

# East Asian Studies Center

## *expOSUre*

**2024-25**



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



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## East Asian Studies Center

Faculty Director: Mitchell Lerner

Assistant Director: Chris White

Assistant Director of Outreach: Janet Smith

Financial Operations Lead Coordinator: Danielle Cooke

Program Coordinator: Francesco DiMarco

### **Institute for Chinese Studies**

Faculty Director: Max Woodworth

### **Institute for Japanese Studies**

Faculty Director: Naomi Fukumori

### **Institute for Korean Studies**

Faculty Director: Danielle Pyun

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## Message from the East Asian Studies Center director

I am a huge fan of the Columbus Blue Jackets, which means that I have learned to set really low definitions for success. Generally speaking, I approach each hockey season with the idea that if the Jackets make it through the year without the arena collapsing or the team plane being hijacked or the stadium running out of [horribly overpriced] beer, it is a success. It would have been easy to apply a similarly low standard to the East Asian Studies Center (EASC) this past year. 2024-25 brought us a wave of serious challenges, from Ohio's Senate Bill 1 to federal attacks on higher education and diversity to an overflowing schedule of commitments and more. And yet, as always, the EASC team rose to the occasion, and delivered another year that certainly would have qualified us for the playoffs, and perhaps even a run at the championship!

If we did make the playoffs, it would have been because we have a whole roster of superstars. **Chris White** continues to excel as the head coach, skillfully leading us from challenge to challenge. Our core players– **Danielle Cooke**, **Francesco DiMarco** and **Janet Smith**– make everything happen with consummate skill and commitment, and continue to do far more than I could reasonably ask of them. Our part-timers– **Naomi Fukumori** at IJS, **Danielle Pyun** at IKS and **Max Woodworth** at ICS– chart paths and make connections and are always leading us towards new and exciting possibilities. And all of you reading this, who have done so much to help in so many different ways, deserve credit as well. 2024-25 was most certainly a challenging season, but I think the entire EASC team not only survived but actually flourished.

And flourish we did! EASC organized or supported nearly 50 events on campus this year, which attracted more than 2,000 people. We played a central role in hosting the Association for Asian Studies annual conference here in Columbus for the first time and are soon to host the annual Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs. We partnered with the change to University of Pittsburgh on a workshop about teaching East Asia for Appalachian schools, with Indiana University for a graduate student writing workshop on China and with Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA for a major workshop on contemporary US-Japan relations. We hosted events on manga, on sijo, on Asian comics, on the Silk Road and on K-Pop and we organized a week-long visit from a prominent Korean animator and filmmaker. Our interdisciplinary MA program in East Asian Studies is exploding in popularity, with an expected 12 to 15 new students enrolling for next year, and we gave hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to our tremendous students who are committed to enhancing their knowledge of East Asia.

Overall, it was another wonderful year at EASC, one that you will read about in the pages that follow. Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen.



Mitchell Lerner, director, East Asian Studies Center and professor of history





## Message from the Institute for Japanese Studies director

This year marks the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the Institute for Japanese Studies (IJS) at Ohio State. IJS was created in 1985 through a gubernatorial initiative to recognize Ohio's national status as the state with the second largest investment by Japanese manufacturing. In 2025, the ties between Ohio and Japan remain vital, with Japan the top foreign direct investor in the state. IJS's mission to promote education and research about Japan and to foster public engagement with Japanese culture also remain unchanged. For the 2024-25 academic year the Institute hosted or collaborated on fourteen different events, with a focus on forging new relationships within and beyond Ohio State as a hub for Japanese Studies.



Naomi Fukumori, director, Institute for Japanese Studies and associate professor of East Asian languages and literatures

Among this year's highlights:

- The IJS worked with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA for the first time, hosting a workshop on strengthening economic and security ties between Ohio and Japan. The event brought into conversation experts from Japan and the U.S., with the East Asian Studies Center's director Mitchell Lerner serving as the emcee.
- The Institute coordinated a week-long internship program in August 2024 that partnered the University of Osaka's Joining and Welding Research Institute, Ohio State's Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering, and Ohio State's Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures. Tipp City, OH's OTC Daihen, a Japanese manufacturer and a world leader in robotic arc welding technology, hosted two engineering students and two humanities students from the University of Osaka and a similar cohort of students from Ohio State. IJS will again facilitate this internship program, which seeks to develop global leaders through emphasis on cross-cultural communication, in August 2025.
- IJS partnered in September 2024 with Cartoon Crossroads Columbus (CXC), an annual international festival showcasing the best in comics art and animation. IJS brought manga translator Ryan Holmberg to Columbus to participate in a manga localization panel at CXC and to speak on campus about the art and business of being a freelance localizer. In 2025, IJS will again partner with CXC and with the Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture to feature two Japanese manga artists and a manga editor in various campus programming.

The eleven other 2024-25 IJS events sparked engagement with a range of subjects in Japanese Studies, from second language acquisition in immersion programs, institutional change in Japan's agriculture, the role of videogames in trauma recovery, contemporary approaches to Jōmon period archaeology to the revival of Japanese Marxism in the 21st century. I thank the East Asian Studies Center staff and my IJS colleagues, without whom none of the programming would be possible.

In closing, I note that IJS's fortieth anniversary year coincides with the tenth annual Brad Richardson Memorial Lecture (BRML), a signature event honoring the founder of the Institute. Dr. Aiji Tanaka, the president of Waseda University, will deliver this milestone lecture on Oct. 29. Dr. Tanaka is an Ohio State alumnus, having earned his PhD degree from the Dept. of Political Science under Brad Richardson's direction. I look forward to celebrating IJS's fortieth anniversary at the tenth BRML and invite the East Asian Studies Center community to join me.

## Message from the Institute for Korean Studies director

As we conclude the 2024-2025 academic year, I am pleased to share highlights from a vibrant and impactful year for the Institute for Korean Studies (IKS).

We began with the Ohio World Language Korean Summit in June 2024, which convened K-12 educators and language advocates to explore expanding Korean language education in the Midwest. I extend my appreciation to Professor **Mitch Lerner** and Dr. **Chris White** for their leadership in K-12 engagement, and to **Janet Smith** for her continued outreach efforts, including the Fall 2024 Sijo Teacher Workshops, which empowered educators to introduce Korean poetry in the classroom.

Film and media played a central role this year. We co-sponsored a special event featuring acclaimed director **Ahn Jae-huun**, including screenings of “The Road Called Life” and “Green Days,” followed by an engaging conversation with the director. These events drew broad participation from both campus and the local community, underscoring the growing public interest in Korean animation and storytelling.

In October, Ohio State hosted the annual conference of the Korean Literature Association under the theme “Act! Performativity of Korean Literature.” Coordinated by Professor **Pil Ho Kim**, the conference brought global scholars to Columbus for rich dialogue. It was a timely and meaningful gathering, coinciding with Korean novelist Han Kang’s Nobel Prize in Literature.

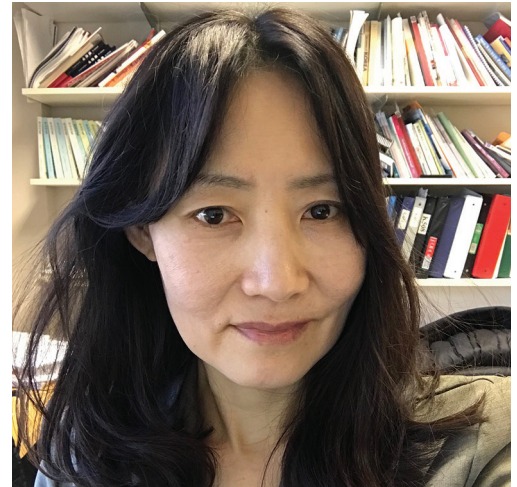
Our lecture series continued to foster diverse, critical perspectives. Highlights included **Benedict Park** on Asian corporate investments in Ohio, **Yang H. Yun** on Korea’s bio industry, **Kee-Yoon Nahm** on South Korean theatre and **Jieun Lee** on transnational adoption across media forms. These talks underscored our commitment to a multidimensional approach to Korean studies, encompassing economic, scientific and cultural domains.

We also addressed pressing political and social issues. **Ingu Hwang** examined 1974 as a pivotal year in transpacific human rights activism, while **Tae-Ung Baik** discussed the United Nations and human rights in North Korea. Other lectures explored cultural phenomena and activist movements: **Seungsook Moon** on migrant activism, **Junho Lee** on MBTI in Korean society, **Sung Un Gang** on female spectatorship and postcolonial theatre and **Hieyoon Kim** on feminist cinema.

In the arts, the event “Body and Text in Motion” explored intersections of Korean contemporary dance, theatre and animation. Many thanks to Professors **Pil Ho Kim** and **Hayana Kim** for coordinating this innovative cross-media engagement.

Finally, this academic year marked a particularly special moment for Korean studies at Ohio State, as Columbus hosted the 2025 Association for Asian Studies Conference, bringing a broad community of Korean studies scholars to our city. It was a privilege to connect with colleagues from around the world and share our institute’s work with a wider academic audience.

Looking ahead, IKS remains committed to advancing scholarship, education, and public understanding of Korea’s evolving global presence. I extend my deepest thanks to **Mitch Lerner**, **Chris White**, **Dani Cooke**, **Franco DiMarco** and **Janet Smith** for their tireless contributions to programming, logistics, outreach and promotion. Thank you to all our faculty, students and staff for making this year meaningful and fulfilling.



Danielle O. Pyun, director, Institute for Korean Studies and professor of East Asian languages and literatures

## Message from the Institute for Chinese Studies director

The academic year 2024-2025 has been a lively one for the Institute for Chinese Studies (ICS). During this time, we have supported a wide array of academic activities and campus engagements that brought together faculty, staff, students and members of the public. This being my first full academic year at the head of the institute, it has been an exciting period of learning and a pleasure getting to know more deeply about the work being done by colleagues as well as the students affiliated with Chinese studies across campus at the undergraduate and graduate levels. I am very pleased to say that Chinese studies at Ohio State is thriving thanks to the depth and breadth of expertise among our affiliates.



Max Woodworth, director,  
Institute for Chinese Studies and  
associate professor of geography

Reflecting the diversity of scholarly engagements represented by our affiliates, this year featured a wide spectrum of public lectures. Topics covered in our visiting speaker series related to business relations with China, urban planning, environmental governance, Qing dynasty historiography and databases and frontier environmental history. The institute also supported the continuation of a focus on Taiwan, with public lectures on the history of the Kuomintang's post-civil war exodus and retreat to the island and the geopolitics of cross-strait tourism by People's Republic of China (PRC) citizens in Taiwan. In fulfillment of Ohio State's Title IV goals, the institute also hosted resident Fulbright fellow, Dr. **Frank Liu** from National Cheng-chi University in Taiwan, for a Chinese-language lecture. Dr. Liu's talk looked at the generational divides in the urgent question of national identity in Taiwan today. The scope of these talks helped to draw together participants from across the university for rich and productive interdisciplinary discussions.

In addition, ICS this year organized a graduate student workshop in collaboration with the Indiana University East Asian Studies Center. Four students and two faculty mentors from each institution gathered for a full day in February to exchange feedback on students' ongoing research and writing. New friendships and closer inter-institutional ties were forged at the workshop, and plans for a follow-up workshop in the coming year have been made.

This year has also come with significant changes emanating from national and state politics. In March 2025, the Ohio Legislature enacted the "Advance Ohio Higher Education Act," a bill whose early drafts contained provisions curtailing study abroad programs and collaborations with institutions in the PRC. As enacted, the law says nothing about study abroad but specifies that the chancellor be notified of new and renewed collaborations with institutions in China and that such collaborations only be approved upon confirmation that the Ohio partner maintain safeguards relating to intellectual property and conflicts of interest. Such safeguards have long been in place at Ohio State. Additionally, the law requires a formalized process for foreign visitors and a uniform visiting scholar agreement, though no details are provided on either. It is difficult to say whether or how the new law will materially affect exchanges with institutions and research colleagues in the PRC. On top of state-level action touching upon China, the new federal administration has launched major change in economic relations with the PRC, specifically through new and elevated tariff rates. This change has brought U.S.-PRC relations to the forefront of national discussions and elevated attention paid to China across society. At present, we can only conclude that relations with China at the local, state and national levels are in flux. In pursuit of the broader university mission of "Education for Citizenship" ICS intends to monitor these developments while helping promote engagement and informed discussion around these and other changes impacting relations with China in the coming years.

With the expectation of building on the activities and accomplishments of the past year, I look forward to renewed engagement and fresh opportunities to expand understanding about China across campus and in our local community. Thanks are due to all the participants who joined ICS events this year. I'd especially like to recognize the work of the East Asian Studies Center leadership and staff. I hope to see everyone again soon in the coming year as ICS carries forward its tradition of interdisciplinary activity.



# EASC Congratulations



## Lerner Receives President and Provost's Award for Distinguished Faculty Service

**Mitch Lerner**, professor of U.S. diplomatic history with a focus on Korea and director of the East Asian Studies Center, has

been named a recipient of the President and Provost's Award for Distinguished Faculty Service. Lerner's exceptional contributions to Ohio State span nearly 25 years across multiple disciplines, colleges and campuses, where he has brought significant support to the university to advance the study of East Asia, inspiring educators and students alike to teach, learn and engage with one of the most significant regions of the world.

He has a well-established record of service at Ohio State and at local, state and national levels, including notable leadership roles. Lerner served as associate director of EASC and head of its Institute for Korean Studies from 2011 to 2020, before becoming EASC director in 2020. He began his career at Ohio State Newark in 2000, where he directed the LeFevre Fellows honors program.

"Professor Lerner has served the university at an exceptionally high and broad level in his more than two decades at Ohio State. He embodies a remarkable dedication to serving our students, our university, and the broader academic community," said **Scott Levi**, chair of the Department of History. "His significant contributions and the wide range of his appointments across campuses and units testifies to the extraordinary breadth of his university-wide impact."

Over the years, Lerner has served on numerous committees, advisory boards, faculty search committees and is immediate past president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), the learned society in the United States in his field. He is also a recipient of the 2005 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching and is a two-time recipient of the Newark Faculty Service Award.



## Smith Earns Graduate Degree

East Asian Studies Center Assistant Director of Outreach **Janet Smith** completed her master's degree in learning technologies from Ohio State's College of Education and Human Ecology.

Smith has been involved in East Asian Studies at Ohio State for over two decades, formerly serving as the executive director of the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio (JASCO) and assistant director of the Institute for Japanese Studies. In 2024, Smith was recognized for her outstanding contributions by receiving the Distinguished Staff Award, the highest honor given to Ohio State staff members.

Way to go, Janet!



## Mari Noda Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

The American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ) selected Professor **Mari Noda** to receive the AATJ Lifetime Achievement Award. Noda, who retired from Ohio State in 2023, was given the award at the 2025 AATJ Conference on March 13, 2025, in Columbus. She also delivered the keynote speech. The AATJ Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated a lifetime of exceptional contributions to Japanese language and culture education at both national and international levels. Only a select group of extraordinarily distinguished scholars have been recognized with this honor.



Professor Noda taught in DEALL for 33 years, between 1990 and 2023. She founded the Performed Culture Approach to East Asian language pedagogy with Professor **Galal Walker**, and has been a champion of Japanese language education. In the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (DEALL), she supervised 17 MA students and 12 PhD students who currently teach at U.S. and Japanese universities, including University of Pittsburgh, California State University, Fullerton, Portland State University, Middlebury College and Kansai Gaidai University. Renowned for her excellent coursework, the majority of DEALL MA and PhD graduates in both Chinese and Japanese now utilize the performed culture approach at their respective institutions. As quality training is essential to advancing Japanese language education, Professor Noda has dedicated enormous amounts of time and energy to teacher training in DEALL and other institutions. **Tom Mason**, the director of Alliance for Language Learning and Educational Exchange (ALLEX) Foundation, estimates that Professor Noda has trained close to 2,000 instructors in their program since 2003. She also has written numerous books and articles on the performed culture approach in Japanese and East Asian language pedagogy, materials preparation, curriculum development, study abroad and multimedia materials. Outstanding among these publications are two textbook series, “Japanese: The Spoken Language” and “NihonGo Now.” She has generously shared her ideas at conferences more than 130 times.

**Patricia Wetzel**, one of the nominators of the award, says of Professor Noda that, “she is the consummate educator, with an impact on students that makes her unforgettable. There can be no higher praise of a teacher than that.”

**Hiroaki Kawamura**, another nominator of the award, writes about Professor Noda’s contributions to grassroots exchange and says “Noda’s contributions are far beyond traditional Japanese language teaching and research. In my mind, she embodies the goal of AATJ, i.e., impacting the world through Japanese language teaching, learning and research.”



## Goh Recognized for Teaching Excellence

**Meow Hui Goh**, associate professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, was awarded the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching. This award, established during the 1959-60 academic year, is one of the university’s most prestigious teaching awards. Professor Goh was one of 10 faculty members honored with the award.

“Each year, we celebrate exceptional faculty members whose dedication and passion for teaching shape our students’ futures,” said **Molly Ranz Calhoun**, president and CEO of The Ohio State University Alumni Association. “These outstanding individuals embody the essence of academic excellence and Ohio State’s mission as a land-grant institution. On behalf of the alumni association, it is an honor to recognize their contributions with this prestigious award.”

Professor Goh has demonstrated dedication, passion and innovative teaching methods during her two decades at Ohio State. She is celebrated for creating an inclusive and engaging classroom environment, fostering deep connections among students and supporting their academic and personal growth. Her class discussions focus on each student’s personal interpretation of classical Chinese literature, valuing their input and encouraging participation while developing critical thinking and deep engagement to the literary works.



# Conferences

Each year, EASC supports multiple academic conferences and workshops led by affiliated faculty. For instance, EASC supported the Korean Literature Association's annual conference, which was held at Ohio State, the Sixth Buckeye East Asian Linguistics (BEAL) Forum and the "Performed Culture Approach Conference" held in honor of Professors **Galal Walker** and **Mari Noda**. EASC also organized the annual, "When East Meets West" conference, held in conjunction with Columbus State Community College, which focused on "Cross Cultural Exchange along the Maritime Silk Road." Each of these conferences included presentations by students and faculty from Ohio State. Below are examples of additional conferences and workshops in which EASC was closely involved.

## AAS in Columbus

In March 2025, the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) annual conference was for the first time ever held in Columbus. Aside from Chicago, this was the first time AAS had been held in a midwestern city since the 1950s and was a great opportunity to showcase Columbus and the vibrant Asian studies environment at Ohio State to the 3,500 attendees of the conference. EASC, affiliated faculty and the university community did not disappoint. A total of 52 presentations featured Ohio State faculty and students.



Members of the Columbus Breakers during a "pop up" performance at AAS.

The Local Arrangements Committee for the conference was led by IJS director **Naomi Fukumori** and had other EASC affiliates, including **Christina Burke Mathison**, **Ann Marie Davis**, **Pil Ho Kim**, **Mitch Lerner** and **Chris White**. This committee arranged "pop-up" performances to add creative flavor to the conference and organized local excursions to highlight the region and Ohio State resources. The performances included music of the *P'iri* (Korean double reed instrument), breakdancing from the Columbus Breakers, *Samul nori* (traditional Korean drumming) by three central Ohio drum teams, *Tinikling* (Filipino folk dance) and modern dance by the Pilipino Student Association at Ohio State. Spaces for each of the local tours were quickly filled as attendees traveled to the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks, OCLC, the Columbus Museum of Art, and at Ohio State, the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum, the Wexner Center for the Arts and William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library.

EASC, along with the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, invited former Ohio State students and faculty as well as other friends to a conference reception featuring a sundae bar. The center also arranged for the *Silk Road* exhibit to be on display at the Greater Columbus Convention Center for the duration of AAS.



A portion of the *Silk Road* exhibit displayed at AAS.



Members of the Local Arrangement Committee with AAS President Hyaewol Choi (center)



## Conference on China and Africa

EASC and the Center for African Studies, in conjunction with Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service Africa-China Initiative and George Washington University's East Asia National Resource Center, convened "New Perspectives on China and Africa," a symposium held at Ohio State in November 2024.

The September 2024 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation turned the world's attention to the strategic connections between China and African nations. This forum, which was held in Beijing, featured 51 African heads of state, indicating the increasing importance of these relations. How these two regions continue to develop in a multipolar global economy will have an enormous impact on the world economy and geopolitical state of affairs. This symposium gathered experts who discussed the status of Africa-China ties from multiple perspectives. Topics included how military engagements mitigate or enhance security concerns, the effects in African nations of Chinese infrastructure loans, the influence of the African Diaspora in the US on China-Africa relations, environmental risks that Chinese investment brings to some regions of Africa and how Chinese diplomacy utilizes "relational power" through training African government officials



Symposium participants, front: Ousman Kobo (Ohio State), Yoon Jung Park (Georgetown), Joshua Eisenman (Notre Dame), Jyhjong Hwang (Ohio State), Asma Belem (Georgetown); back: Chris White (Ohio State), Josh Hill (Ohio University), Jacien Carr (Ohio State), Ambassador David Shinn (George Washington), and Phiwokuhle Mnyandu (Howard).

## EASC Hosts Workshop on US-Japan Regional Alliance

The United States-Japan relationship was at the forefront of student, faculty and community members' minds as they gathered in the Ohio Union on October 7, 2025, for a conference focusing on the two countries' ties. "Strengthening the U.S.-Japan Economic and Security Alliance in Ohio: A Workshop on the U.S.-Japan Regional Alliance," organized in collaboration with the non-profit Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA, sought to further knowledge about the US-Japan relationship in Ohio, with a focus on trade and the bilateral alliance. The event was opened by the director of the East Asian Studies Center **Mitch Lerner**, followed by remarks from university President **Ted Carter**, who highlighted the importance of the US-Japan relationship. After President Carter's speech, experts convened for two lively panel discussions. In these discussions, panelists shared their insights and experiences relating to the US-Japan relationship. The panels were moderated by **Satohiro Akimoto**, president and chairman of Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA, and **William Chou**, the deputy director and Japan chair at the Hudson Institute.

The first panel focused on the US-Japan security relationship and featured Adm (retired) **Tomohisa Takei**, former chief of staff of the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force, Lt. Gen. (retired) **Larry Nicholson**, of the US Marine Corps, and Col. **Peter Mansoor** (retired), currently a professor of military history at Ohio State. The second panel, which focused on Japan's economic investment in Ohio, was composed of business professionals who work in sectors related to US-Japan trade and manufacturing. These panelists included **Yuka Hayashi**, senior fellow of the Progressive Policy Institute, **Teruko Wada**, senior manager of International Affairs at Keidanren, and **Hiroaki Kawamura**, associate professor at the University of Findlay. Following two sets of engaging discussions and lively Q and A sessions, Lerner closed the proceedings, emphasizing the continued importance of maintaining and expanding the US-Japan relationship in an increasingly globalized world and stating that Ohio was honored to be part of that effort.





## EASC co-sponsors conference with University of Pittsburgh's Asian Studies Center

EASC is committed to developing interest in and knowledge of East Asia throughout Ohio and the region more broadly. As a center within a major research university, we hope to share our resources and expertise with instructors and students at varying levels, including K-12, community college and liberal arts classrooms. Towards this end, we partnered with the Asian Studies Center at the University of Pittsburgh to organize a conference focusing on small colleges in the Appalachia region. Held at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, West Virginia, in May 2025, the “Globalizing the Curriculum: Enhancing East Asian Studies in Appalachian Colleges” attracted nearly 50 participants from Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The conference featured presentations from instructors at high schools, community colleges and liberal arts schools.

Attendees discussed the challenges of incorporating East Asian content into classrooms, reflecting on financial and administrative barriers as well as concerns over limited expertise and lack of student enrollment or interest. These potential issues were addressed head on as speakers introduced rich, freely available resources developed at EASC and the University of Pittsburgh's ASC, as well as other sources. Strategic methods for gaining support from administrators and funding were also proposed. Some speakers focused on their own examples of successfully implementing East Asian content into existing curricula.

At the end of the conference, one participant remarked, “So many resources are available, and there is so much help out there, that there is tremendous opportunity to expand and enhance educational opportunities on campus.” Another participant commented, “I do not have a strong background in cultural and social studies, so this conference introduced a lot of good resources that I can use.”



Participants of the Globalizing the Curriculum: Enhancing East Asian Studies in Appalachian Colleges conference



Conference attendees discuss challenges and solutions of incorporating East Asian content into college classes.



## Graduate Student Workshop with Indiana University

In February 2025, the Institute for Chinese Studies hosted a graduate student workshop involving students from Ohio State and Indiana University. Four students from each school shared written research and received feedback from attendees. In addition, Professors **Chris Reed** and **Max Woodworth** from Ohio State, and **Thomas Chan** and **Nick Vogt** from IU, gave extensive comments on the papers. The workshop was a great success and the participants remarked on the practical and thoughtful feedback they received. The list of attendees and papers below reflect the great diversity featured in this workshop.

**Alissa Elegant** (Ohio State, Dance, “Festivals for Workers’ Artistic Performance in China’s Railway Industry”)

**Cruz (Wenhao) Guan** (Ohio State, History, “Educating Teachers before Students: China’s Modern Education System, Nation-Building, & Geography Textbooks and Teacher’s Guides, 1902-1937”)

**Xuezhao Li** (Ohio State, East Asian Languages and Literature, “Colonialism, Nationalism, and Feminism in Modern Chinese Adventure: A Topic Modeling Approach”)

**Elvin Zhu** (Ohio State, East Asian Studies, “Working out Chinese Fitness: Zhao Zhuguang, Chinese Bodybuilding, and Muscular Masculinity, 1929–1949”)

**Angelina Chen** (Indiana University, Anthropology, “Listening as Feminist Method: Ethics of Care in a Migrant Women’s Hub in South China”)

**Jiacheng Dong** (Indiana University, History, “Processed History: Collective Memory Reconstruction within the Chinese Paper Media Circle during the Nanjing Decade”)

**Chi Feng** (Indiana University, East Asian Languages and Cultures, “Music, Barbarians, and Empire: A Conceptualized History of Early Chinese Institutions”)

**Yiming Hu** (Indiana University, Central Eurasian Studies, “Not So Uyghur, Not So Han: Performing Minzu Identities in the Context of 21st Century Chinese Politics of Rural Hunan”)

## EASC hosts the Ohio World Language Korean Summit

In keeping with its outreach initiatives and efforts to support expanded access to East Asia-related educational opportunities in Ohio, on June 18, 2024, the East Asian Studies Center was proud to host the first Ohio World Language Korean Summit at the Fawcett Center. The summit was held in cooperation with an array of partners including the Chicago Korean Education Center, Korean Language Teachers Association North Central Chapter, Korean Language Foundation and Foundation for Korean Language & Culture in USA, attracting attendees from educational institutions, government agencies and other partners from Ohio and Korea. As the popularity of Korean language and culture continues to grow along with the geopolitical and economic importance of Korea worldwide, more students at American schools are eager to learn Korean. At Ohio State, the College of Education and Human Ecology is addressing the demand for Korean language instructors with a new Master of Education in World Languages (Korean) program.

Proceedings opened with a congratulatory address from Consul General **Junghan Kim**, of the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Chicago. The summit consisted of three panels. During lunch, attendees were treated to K-pop and traditional Korean dance performances by Ohio high school students and teachers.

Institute for Korean Studies Director **Danielle Pyun** stated that the summit, “brings together educators, administrators, teachers and students passionate about fostering Korean language programs in K-12 schools across Ohio and the Midwest... to provide valuable insights into establishing and enhancing K-12 Korean programs, featuring sessions on the MEd World Language (Korean) program, teacher licensure and comprehensive resources and support for offering Korean programs in K-12 settings.”



Joseph Butso, currently enrolled in the MEd World Language (Korean) program, shares about his experience as a Korean language student.

## Visiting Scholars



### Korean animator Ahn Jae-huun makes his mark with Columbus residency

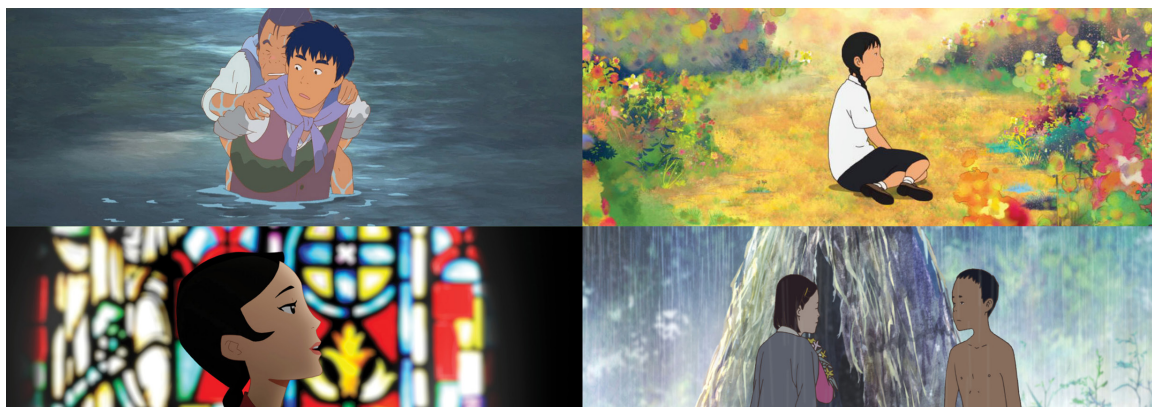
“Drawing is a very meaningful time for me to meditate,” said acclaimed South Korean animation director **Ahn Jae-huun** through interpreter and Ohio State professor **Danielle Pyun** during his recent visit to campus. Ahn’s so-called “meditations with a pencil” were screened throughout the final weeks of September at the Wexner Center for the Arts, highlighting a decades-long body of work concerned with the everyday moments in Korean life. “As a Korean artist, I do my best to describe Korean things as best I can,” he said.

Ahn spent many years working as an animator for such shows as “The Simpsons” and “Family Guy” during a time when much of the studio animation work in Korea supported American films and television. He then started his studio, Meditation with a Pencil, dedicated to depicting Korean life in hand-drawn, 2D animations that celebrate the country’s scenery, culture and traditions. The studio creates films under the ideal of “drawings that cure and colors that touch one’s heart.”

During a live Q&A ahead of a public screening of “Green Days” (2010) as part of the Cartoon Crossroads festival on September 26, Ahn was asked what makes Korean animation distinct from that of other nations. He explained that in South Korea, animation for children still predominates and the animation industry is not as developed as those of Japan and the United States.

“It could look to westerner’s eyes that Korea might not be distinct from China and Japan,” he explained, “but when you take a close look at it, you will see distinct features from each other,” and it is those cultural distinctions that Ahn seeks to capture in his work.

Ahn’s visit was made possible through an Office of Academic Affairs Visiting Artist Grant that was initiated by EASC and co-sponsored by Ohio State’s Office of Academic Affairs, Department of East Asian Languages and Literature, Department of Art, Department of Design, Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts, Advanced Computing Center for the Arts and Design, Institute for Korean Studies and Wexner Center for the Arts.





## EASC Hosts US-CARNet Scholar

The East Asian Studies Center hosted a delegation of scholars from Central Asia, as part of the US-Central Asia Research Network (US-CARNet) project. This project, which is specifically looking at China and its role in Central Asia, is managed by the American Councils for International Education and is funded by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Embassy in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. Six scholars engaged with faculty, learned about area studies centers, toured the university and heard presentations on library holdings related to Central Asia and East Asia. Prior to coming to campus, the delegation spent two weeks in Washington, D.C., and visited the University of Pittsburgh. Each of the scholars returned to the U.S. for the spring 2025 semester, being placed at various institutions. For that semester, EASC hosted

**Assel Bitabar**, Teaching Professor at the International School of Economics at Maqsut Narikbayev University (MNU) in Astana, Kazakhstan. Assel, who is also a PhD candidate at Hokkaido University, worked with Ohio State professors and EASC-affiliated faculty

**Felix Chang** and **Sunnie Rucker-Chang**, who received a grant as part of this project.

Reflecting on her time at Ohio State, Assel said this:

*“Go Bucks!” — a stranger called out as I walked through Madison Square Park in NYC, just days before flying back to Astana. I was wearing my OSU cap and smiling, reflecting on the semester I had spent at the East Asian Studies Center as part of the US-CARNet program. This exchange offered more than access to rich library resources and a diverse scholarly community: it left me with a deep fondness for the beautiful Ohio State campus, where even the letter “M” doesn’t go unchallenged.*



# Academic Programming

Nearly 50 lectures, workshops, conferences and forums offered in 2024-25

## AUGUST 26, 2024

EASC Fall Reception

## SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

IJS Lecture: **Tetsuo Harada**, Waseda University  
“Production of Japanese Singletons and  
Geminates by English-Speaking Children in  
One-Way and Two-Way Immersion Programs”

## SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

IJS/ICS/IKS Lecture: **Benedict Sang Won Park**,  
JobsOhio  
“Bridging Economies: Asian Corporate  
Investments in Ohio”

## SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

EASC Co-Sponsored Event  
The Road Called Life with **Ahn Jae-huun** in  
person

## SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

EASC Co-Sponsored Event  
Film Screening of Green Days and **Ahn Jae-  
huun** in Conversation

## SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

IJS Co-Sponsored Lecture: **Ryan Holmberg**  
“Your Job is What?! A Year in the Life of a  
Mangalogist”

## SEPTEMBER 28, 2024

IJS Co-Sponsored Lecture  
“Translating Pros: In Dialogue with Manga  
Localizers”

## OCTOBER 1, 2024

ICS Co-Sponsored Lecture: **Ken Wilcox**  
“The China Business Conundrum”

## OCTOBER 7, 2024

EASC Event  
“Strengthening the U.S.-Japan Economic and  
Security Alliance in Ohio: A Workshop on the  
U.S.-Japan Regional Alliance”

## OCTOBER 18, 2024

EASC Co-Sponsored Event  
Buckeye East Asian Linguistics Forum 6  
(BEALF-6) via Zoom

## OCTOBER 25, 2024

IKS Lecture: **Sung Un Gang**, Technische  
Universität Berlin  
“Rediscovering Audience Publicness: Korean  
Female Spectators and the Challenges of  
Postcolonial Theater Historiography”

## NOVEMBER 1, 2024

IKS Lecture: **Ingu Hwang**, Boston College  
“1974, Watershed Moment in Transpacific  
Human Rights Activism and Politics for Korea”

## NOVEMBER 6, 2024

IKS Lecture: **Kee-Yoon Nahm**, Illinois State  
University  
“Interrogating the Nation-State in  
Contemporary South Korean Theatre”

## NOVEMBER 8, 2024

IKS Lecture: **Jieun Lee**, Emory University  
“Performing Korean Transnational Adoption:  
From Screen to Stage”

## NOVEMBER 8, 2024

ICS Lecture: **Jesse Rodenbiker**, Rutgers  
University  
“Ecological States: Politics of Science and  
Nature in Urbanizing China”

## NOVEMBER 15, 2024

EASC Event  
New Perspectives on China and Africa

## NOVEMBER 20, 2024

IKS Lecture: **Seungsook Moon**, Vassar College  
“Prefigurative Activism with Foreign  
Migrants: The Intertwining of Democracy and  
Neoliberalism in South Korea”

## JANUARY 16, 2025

EASC Lecture: **David Zweig**, Hong Kong  
University of Science and Technology  
(Emeritus)  
“The War for Chinese Talent in America”

## JANUARY 31, 2025

IJS Lecture: **Kay Shimizu**, University of  
Pittsburgh  
“Betting on the Farm: Institutional Change in  
Japan's Agriculture”

## FEBRUARY 7, 2025

EASC Co-Sponsored Event  
“The Specter of Artificial Intelligence:  
Translation and Interpreting at an Inflection  
Point”

## FEBRUARY 7, 2025

IJS Lecture: **Zack Davisson**  
“Manga Localization 101 - The Art and  
Business of Translating Japanese Comics”



#### **FEBRUARY 14, 2025**

IJS Lecture: **Hilary Holbrow**, Indiana University  
“The Future is Foreign: Women and Immigrants in Corporate Japan”

#### **FEBRUARY 20, 2025**

IKS Target Language Lecture: **Junho Lee**, Gyeongin National University of Education  
“MBTI는 어떻게 한국에서 문화적 현상이 되었는가? How Did MBTI Become a Cultural Phenomenon in Korea?”

#### **FEBRUARY 21, 2025**

IKS Lecture: **Yang H. Yun**, University of Akron  
“Korea’s Bio Industry and Its Global Impact”

#### **FEBRUARY 21, 2025**

ICS Event: China Studies Graduate Student Workshop

#### **FEBRUARY 27, 2025**

EASC Event: Riverside Research  
Pursuing a Career in Critical Languages: Supporting National Intelligence in the Midwest

#### **FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

IJS Lecture: **Ben Whaley**, University of Calgary  
“What Japanese Video Games Have to Teach Us About Trauma and Recovery”

#### **FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

IKS Lecture: **Tae Ung Baik**, University of Hawaii at Manoa  
“UN and Human Rights in DPRK”

#### **MARCH 13, 2025**

EASC Co-Sponsored Event  
CHINOPERL Conference

#### **MARCH 13, 2025**

EASC Co-Sponsored Event  
Body and Text in Motion: Korean Contemporary Dance, Theatre, and Animation on Screen

#### **MARCH 13-16, 2025**

EASC Event: Silk Road Exhibit

#### **MARCH 14, 2025**

EASC Event  
EASC AAS Reception

#### **MARCH 17, 2025**

ICS Co-Sponsored Lecture, **Nick Smith**, Barnard College  
“The Shekou Ethic and the Spirit of Chinese Urbanization”

#### **MARCH 17, 2025**

IJS Co-Sponsored Lecture: **Hiroshi Yoshida**, University of Tokyo  
“In What Sense Can Digital Games be Called Media?”

#### **MARCH 17, 2025**

ICS Lecture: **Dominic Meng-Hsuan Yang**, University of Missouri-Columbia  
“Exodus, Home, and Return: Diasporic Trauma and Memory Politics of the Chinese Civil War Exiles in Taiwan”

#### **MARCH 18, 2025**

IKS Lecture: **Hieyoon Kim**, Brown University  
“Can Cinema Change the World? A Question from a Feminist Experimental Film Collective”

#### **MARCH 18, 2025**

IJS Lecture: **Simon Kaner**, University of East Anglia  
“Jomon Repotted”

#### **MARCH 21, 2025**

ICS Lecture: **Ian Rowen**, Kyushu University Institute for Advanced Study  
“One China, Many Taiwans: The Geopolitics of Cross-Strait Tourism”

#### **MARCH 31, 2025**

IJS Lecture: **Kohei Saito**, University of Tokyo  
“The Revival of Japanese Marxism in the 21st Century”

#### **APRIL 2, 2025**

ICS Target Language Lecture: **Liu Cheng-Shan**, The Ohio State University  
“Taiwan’s China Dilemma- From Self-Identity to the Challenges of World Recognition”

#### **APRIL 4, 2025**

IJS Target Language Lecture: **Tetsuo Harada**, Waseda University  
“Factors Affecting Second Language Learning”

#### **APRIL 9, 2025**

EASC Book Talk: **Zhuqing Li**, Brown University  
Daughters of the Flower Fragrant Garden: Two Sisters Separated by China’s Civil War

#### **APRIL 14, 2025**

ICS Lecture: **Cameron Campbell**, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  
“Big Data for the Study of the Qing”

#### **APRIL 16, 2025**

EASC Co-Sponsored Event  
“The Future of US-Japanese Business Relations: Global Risk and Mitigation Series”

#### **APRIL 18, 2025**

ICS Lecture: **You-Tien Hsing**, University of California, Berkeley  
“Combating Desertification in Inner Mongolia: A Tale of a Miracle Shrub”



# Regional Campus Partnerships



## Korean Language Courses at Newark

In the 2024-25 academic year, EASC supported Korean language courses at Ohio State Newark. This was the first time East Asian languages had been offered specifically to regional campus students. In Autumn 2024, 15 students enrolled in Korean 1101: Level One Korean I, and seven students continued on into Level One Korean II in Spring 2025. Each course was four credits. In reflecting on these courses, instructor **Makayla Cherry** commented:

*"Teaching online Korean courses for the Newark campus this academic year has been a rewarding experience. Many of my students, who are avid fans of K-pop, Korean dramas, and Korean culture, were delighted to start their Korean language learning journey at OSU Newark. Though it was challenging to integrate teaching methods and online testing formats into the curriculum, I felt motivated thanks to my students' willingness to try new things. Overall, I was happy to be given the opportunity to teach at OSU Newark, and hopefully, even more students will be inspired to become lifelong Korean learners in the future!"*



## JIRO DREAMS OF SUSHI

"MOUTHWATERING"  
— Leslie Felperin, VARIETY  
"A WORK OF ART"  
— David Fear, TIME OUT NY  
"BREATHTAKING"  
— Brendan Wirth, SCREENSCAPE  
"ELEGANT"  
— John Lopez, PANTY PAIR

A FILM BY DAVID GELB  
"JIRO DREAMS OF SUSHI" is a 2011 documentary film about the life of Jiro Ono, a Michelin three-star chef. The film captures Ono's passion, his family legacy and the challenges he faced as an 85-year-old chef.

## Japanese Film Screened at Mansfield

EASC supported the Bromsfield Library, Information Commons and Theatre Program at Ohio State Mansfield to screen the film, "Jiro Dreams of Sushi." The documentary explores the life of Jiro Ono, a Michelin three-star chef whose dedication to sushi has earned him worldwide recognition. The film captures Ono's passion, his family legacy and the challenges he faced as an 85-year-old chef.

Before the screening, **Joe Fahey**, a theater professor at Ohio State Mansfield, remarked, "The film will expose the audience to East Asian culture and cuisine, while also capturing the business and family challenges this accomplished chef faces."

Attendees received complimentary sushi samples, provided by **Hazel Kim**, a sushi chef at a local Kroger.

## Introducing Children to East Asian Culture Through Books

When the East Asian Studies Center at The Ohio State University received a U.S. Department of Education grant to support language and area studies, part of the more than \$2 million award established a regional campus partnership program that included the campus libraries. Over the first two years of the four-year grant, the Lima Campus Library has been steadily building its East Asian children's book section to bolster the resources available to elementary and secondary teachers in the area.

"Purchasing children's books is a brilliant use of these grant funds. Language and cultural connections aren't things that should be suddenly thrust on people when they are older; it should be part of a lifelong learning process," said **Mitchell Lerner**, professor of history and director of the East Asian Studies Center. "If we are to prepare this nation for our increasingly globalized world, we should endeavor to introduce people to different cultures and regions throughout their lives."

The 85 books already added to the collection include a variety of topics from art to history, but the bulk fall into the children's literature category and expand both the collection and the possibilities for the teachers training at Ohio State Lima. Lima Campus Library Director **Tina Schneider** has been selecting carefully from both award-winning books and those on the short lists for the awards.

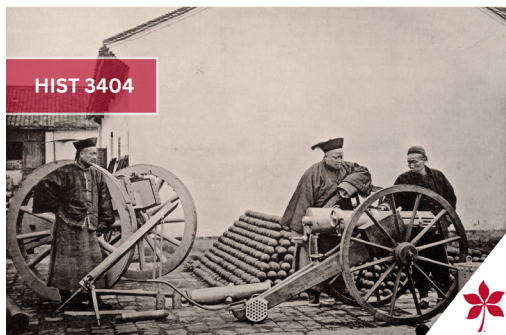
"This opportunity significantly broadens the choices patrons have in selecting their materials," said Schneider. "It widens our understanding of the world around us, it enhances our appreciation of East Asian cultures, and it helps our future educators learn how to bring the world to their students."

The future educators are already benefiting from the new additions. **Leah Herner-Patnode** has incorporated an East Asian unit into her children's literature classes, which is designed to give students a chance to analyze, interpret and evaluate major forms of human thought, cultures and expression through the lens of children's literature.

"Having access to this collection enhances my class," Herner-Patnode said. "I had them sample a variety of books. We also pulled books specifically about the Japanese internment camps and discussed how we could use them for social studies instruction."

*This story was first published by Ohio State Lima.*

## Chinese History Taught at Regional Campus



**Modern Chinese History**

Dr. Chris White

In Spring 2025, Modern Chinese History attracted 22 Ohio State Newark students majoring in diverse disciplines, including computer science, fashion and retail studies, history, philosophy, economics and pathology. The course, which was taught by **Chris White** and provided an overview of Chinese history from the Qing dynasty to contemporary times, was the first time an East Asian history course was offered at the Newark campus. In commenting on this course, one student noted, "I really enjoyed this class. I learned a great deal about China." Another student remarked, "The material was really fun to learn and the instructor brought an amazing energy that made it fun to attend class; I had a great time and would highly recommend this course."

# Outreach

## Teacher training

### JUNE 10-14, 2024

EASC Teacher Training with other area studies centers: “Global Teacher Seminar – Global Efforts to Alleviate Food Insecurity and Poverty” with **Maria Fedorova**, Macalester College and **Daniel Redman**, The Ohio State University. EASC supported lecture by **Karen Mancl**, The Ohio State University, “Cultivating US and Chinese Climate Leadership on Food and Agriculture” on June 12, 2024.

### JULY 15-19, 2024

EASC Teacher Training: “NCTA Foundational Seminar: Crossroads of EAST ASIA: Movement through Time and Place” with **Ann Marie Davis**, The Ohio State University and **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School. Lectures by **Tracie Whiting Kipper**, Kansas City Art Institute, **Blake Michael**, Ohio Wesleyan University, **Kevin Greenwood**, Allen Memorial Art Museum, **David Clark**, Randolph-Macon University, **Pil Ho Kim**, The Ohio State University, **Ruth Lu**, Ohio University, **David Kenley**, Dakota State University and **William M. Tsutsui**, Ottawa University.

### SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 – OCTOBER 15, 2024

EASC Teacher Training: “Sijo (Korean Poetry) Asynchronous Workshop” online, self-paced.

### SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 – APRIL 12, 2025

EASC Teacher Training with other area studies centers: “Global Teacher Fellowship Program: “Indigenous Peoples Across the Globe.” EASC supported lectures by **Kinko Ito**, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, “The Ainu, the Indigenous People of Japan” on September 21, 2024 and **Daniel Redman**, The Ohio State University, “Pedagogy” on April 12, 2025.

### SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

EASC Teacher Training: “What Makes K-pop? The Importance of K-pop Fandom.” Lecture by **Wonseok Lee**, Yale University.

### SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

EASC Teacher Training: “NCTA follow up event with **Ann Marie Davis**, The Ohio State University and **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School.

### SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs Conference: Presentations by **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School, and **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Bringing East Asian Context into Classrooms through Interactive Online Resources.”

### OCTOBER 14, 2024

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the Ohio Council for Social Studies Conference: Presentations by **Ann Marie Davis**, The Ohio State University, **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School and **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Bringing East Asian Context into Classrooms through Interactive Online Resources.”

### NOVEMBER 2, 2024

IJS Teacher Training with the Ohio Association of Teachers of Japanese (OATJ): Japanese Language Teacher Workshop and OATJ Annual Meeting. Presentations by **Mieko Avello**, Miami Palmetto Senior High School and **Kazue Masuyama**, California State University, Sacramento, “Self-regulated learning to develop ‘the ability to learn independently.’”

### NOVEMBER 9, 2024

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the Ohio Arts Educators Association Conference: Presentations by **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School and **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “The Art of Storytelling: Creating Japanese Kamishibai.”

### NOVEMBER 21, 2024

EASC Outreach with other national resource centers: National Outreach Council All Areas Studies Outreach Conference.

### NOVEMBER 21-24, 2024

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training: National Council of Teachers of English Conference.

### NOVEMBER 22-24, 2024

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training: National Council of Social Studies Conference.





#### NOVEMBER 22, 2024

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training with other national resource centers at the National Council of Social Studies Conference: Presentations by **Shane Carter**, ORIAS at University of California, Berkeley; **Abby Limmer**, The University of Arizona; **Jennifer Lund**, University of Michigan; **Matthew Rabatin**, The University of Texas at Austin; **Sidra Rind**, The University of Texas at Austin; **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “How to Teach the Ancient World.”

#### NOVEMBER 23, 2024

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the National Council of Social Studies Conference: Presentations by **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School and **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Creating Global Competency: Interactive Take & Go Series.”

#### JANUARY 7, 2025

EASC Teacher Training: “NCTA Workshop: Samurai, Kissing Circles, and the Geometry of Shinto Shrines” with **David A. Clark**, Randolph-Macon College, **Kimberly Reiner**, Columbus Academy and **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School.

#### MARCH 13, 2025

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the Committee for Teaching about Asia Conference: Presentations by **Ann Marie Davis**, The Ohio State University, **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School, **Lynne Miyake**, Pomona College and **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Asian Comics and Graphic Novels: The Art of Teaching with Visual Culture.”

#### MARCH 14, 2025

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Conference: Presentations by **Emily Rook-Koepsel**, AAS, **William Tsutsui**, Ottawa University, **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School and **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Let’s Get the Word Out: Collaborative Pathways for Disseminating Asian Studies Research for the Classroom.”

#### MARCH 15, 2025

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the Association for Asian Studies Conference: Presentations by **William Tsutsui**, Ottawa University, **Lynne Miyake**, Pomona College, **Natsu Onoda Power**, Northwestern University, **Vincent Haddad**, Central State University and **Kay Clopton**, The Ohio State University, “CTA Roundtable: Manga’s Soft Power in the 21st Century - Engaging the Next Generation of East Asian Studies Scholars.”

#### MAY 3, 2025

EASC Outreach and Teacher Training at the Troy Historical Village: Presentation **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School, “History of Tea.”

#### APRIL 6, 2024

IJS Teacher Training with the Ohio Association of Teachers of Japanese (OATJ): Japanese Language Teacher Workshop and OATJ Spring Meeting with **Kimiko Suzuki**, Haverford College, “Reconsideration of Kanji Instruction and Grading: Integrating ‘Beyond Standardization.’”

#### MAY 13, 2025

EASC Teacher Training with other area studies centers: “Global Teacher Seminar – Human Experiences: Accounts from across the Globe” orientation with **Risa Whitson**, Ohio University and **Daniel Redman**, The Ohio State University.

#### 2024-25

EASC Teacher Training and Outreach: K-14 resources created for “Building the Virtual Japan Experience: Enhancing Knowledge about Japan” Project by the Interdisciplinary Curriculum Team: **Nicole Amole**, St. Edmund’s Academy, **Alicia Booker**, Lakota West High School, **Joseph Daniels**, WestTown School, **Emma Doerfler**, Carnegie Elementary, **Melissa Fisher-Rogers**, McCord Middle School, **Sandra Gianella**, Lincoln Elementary School, **Anne Hooghart**, Mott Community College, **Megan Kuns**, Hull Prairie Intermediate School, **Shaun Marsh**, Lorain County Community College, **Mandy Perret**, Dutchtown High, **Jennifer Smith**, Mahomet-Seymour Junior High School, **Ciminy St. Clair**, Norwin Middle School, led by **Ann Marie Davis**, The Ohio State University, **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School and **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University.

## Community college and minority-serving institution outreach

#### NOVEMBER 19, 2024

EASC Outreach with Columbus State Community College’s When East Meets West Symposium: Cross Cultural Exchange along the Maritime Silk Road” including “Shipwrecks of the Maritime Silk Road: Understanding Material Evidence for Long-Distance Trade.” Lectures by **Amanda Respass**, The Ohio State University and **Hyunhee Park**, The City University of New York, John Jay College and the CUNY Graduate Center. Moderated by **Kyriakoula (Sandy) Drakatos**, Columbus State Community College.

### NOVEMBER 20, 2024

EASC Outreach Lecture at Lorain County Community College: **Colonel James Schnell**, USAFR (retired), “The Role of China with Myanmar Army Control of Government Ministries.”

### MARCH 28, 2025

EASC Outreach at ASIANetwork Conference. EASC supported performances by **Top Naach**, **Loone Crew**, and **Moonlit Petal** and narrator/discussant: **Melody Yunzi Li**, University of Houston.

### MARCH 28, 2025

EASC Outreach at ASIANetwork Conference. Keynote address by **Madeline Y. Hsu**, University of Maryland, “The Third World Strikes and Asian American Studies as an Institutional and Intellectual Project.”

### MARCH 29, 2025

EASC Outreach at ASIANetwork Conference. EASC supported film screening, **Camellia Flowers**. Filmmaker/discussant: **Changhee Chun**, University of Texas at Arlington.

### MARCH 29, 2025

EASC Outreach at ASIANetwork Conference. EASC supported roundtable, “AI in the Classroom: Approaches, Suggestions, Discussions.”

### MARCH 29, 2025

EASC Outreach at ASIANetwork Conference. EASC supported roundtable, “What’s Next? Careers Involving Asia” for graduate students with **Mary L. Field**, Center for Refugee Services, **Randall Nadeau**, Foundation for Scholarly Exchange (Taiwan) and Fulbright Programs in Asia, **Kat Ray**, Henry Luce Foundation and **Christina Wan**, Emory University.

### MAY 15 – 16, 2025

EASC Outreach with the University of Pittsburgh: “Globalizing the Curriculum: Enhancing East Asian Studies in Appalachian Colleges Conference”: Presentations by **Cindy McNulty**, NCTA Book Discussion Leader, **Ron Sivillo**, Upper St. Clair High School, **Ciminy St. Clair**, Norwin Middle School, **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School, **Chris White**, The Ohio State University, **Jim Cook**, University of Pittsburgh, **Melvin Barnes**, Ohio Humanities, **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, **Dan Choffnes**, ASIANetwork, **Gwendolyn Gillson**, Illinois College, **Shaun Marsh**, Lorain County Community College and **Charlotte Lee**, Berkeley City College.

## East Asian cultural outreach

### AUGUST 17, 2024

IJS Outreach: JASCO Obon Festival to celebrate Japanese culture.

### SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 15, 2024

EASC Outreach “Sijo (Korean Poetry) Student Competition” for Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia K-12 Students.

### SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

EASC Outreach with the Ohio State Wind Symphony: Presentation by **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Japanese Culture and Travel to Japan: Part 1.”

### JANUARY 24, 2025

EASC Outreach with the Ohio State Wind Symphony: Presentation by **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Japanese Culture and Travel to Japan: Part 2.”

### FEBRUARY 15, 2025

IJS Outreach: Japan Bowl for Ohio High School Students.

### MARCH 4, 2025

EASC Outreach: Taiwanese American Student Association Night Market at The Ohio State University.

### MARCH 13–16, 2025

EASC Outreach: EASC supported exhibit in conjunction with the Association for Asian Studies Conference, “*The Silk Road*.”

### MARCH 13–16, 2025

EASC Outreach: EASC supported pop-up performances at the Association for Asian Studies Conference: *P’iri* (Korean double reed instrument), played by **Sunhong Kim**, breakdancing from the Columbus Breakers, *Samul nori* (traditional Korean drumming) by three central Ohio drum teams, *Tinikling* (Filipino folk dance) and modern dance by the Pilipino Student Association, The Ohio State University.

### MARCH 13–16, 2025

EASC Outreach: EASC supported excursions in conjunction with the Association for Asian Studies Conference: Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks, OCLC, the Columbus Museum of Art, the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum, the Wexner Center for the Arts and William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library.

### MARCH 22, 2025

IJS Outreach: Japanese Language Speech Contest Finals for Ohio High School and College Students.

### MARCH 28, 2025

EASC Outreach with the Ohio State Wind Symphony: Presentation by **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University, “Japanese Culture and Travel to Japan: Part 3.”

### MARCH 30, 2025

IJS Outreach: Japanese Student Organization Spring Festival on The Ohio State University campus.

**APRIL 5, 2025**

IKS Outreach: Midwest Korean Speech Contest for college students.

**APRIL 6, 2025**

IJS Outreach: JASCO's Sakura Matsuri (Cherry Blossom Festival) at Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

**APRIL 12, 2025**

EASC Outreach: Seikacon Conference, **Ruth Lu**, Ohio University, "East Asian Tea Culture."

**APRIL 15, 2025**

EASC Professionalization with Bowling Green State University: "Exploring Careers in Asia." Presentation by **Janet Smith**, The Ohio State University.

**MAY 12, 2025**

EASC Cultural Event with Area Studies Centers: **Chris White**, The Ohio State University, and **Mianmian Fei**, The Ohio State University, "Cultural Adventures Day" at Slate Hill Elementary School.



Chris White visits a group of students at Slate Hill Elementary School's "Cultural Adventures Day"

## Business outreach

**SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2024**

EASC Outreach: US-Japan Digital Innovation Hub and Advanced Technology Workshop.

**OCTOBER 7, 2024**

EASC Outreach: "Strengthening the U.S.-Japan Economic and Security Alliance in Ohio: A Workshop on the U.S.-Japan Regional Alliance." Lectures by **Vice ADM. Walter "Ted" Carter Jr.**, President, The Ohio State University, **ADM. Tomohisa Takei**, Japan Maritime Self Defense Force (retired), **Lt. Gen. Larry Nicholson**, U.S. Marine Corps (retired), **Col. Peter Mansoor**, U.S. Army (retired), **Satohiro Akimoto**, Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA, **Yuka Hayashi**, Wall Street Journal, **Hiroiyuki Fujita**, Quality Electrodynamics; **Teruko Wada**, Keidanren (Japan Business Federation), **William Chou**, Hudson Institute and **Darren Srebnick**, US Commercial Service. Moderated by **Mitchell Lerner**, The Ohio State University.

**APRIL 16, 2025**

EASC Outreach with the Fisher College of Business: "The Future of US-Japanese Business Relations: Global Risk and Mitigation Series." Presentations by **Teruko Wada**, Keidanren (Japan Business Federation), **Hiroaki "Hiro" Kawamura**, The University of Findlay, **Justin Kocher**, JobsOhio, **Andrew Lower**, THK Manufacturing of America, Inc. and **Duane Detwiler**, Honda Research Institute USA, Inc.



## Ohio State Wind Symphony Japan Tour 2025

From May 6 to 20, 2025, 69 students plus directors of The Ohio State University Wind Symphony participated in a Japan Residency including Tokyo, Hakone, Kyoto, Osaka and Hamamatsu. **Russel Mikkelson**, director of bands explains, “The impetus for this trip stems from three exciting performance invitations. First, the Wind Symphony will perform in the historic Beethoven Hall at the Musashino Academia Musicae in Tokyo. Second, a shared “Friendship” performance in Osaka with the Osaka Hyosei High School, and third a prestigious invitation to perform at the Japan Band Clinic in Hamamatsu. These musical performances will be complemented by sightseeing, cultural/historical excursions and experiencing authentic Japanese cuisine. This will be a life-changing experience for our Ohio State musicians.”

To help prepare the students and faculty for the trip, EASC’s **Janet Smith** conducted three orientation sessions, “Japanese Culture and Travel to Japan” from September 2024 through March 2025. Orientation started with an introduction to Japan, especially the cities the group will visit and details about traditional Japanese instruments. Next the group explored Japanese culture, customs and regional food they would experience during their trip. The group ended with practical information to help navigate logistical aspects of being in Japan.



## CTA Day at Ohio State

In conjunction with the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Conference held in Columbus, Ohio, EASC hosted the Committee for Teaching About Asia (CTA) Day 2025 on March 13, 2025. Organized by CTA Chair **Janet Smith**, “Asian Comics and Graphic Novels: The Art of Teaching with Visual Culture” was attended by 34 educators from 25 institutions highlighting Ohio’s rich culture of comics and cartoon art and showcasing the resources and expertise at Ohio State.

The global proliferation of Asian visual culture created a new wave of interest for K-12 and college students in Asian topics. With an emphasis on graphic novels and manga, this year’s CTA day explored ways to engage students and teach content (including history, science, and literature)

with cartoon art and graphic storytelling that is about and/or from Asia. The day started with an in-depth tour of The Ohio State University Libraries’ Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, housing the world’s largest collection of comics and cartoon materials, including original art, magazines, comic books, archival materials and Japanese manga. A short tour brought the group to the main campus library for lunch and afternoon programming with the conclusion of the competitive scavenger hunt. Led by **Ann Marie Davis**, The Ohio State University, **Angie Miesle Stokes**, Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School and **Lynne Miyake**, Pomona College, the group explored how to harness the power of comics to build student literacies and global competencies. Teachers engaged in hands-on activities to show how to use manga and graphic novels to teach creativity and self-expression. The theme continued at AAS Conference with the CTA Roundtable, “Manga’s Soft Power in the 21st Century - Engaging the Next Generation of East Asian Studies Scholars” on March 15, 2025.



# Student News

## Student awards and Publications

- **Isis Davis**, an undergraduate student majoring in Korean and Electrical and Computer Engineering, was awarded a Gilman International Scholarship by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs to study in South Korea in Summer 2025. The Gilman Scholarship contributes to the U.S. Department of State's diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility efforts to engage the American people in foreign policy while improving access for underserved students.
- **Ella Gould**, a recent graduate who double majored in International Relations and Japanese, received a departmental scholarship. Ella was an intern with EASC in Spring 2025 and took great initiative and exhibited attention to detail in contributing to many of our projects.
- **Wenhao Guan**, a PhD candidate in History, was awarded a Phyllis Krumm Memorial International Scholarship from the Office of International Affairs.
- **Piper Harrell**, an undergraduate double major in Japanese and International Studies, has been selected as a U.S. Department of State Youth Ambassador for the 2025 World Exposition in Osaka, Japan. Piper will serve as a guide for the USA Pavilion, entitled, "Imagine What We Can Create Together," throughout the duration of the World Exposition, from April 15 through October 13, 2025.
- **Kate Klemm**, a 2025 graduate of the East Asian Studies MA program, received an International Research and Scholarship Grant from the Office of International Affairs.
- **Mei Yu Kuo** and **Charlize (Hsiang Ling) Wang**, graduate students in, respectively, Sociology and Foreign, Second, and Multilingual Language Education, received Brian Chiou and Chiou Family Hope Scholarships in 2025.
- **Kevin Lilly** (MA '23, Department of Linguistics), received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant award to teach in South Korea.
- **Ai-Ling Lu** and **Siyuan Dong**, graduate students in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, were each awarded the 2024-25 Graduate Associate Teaching Award (GATA). GATA is the premier award for celebrating excellence in teaching at the graduate level. Recipients of the GATA are nominated by faculty, staff and students through an anonymous nomination process. The recipients of the GATA are awarded a one-time \$2,000 award for their accomplishments and are honored at the annual Graduate School Awards Ceremony. The two PhD candidates also published "Shadowing textbook and authentic materials on beginner L2 learners' acquisition of Mandarin Chinese tones in spontaneous speech" in Journal of Second Language Pronunciation.



- **Ai-Ling Lu** published a translation of “The first day of Mi-ilisin,” by Adaw Palaf in *Tupelo Quarterly*. She also received grants from the Chinese Language Teachers Association and the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice. In addition, Ai-Ling was awarded First Place in Humanities Oral Presentation at the 39th Edward F. Hayes Advanced Research Forum.
- **Paul Ueda**, a PhD candidate in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, was awarded a Presidential Fellowship, the first time a DEALL student has been given this award in nearly a decade. Paul, along with Professor Margie Chan, also edited Buckeye East Asian Linguistics Volume 9: Proceedings of the 27th Conference on Yue Dialects.

## Congratulations to EASC fellowship, scholarship awardees

### FLAS fellows

Through generous support of Title VI grants from the US Department of Education, EASC awards Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships for undergraduate and graduate students to support their studies during the academic year and summer. Academic year graduate fellows are given a tuition award and a \$20,000 stipend and undergraduate fellows are awarded \$10,000 for tuition and provided a \$5,000 stipend. Summer fellows, both graduate and undergraduate students, are provided \$5,000 in tuition support and given a \$3,500 stipend. Recent FLAS Fellows supported by EASC are:

### 2024-25 academic year

#### Undergraduate students

**Samantha Bernholtz**, World Language Education and Korean

**Adam Dumbauld**, International Business

**Sierra Ford**, Japanese

**George Penney**, Visual Art and Japanese

**Alexa Pyun**, Biochemistry and Korean

**Ash Snyder**, Korean

**Christopher Wojnar**, City and Regional Planning and Japanese

#### Graduate students

**Madison Archer-Morrison**, Musicology

**Channing Baker**, East Asian Studies

**Joseph Butso**, Education

**Savanna Eggens**, East Asian Studies

**Kate Klemm**, East Asian Studies

**Joseph Santiago**, East Asian Languages and Literatures

**Christy Sher**, History of Art

**Sean Umek**, East Asian Studies

### 2025 summer

#### Undergraduate students

**Logan Bien**, Biomedical Science

#### Graduate students

**Joseph Butso**, Education

**Brenna Miller**, Musicology

**Briele Vollmuth**, Musicology

# Freeman Foundation Asia Summer Internship Scholarship

In 2024, EASC received a generous grant of \$100,000 from the Freeman Foundation to support students participating in internships in Asia. EASC supplemented these funds with an additional \$12,500 to support these students. In this inaugural year, 19 Ohio State undergraduate students received support, with seven going to Kyoto, Japan, seven going to Tokyo, Japan, one going to Seoul, South Korea, and four going to Bali, Indonesia.

## 2025 Scholarship Recipients

**Selena Alvarez**, Psychology  
**Ayaan Baig**, Data Analytics  
**Andrew Beten**, Data Analytics  
**Owen Blevins**, Operations Management  
**Zol Chen**, Computer Science  
**Kelly Coleman**, Computer Science  
**Ava Feller**, Environmental Science  
**Logan Garrett**, International Studies and History  
**Sydney Hoang**, Early Childhood Education  
**Will Johnson**, Primary Education

**Kaia Lewis**, Marketing  
**Maximus Lococo**, Applied Math  
**Katie Maier**, History  
**Victoria Mills**, Accounting  
**Hayden Morrison**, Computer Engineering  
**Kevin Ortiz**, Biology  
**Crystal Tang**, TESOL  
**Katerina Velalis**, Accounting  
**Aaron Zheng**, Computer Science

## EASC scholarships

EASC administers two scholarships, distributing awards each year to deserving students. The Louise Zung-Nyi Loh Memorial Scholarship is open to graduate and undergraduate students in any department who have an academic specialization and research interests in East Asian studies. The Intensive Chinese Language Scholarship provides funding for undergraduate students pursuing dual degrees in Chinese language and related fields. Recent winners of these awards are:

### Loh Memorial Scholarship 2024

**Ka Fai Law**, East Asian Languages and Literatures  
**Brenna Miller**, Musicology  
**Ying-Shan Wu**, East Asian Languages and Literatures

### Intensive Chinese Scholarship 2024

**Emma Schwartz-Anderson**, Criminology and Criminal Justice





# Congratulations Graduates!

Since 2005, EASC has administered the Interdisciplinary MA in East Asian Studies Program. This rigorous program allows students to take graduate courses throughout the university while also strengthening their language and research skills. EASC-affiliated faculty serve as advisors and committee members for these students. Many students who complete this two-year degree go on to advanced graduate work in a discipline-specific PhD program. Others pursue careers in education, the public sector and non-profit organizations or find posts in local, state or national government. In 2025, the program graduated four students.



## Channing Baker

Thesis title: Modern Women, Chinese Nation: Expectations for the “Republican Lady’s” Wartime Role in Chongqing’s *United Pictorial* (*Lianhe huabao* 聯合畫報), 1942-45

Thesis committee: **Christopher Reed, Christina Wei-Szu Burke Mathison, Hayana Kim**

Future plans: teach 8th grade science through a grant from Teach For America

Reflection: “This MA program offers a rare space to grow both intellectually and personally. The faculty are deeply knowledgeable and supportive, and the curriculum strikes a strong balance between structure and freedom. I appreciated how the program fostered a sense of academic community while also encouraging each student to explore their own curiosities. It helped me become a more confident scholar and person. I left with a much clearer sense of the kinds of questions I want to pursue long-term.”



## Savanna Eggens

Thesis title: Sentence-final Particles and Gender Expression in Geling Tan’s *White Snake*

Thesis committee: **Marjorie Chan, Patricia Sieber, Hayana Kim**

Future plans: pursue a position in a university utilizing Chinese and East Asian skills; possibly pursue a PhD

Reflection: “The professors I had over the two years here also all had a significant impact on my experience and are probably what I’ll remember the most.”





### **Kate Klemm-Szeto**

Thesis title: The Contestation of Koreanness: A Comparative Study of North Korean Refugee Socio-Political Belonging

Thesis committee: **Pil Ho Kim, Mitch Lerner, Nicole Yadon**

Immediate plans: begin a PhD program in Sociology at Rutgers University-New Brunswick

Reflection: “My favorite part of this program was the opportunity to take courses in various disciplines and ultimately bring East Asian topics into conversations that may otherwise have remained very Euro- or Ameri-centric. I also enjoyed connecting with faculty that have very different specialties and research experiences. Each instructor I interacted with influenced my research interests and my thesis direction in some way.”



### **Juncheng (Elvin) Zhu**

Thesis title: Working Out Chinese Fitness: Zhao Zhuguang (1909–1993), Chinese Bodybuilding and Muscular Masculinity, 1920s-1950s

Thesis committee: **Christopher Reed, Melissa Curley, Christina Wei-Szu Burke Mathison**

Immediate plans: apply for a PhD program in History

Reflection: “The EAS MA program offers a supportive, inclusive, and professional environment that nurtures our academic growth. Everything—and everyone—you encounter here becomes a valuable part of your personal journey, shaping not only what you pursue but also how you think, act, and become.”

# Faculty News

- **Mary Beckman**, professor emeritus in linguistics, published “Connecting prosody and duality of patterning in diachrony, typology, phylogeny, and ontogeny” in Felicitas Kleber & Tamara Rathcke, eds., “Speech dynamics: Synchronic variation and diachronic change.”
- **Margie Chan**, professor of Chinese linguistics, edited (with **Paul Ueda**) “Buckeye East Asian Linguistics, Volume 9” and (with **Mineharu Nakayama** and **Zhiguo Xie**) “Buckeye East Asian Linguistics, Volume 8.” She also published “Creating a corpus: Issues in the digital text processing of Cantonese, Hakkanese, and Taigi” (with first and second authors, **Paul Ueda** and **Ka Fai Law**), in “Buckeye East Asian Linguistics. Volume 8;” “Cantonese dialect-writing and Korean Goyuhanja: Chinese characters and innovative orthographic creations” (with second author, **Seojin Yang**), in “Buckeye East Asian Linguistics. Volume 8;” “Challenges in D2 and D3 acquisition: Dr. Sun Yat-Sen’s 1924 Cantonese and Mandarin audiorecordings” in *Studies in Yue Dialects*.
- **Felix Chang**, professor of Law, received a grant from the Mershon Center to research private Chinese wealth in Hong Kong. In addition, Chang, along with **Sunnie Rucker-Chang**, professor of South Slavic Culture, received a grant from the US-Central Asia Research Network, administered by the American Councils and Department of State. Chang also published “Clearing the Way to Renminbi Domination: CIPS, Antitrust, and Currency Competition,” in *Florida State University Law Review*; and “Intestacy and Inequality under China’s Revised Succession Law” in the *American Journal of Comparative Law*.



- **Pil Ho Kim**, associate professor in Korean, published “Polarizing Dreams: Gangnam and Popular Culture in Globalizing Korea” with the University of Hawai’i Press.
- **Namiko Kunimoto**, associate professor of history of art, was awarded a Greater Arts and Humanities Society of Fellows Fellowship. Kunimoto also received a University of California Press FirstGen Grant.
- **Mitch Lerner**, professor of history and EASC director, published “Loving America but Loving Korea More,” in *Diplomatic History*. Lerner was also awarded the President and Provost Award for Distinguished Service and the Honors Distinguished Service Award, as well as a John F. Kennedy Presidential Library research grant.
- In 2024, **Guoqing Li** published four Chinese translations of books: 帝国丽影：英国画家笔下的晚清, “China, Its Marvel and Mystery” by Thomas Hodgson Liddell (with Lu Jin and Ouyang Shaochun); 我看乾隆盛世——马戛尔尼使团访华见闻与思考, “Travel in China” by John Barrow (with Ouyang Shaochun); 神秘的花国, “The Mystic Flowery Land--Being a True Account of an Englishman’s Travels and Adventures in China” by Charles Halcombe (with Xiangdong Yan); 东方与西方——1900年的交锋, “The War of the Civilizations” by George Lynch (with Zheng Wang). He also co-edited: one volume of 天禄论丛：中国研究图书馆员学会会刊 *Journal of the Society for Chinese Studies Librarians*; one 10-title book series, 中国研究外文旧籍汇刊 一中国语文 “Chinese Studies in the West: The Chinese Language; and two rare book catalogs, Catalogues of Chinese Ancient Books in the University of Kansas and Catalogues of Chinese Ancient Books in the University of Oregon, Michigan State University, and University of the West.” Li also published two editor-reviewed articles: 海外所见上海藏书家印鉴考 “Introduction on the Ex Libris Seals of Shanghai Book Collectors Seen at Overseas Libraries” in 藏书家 “Book Collectors” and 新加坡国立大学图书馆中文古籍鉴藏印汇考 “Introduction on the Ex Libris Seals on University of Singapore Library Catalogues of Chinese Ancient Books” in 天禄论丛 *Journal of Society for Chinese Studies Librarians*.



- **Yasuyuki Motoyama** co-authored forthcoming articles: “The (Uneven) Spatial Distribution of Entrepreneurial Support Organizations in the Regional Ecosystem” in *Journal of Planning Education and Research* and “Using traffic flow data to understand heterogeneous healthcare visits” in *Transportation Research Record*. He also published “Systemic barriers and pathways of Black energy researchers in the United States,” in *Energy Research and Social Science* (co-authored with Dira Melissa Delpech, Bryan Patterson, and J. Chris Ford).
- **Mineharu Nakayama**, professor of Japanese, guest-edited a special issue of the *Journal of Japanese Linguistics* (Crosslinguistic Influences in Language Acquisition I), and co-edited “Buckeye East Asian Linguistics, Volume 8” with M. Chan, and Z. Xie. He also co-authored four articles with Japanese and Taiwanese university colleagues and DEALL graduate students, and delivered four conference papers and served as a discussant at the AAS conference in Columbus. He and co-faculty chairs **M. Chan** and **Z. Xie** and co-student chairs **P. Ueda**, **K.F. Law**, **Y. Hattori**, and **S. Wakita** successfully hosted the sixth Buckeye East Asian Linguistics Forum.
- **Joel Wainwright** was awarded a Mershon Center research grant for work in Korea and published “Where does Xinjiang fit within the Belt and Road Initiative? Indications from Party documents and the steel industry” in *Critical Asian Studies* with **Justine Franklin** (MA, East Asian Studies).

## EASC-affiliated faculty Fulbright awardees

- **Felix Chang**, Robert J. Watkins/Proctor & Gamble Professor of Law, was awarded a 2025-2026 Fulbright US Scholar Award to research in Singapore “The Global Race to Manage China’s Private Wealth: A Case Study of Singapore.”
- **Becky Huang**, Professor in the College of Education and Human Ecology, and **Ivan Stefano**, Director of the Intercultural English Language Programs, won a Fulbright-Hays Groups Project Abroad grant. Huang and Stefano took 12 Ohio State students and K-12 educators from Ohio to teach English in Taiwan for four weeks in the summer of 2025.
- **Erin Lin**, associate professor in the Department of Political Science, received a Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad (FRA) Fellowship to spend four months in Cambodia, researching “Airpower from Below: Civilian Strategies in Cambodia.”





# Welcome/Congratulations



## Welcome...

### New EASC-affiliated faculty

**Amanda Hyunh**, associate professor, Design

**Sophia Jeong**, assistant professor, Teaching and Learning

**Keita Moore**, assistant professor, DEALL

**Erin Lin**, associate professor, Political Science

**Julia Marino**, postdoctoral fellow, Mershon Center for International Security Studies

**Ju Yeon Park**, assistant professor, Political Science

**Frederick Chen**, assistant professor, Political Science

## Congratulations!

### Faculty promotions, 2025

**Sherab Chen**, promoted to professor, University Libraries

**Haifeng Huang**, promoted to professor, Political Science

**Danielle Pyun**, promoted to professor, DEALL

**Sophia Jeong**, promoted to associate professor, Teaching and Learning

**Ju Yeon Park**, promoted to associate professor, Political Science

## New Faculty to Join DEALL



EASC is pleased to welcome new assistant professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, **Olan Munson**! Munson recently completed her PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan. She is a graduate of the Literature Translation Institute of Korea and holds a bachelor's in Comparative Literature (and communication sciences and disorders) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is a Korean-English literary translator of genres ranging from eco-poetry to upmarket fiction.

In her dissertation, "Zero Ground Poetics and Translation in (Post)-Authoritarian South Korea, Chile, and their Diasporas," Munson examines the poetics of nullification that appears in contemporary poetry responding to catastrophic violence. Her current research works across the fields of critical translation studies and literary studies, with particular interest in questions of diaspora, global feminisms and the politics of literature. She is developing a second project on the transmedial phenomenon of "K-culture." Munson is excited to have the privilege of sharing her love of the vital art of literature with students and colleagues of the Ohio State community.

# Thank you

*to our generous 2024-25 donors,  
supporters, and advocates*



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Department of Design  
Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures  
Department of History  
Department of History of Art  
Department of Materials Science and Engineering  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts  
Advanced Computing Center for the Arts and Design  
Center for African Studies  
Center for Folklore Studies  
Center for Historical Research  
Center for Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
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### Institute for Korean Studies Development Account

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### Ohio Chinese American Professional Association (OCAPA) Lecture Fund

Daniel Leung

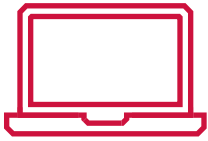
### Brad Richardson Memorial Fund

Mineharu Nakayama  
Janet Smith

\*June 2024-May 2025 support included

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## E-Newsletter

Stay abreast of all events and news from the East Asian Studies Center by joining our weekly electronic newsletter, *EASC Express*. To be added to our mailing list, please scan the code below.



East Asian Studies Center  
The Ohio State University  
140 Enarson Classroom Building,  
2009 Millikin Road,  
Columbus, OH 43210

TEL: 614-247-5364  
EMAIL: [easc@osu.edu](mailto:easc@osu.edu)





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East Asian Studies Center  
140 Enarson Classroom Building  
2009 Millikin Rd  
Columbus, OH 43210  
**+1-614-247-5364 | [easc.osu.edu](http://easc.osu.edu)**

