Li (professor, OSU libraries) presented a paper titled “Collections of Chinese Rare Fiction in North America Libraries” at the International Academic Conference of 2019 Chinese Fiction Forum (Shandong University, August 2019). The paper was recognized as one of the “Best Papers” and later published in Chinese Books and Sinology.

In 2018, Li was invited to edit a book series, Guangzhou in the Memory of Westerners, by Guangdong People’s Publishing House. The first two titles were published in November 2019. On November 26, a ceremony was held at the Library of Guangzhou to celebrate the event. Li was invited to attend and signed the new published titles for CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Prof. Philip Brown, Department of History, retires in 2020

EASC-affiliated faculty member, Prof. Philip C. Brown, Department of History, will retire from The Ohio State University in Summer 2020. An expert in early modern and modern Japanese history, Prof. Brown’s research interests are in the history of technology, environmental history and state–society relations from the 15th to 19th centuries, and most recently, floods and landslides in Japanese history. He is author of Central Authority and Local Autonomy in the Formation of Early Modern Japan: The Case of Kagawa Domain (1993) and Cultivating Commons: Joint Ownership of Arable Land in Early Modern Japan (2011), along with numerous articles. A national leader in Japanese studies, he served as editor of Early Modern Japan: An Interdisciplinary Journal, founding editor of online discussion group, H-Japan, and coordinator of the Association for Asian Studies’ Early Modern Japan Network. Prof. Brown earned his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania, MA from the University of Rochester and BA from the College of Wooster.

At Ohio State, Prof. Brown was an active member of the East Asian studies and Japanese studies communities and was the driving force behind the creation of the Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies MA Program in 2005, subsequently serving as the program’s graduate studies chair and teaching the “Introduction to Graduate–Level East Asian Studies” course for many years. He served on numerous EASC committees, such as the FLAS Fellowship selection committee, and worked with US to organize various events related to Japan. Please join us in wishing Prof. Brown all the best in his retirement.
Faculty updates CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

readers. This event was reported by major media outlets such as Guangzhou Daily and Southern Metropolis Daily. The two titles are Chinese translations of Walk in the City of Canton by John Henry Gray, translated by Guoqing Li & Sai Deng; and Letters from Canton by Mrs. Gray, translated by Guoqing Li & others. In October 2019, Li was invited by Wuhan University, the Sister University of OSU and an exchange partner of OSU Libraries, to give two lectures. The first, titled “Approaches of Recognizing Collection Seal: Theory and Practice,” was later published in Library Journal.


Karen Mancl (professor, food, agricultural and biological engineering) presented “Environmental Infrastructure in Rural China” at the Engineers Foundation of Ohio Continuing Professional Development Conference (November 2019). Two of her articles were featured in NewSecurityBeat, the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Environmental Change and Security Program: “Pig Disease is Creating a Mountainous Solid Waste Problem” (February 2020) and “China Increasing Agricultural Production on a Sea of Plastic” (April 2020). Three additional articles are in the publication pipeline. She also spoke at the Rural Climate Action in the US and China Forum (Woodrow Wilson Center, March 2020).

Mari Noda (professor, East Asian languages and literatures) produced a new Japanese educational web series, NihonGO NOW!, a 12-part video series based on textbooks by the same name, which takes a “performed culture approach” to language instruction. She is also the lead author on the NihonGO NOW! textbooks series (Routledge, July 2020). The material supports beginning-level courses, two to three years of regular instruction at the college level.

Mineharu Nakayama (professor, East Asian languages and literatures) published co-edited conference proceedings, “Buckeye East Asian Linguistics 4” (OSU Knowledge Bank) with Hannah Dahlberg-Dodd, then a doctoral student, and DEALL colleagues Zhiguo Xie and Marjorie K.M. Chan, and a co-authored section in the Journal of Japanese Linguistics (De Gruyter) with Tomoyuki Yoshida. He also published a co-authored article: “Seem Constructions in Japanese EFL Learners’ Inter-language Grammar” in Yuichi Ono & Masaharu Shimada’s (Eds.) Data Science in Collaboration (Tsukuba General Affairs Supporting Center) with Noriko Yoshimura, and another co-authored proceedings article: “The Perception of Prosodic Focus Marking,” in Hisao Tokizaki (ed.), Phonological Externalization (Sapporo University) with Atsushi Fujimori, Naoto Yamane, Noriko Yoshimura and Ian Wilson. He delivered five co-authored conference presentations in the US, Japan and Italy, and three invited lectures in Japan.

Welcome...

New EASC-affiliated faculty
- Yasuyuki Motoyama, assistant professor, city and regional planning
- Yue Qin, assistant professor, geography
- Yvette Shen, assistant professor, design

Congratulations...

Faculty promotions, 2019
- Max Woodworth, promoted to associate professor with tenure, geography

Retirements, 2020
- Philip Brown, professor, history
- Hajime Miyazaki, professor, economics

Max Woodworth (associate professor, geography) had two PhD students graduate in Spring 2020. Sam Kay’s dissertation was titled “Uprooting People, Planting Trees: Environmental Scarcity Politics and Urban Greening in Beijing.” Scarlett (Ting) Jin’s dissertation was titled “Chinese Shrinking Cities and the State.” Woodworth is the Principal Investigator of a Discovery Theme Arts and Humanities Grant titled “Asian Futures” which aims to organize a series of events and initiatives to expand and promote Asian Studies at Ohio State. He was also recently guest editor of a special issue titled “Exploring China’s Borderlands in an Era of BRI-induced Change” with Agnieszka Joniak-Lüthi (University of Zurich) in the journal Eurasian Geography and Economics. Additionally, he organized a panel, “COVID-19 in Virtual and Urban Space,” for the American Association of Geographers virtual meeting (April 2020).

Zhiguo Xie (associate professor, East Asian languages and literatures) published a journal article and a book chapter. The journal article, titled “Assessing Introspective Linguistic Judgments Quantitatively: The Case of The Syntax of Chinese” in Journal of East Asian Linguistics (forthcoming), was co-authored with Zhong Chen and Yuhang Xu. The book chapter, titled “Acceptability or Grammaticality: Judging Chinese Sentences for Linguistic Studies” in Cambridge Handbook of Chinese Linguistics (forthcoming) was co-authored with Yao Yao, Chien-Jer Charles Lin and Chu-Ren Huang. In addition, he delivered a plenary speech on epistemic modality at the 10th International Conference on Grammaticalization in Chinese (China Three Gorges University, October 2019) and a guest lecture on expressive degree adverbs (Sun Yatsen University, October 2019). He also co-organized the 5th Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (via Zoom, April 2020).
Faculty News

Area studies centers award conference grant to political science faculty

Professors Inés Valdez and Benjamin McKean of the Department of Political Science have been selected as the recipients of a 2019–2020 Office of International Affairs (OIA) Area Studies Centers Conference Grant for their project, “Worlds in Contention: Race, Neoliberalism, and Injustice.” The Center for Latin American Studies, Center for Slavic and East European Studies and East Asian Studies Center of OIA awarded the grant with funding from their 2018–2022 US Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center grants. OIA Area Studies Centers Conference Grants were launched in the 2018–2019 academic year to enhance area studies research at Ohio State and support the study of global issues from interdisciplinary, multi-regional perspectives.

Profs. Valdez and McKean intend to use the OIA Area Studies Centers Conference Grant to organize an interdisciplinary, multi-regional conference in the 2020–2021 academic year that will facilitate a discussion on contentious politics from around the world. Specifically, the conference will look at how local protest movements throughout the world can be connected with larger, transnational struggles against exclusionary and exploitative policies associated with neoliberalism. Invited participants will share their research on the politics of protests from different regions of the world to draw comparisons and open up possible new pathways for collaborative research. The conference will include the United States as an important site of production of neoliberal ideology and resistance, including the work of McKean on populism and Valdez’s transnational focus on migration, spanning both the United States and Mexico. An additional 10-12 external speakers will enhance the regional breadth of the conference with possible speakers discussing Bolivia, China, Colombia, Eastern Europe, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Hungary, Iran and Japan.

“Our goal is to highlight connected forms of neoliberal subjection in the West and the Global South and to find affinities between resistance struggles around the world,” the organizers shared. “The current pandemic has made neoliberal inequalities, and this prevailing order’s dependence on low-wage black and brown workers, more evident than ever. We hope that bringing this important conversation to OSU will spur a sustained interdisciplinary collaboration among campus scholars on these critical questions.”

The conference will be open to all faculty and students at Ohio State, colleges and universities in the area, and members of community and business organizations. Further information to come in Autumn 2020.

Student News

EAS MA Program celebrates 15 years, eliminates GRE requirement

The Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies MA Program (EAS MA) celebrated its 15th year in 2020. Established in 2005, the program places heavy emphasis on interdisciplinary study as well as the development of appropriate language skills as a foundation for work in related professional and academic careers. The program has produced 42 graduates to date who have gone on to careers in education, business, government, non-profit organizations or to continued study. A number have pursued doctoral programs in a variety of East Asia-related fields at major universities, such as Brown University, Princeton University, The Ohio State University, University of Chicago, University of Kansas, University of Manchester and University of Michigan.

The program is governed by a graduate studies committee of five elected representatives from the 58 program faculty, currently chaired by Prof. Max Woodworth (geography), and administered by Amy Carey, EASC’s senior assistant director. In 2019–2020, the committee examined the use of the GRE in its admissions process. After considering the predictive value, the potential bias in the test and the potential financial barrier it creates, the committee put the elimination of the GRE requirement out for a vote of the full faculty. The faculty overwhelmingly supported the removal of the GRE requirement in the admissions process. This change in policy will be implemented in Summer 2020.
Student and alumni updates

John Bundschuh (graduate student, East Asian languages and literatures) recently completed his Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad fellowship in Japan. There he gave an invited talk at an Osaka University Global Japanese Studies Research Workshop and subsequently published a paper titled “Rethinking Japan’s Earliest Written Narratives: Early-Heian Kundokugo Translations of Chinese Buddhist Texts” in the Anthology of Transborder Cultural Studies. He was also awarded the Tanakadate Aikitu Prize by DEALL, which is given annually to the most outstanding graduate student in Japanese humanities.

Mario De Grandis (graduate student, East Asian languages and literatures) has been named a 2020-2021 Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme Graduate Team Fellow. The fellowship brings together a cohort of graduate students whose projects intersect with one or more of the Global Arts + Humanities Discovery Theme focus areas, providing them with an opportunity to gain cross-disciplinary mentorship while being embedded in a collaborative environment.


Congratulations to EASC fellowship, scholarship awardees...

Academic Year 2019-20 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships:

Graduate/Professional Students
Alyssa Cantrell, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Jason Conley, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Justine Franklin, Agricultural, Environmental, and Developmental Economics and Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
Michael Frazer, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
Skylor Gomes, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
Makenna Grace, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Seth Josolowitz, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
Mi Row, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Danielle Rymers, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
Joseph Smith, Ecological Engineering and East Asian Languages and Literatures
Travis Telzrow, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Logan Ward, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies

Undergraduate STEM Students
Katie Heym, Math, French and Japanese
Ryo Shinohara, Physics and Japanese

Summer 2020 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships:

Graduate/Professional Students
Jason Conley, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Michael Frazer, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
Seth Josolowitz, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
Joseph Smith, Ecological Engineering and East Asian Languages and Literatures
Logan Ward, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies

2020 Intensive Chinese Language Scholarships:

Lauren Kennedy, International Studies and Chinese

2020 Louise Zung-nyi Loh Memorial Scholarships:

Bruno Biagini Bonati, Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies
James Danison, International Studies and Chinese
Jennifer Nunes, East Asian Languages and Literatures

EASC partnered with the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS), the Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES) and the Office of International Affairs to host a reception for 2019-2020 FLAS fellows on November 7, 2019 at the Faculty Club. The event celebrated the 80 student fellowships provided by EASC, CSEES and CLAS and more than $1.72 million in student support awarded to students in 30 academic departments. Remarks were delivered by Executive Vice President and Provost Bruce McPherson, Vice Provost for Global Strategies and International Affairs Gil Latz and Graduate School Dean Alicia Bertone.

OSU FLAS Fellows recognized at inaugural FLAS Reception

EASC PARTNERED WITH THE CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES (CLAS), THE CENTER FOR SLAVIC AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES (CSEES) AND THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TO HOST A RECEPTION FOR 2019-2020 FLAS FELLOWS ON NOVEMBER 7, 2019 AT THE FACULTY CLUB. THE EVENT CELEBRATED THE 80 STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS PROVIDED BY EASC, CSEES AND CLAS AND MORE THAN $1.72 MILLION IN STUDENT SUPPORT AWARDED TO STUDENTS IN 30 ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS. REMARKS WERE DELIVERED BY EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST BRUCE MCPHERSON, VICE PROVOST FOR GLOBAL STRATEGIES AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS GIL LATZ AND GRADUATE SCHOOL DEAN ALICIA BERTONE. PICTURED ABOVE, FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT: EASC FLAS FELLOWS LOGAN WARD, MICHAEL FRAZER AND JUSTINE FRANKLIN, EASC DIRECTOR ETSUYO YUASA, EASC SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AMY CAREY; SECOND ROW, FROM LEFT: DEALL CHAIR MARK BENDER, EASC FLAS FELLOWS MI ROW, ADYSSA CANTRELL, JESSICA JOURDAN AND TRAVIS TELZROW; THIRD ROW, FROM LEFT: EASC FLAS FELLOWS JOSEPH SMITH, MAKENNA GRACE, SARAH JANTUH-AGYEMAN AND JASON CONLEY.

Student News
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