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YCAR News | Authors workshop highlights research on B(R)ICS emerging donors

A comparative understanding of the motivations and intentions of the B(R)ICS emerging donors and the global implications of their rise is the focus of an authors workshop at York this November.

The workshop, part of an edited book project, is organized by YCAR Faculty Associates Gregory Chin and Fahim Quadir.

The authors workshop will welcome 15 academics, donors and policy makers from a dozen universities and organizations worldwide. It is funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation.

Project participants will also consider whether or not, and if so how, these emerging donors are influencing the redefinition of “what is development” in theme and practice. Emerging donors are conventionally defined in the project as the B(R)ICS countries (Brazil, India, China and South Africa), and the Gulf States.

The origins of the project are the IDRC-funded field research for the emerging donors study, which included four published country studies on Brazil, India, China and South Africa (www.idrc.ca/en/ev-140964-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html).

YCAR News: Visiting scholars focus on regional integration, local restructuring in Southeast Asia

A doctoral researcher working on regional integration between Burma, Thailand and southern China will be at YCAR this fall.

YCAR welcomes Sai Latt as a visiting scholar for the Fall term. Sai, a former YCAR Graduate Associate, received his Master's of Arts degree in Geography from York and is currently a doctoral candidate in Geography at Simon Fraser University.

While at York, Sai Latt will be developing his research proposal and working on a chapter for a book edited by Philip Kelly and an article co-authored with Robin Roth, both YCAR Faculty Associates. York professor Jennifer Hyndman is a member of Sai's dissertation committee and he will benefit from the chance to work with her while at YCAR.

His doctoral research is on the governance of regional integration in Greater Mekong Sub-region region in mainland Southeast Asia, sponsored by the Asian Development Bank. He is particularly focused on the integration between Burma, Thailand and Southern China. His research is anchored in the field of political ecology, focusing on the regional governance of cross-border resource conflict

and human displacement. His master's research focused on ethnic politics, labour relations and agrarian change in upland Thailand among the Hmong and Shan people.

His recent and upcoming publications include: "Recent Karen Exodus Raises Questions about UNHCR Role", published in the *Irrawaddy*, June 2009, and "Ethnic Politics, Labour Restructuring and Agrarian Transformation in a Royal Project in Northern Thailand", forthcoming as a product of his research with the SSHRC-MCRI Challenges of Agrarian Transition in Southeast Asia (ChATSEA) project.

Sai is the recipient of the prestigious Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship. He will be conducting field research in Southeast Asia in 2010.

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The struggles of Thai farmers in global market restructuring in Southeast Asia is the focus of a Thai visiting scholar who be based at YCAR in the Winter 2010 term.

Sakkarin Na Nan, a doctoral candidate at the Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development, Faculty of Social Sciences at Chiang Mai University, Thailand, will join YCAR in January 2010.

More specifically, Sakkarin will look at the contested plant genetics under the global seed market integration.

During his time at York, Sakkarin will work on developing his research proposal and participate in Peter Vandergeest's 'Cultural Politics of Environment and Development' course. He will also have the opportunity to work with Robin Roth, who is a member of his dissertation committee; an international committee member is a privilege not normally offered to Thai graduate students. Both professors are associated with the ChATSEA project, which funds Sakkarin's research.

Sakkarin has a Master's of Arts degree in Man and Environment Management from Chiang Mai University and his thesis focused on resource contestation under state-led development among the Mlabri people.

Sakkarin is also a researcher on the 'Settling Process and Transition among Three Nomadic Populations of Thailand' project, a collaboration between the Center for Ethnic Studies and Development (CESD) of Chiang Mai University (CMU) and the Institute of Research for Development (IRD) in France.

His recent publications include a co-authored chapter in *Critical States: Environmental Challenges to Development in Monsoon Southeast Asia* (2009) and a single authored chapter, "Resource Contestation between Hunter-Gatherer and Farmer Societies: Revisiting the Mlabri and the Hmong Communities in Northern Thailand" in *SENRI ETHNOLOGICAL STUDIES 73: Interactions between Hunter-Gatherers and Farmers: From Prehistory to Present* (2009).

Our Researchers | News and Awards

Lynne Milgram, Research Associate | Lynne is being honoured for her research contributions by the Ontario College of Arts and Design (OCAD) as the 2008/2009 recipient of the OCAD Award for Distinguished Research and Creation. Lynne is a professor in the Faculty of Liberal Studies at OCAD.



Lynne's research is rooted in anthropology, but lends itself to interdisciplinary collaborations of all kinds. Her interests and expertise examine the cultural politics of social change with regard to microfinance development, fair trade and women's informal sector work in crafts, the secondhand clothing industry and street vending.

Analyzing the commoditization of crafts and consumption practices in the northern Philippines, Lynne's doctoral research (1997) traced the channels through which women exercise agency in their changing roles in small-scale production with the advent of global market forces. Her subsequent research analyzed the socioeconomic and political impacts of different microfinance development projects mounted throughout the Philippines. Within the context of growing urbanization and declines in formal-sector jobs, Lynne's current projects explore Philippine women's work in the global trade and consumption of secondhand clothing between the Philippines and Hong Kong and women's work as street vendors. Lynne makes her findings applicable for policy formation by government and nongovernmental organizations seeking to sustain women.

She will present a talk, "From Margin to Mainstream: Refashioning Women's 'Informal' Sector Work in the Philippines," on 4 November at OCAD.

Research Profile | Peter Vandergeest

Vandergeest explores controversies of ecolabelling and certification of seafood

York University's Peter Vandergeest says that there is more than meets the eye when it comes to the fish and seafood on your dinner plate.

Vandergeest, an Associate Professor of Geography, has been studying these controversies around ecolabelling and the certification of seafood. His work focuses on how to take account of the need for strong environmental regulations on one hand, and the need for flexibility appropriate to local situations, especially in the global south, on the other. Labour standards are also an area of concern in the industry.

"Our research shows that there is often a huge gap between labour practices and the proposed standards in these private regulatory systems," says Vandergeest.

In January 2009 he participated in a U.S. National Academy of Science workshop that launched efforts to systematize ecolabelling and certification for sustainability in the United States. More recently he helped organize a day long session on environmental certification at the September 2009 World Aquaculture Society meetings in Mexico (www.was.org/WasMeetings/meetings/SessionAbstracts.aspx?Code=WA2009&Session=2).

"These are excellent opportunities to bring our research into an ongoing discussion about how certification systems are being set-up," said Vandergeest.

The series of panels on the 'Challenges for Aquaculture Certification' included presentations on traceability in Japan, the acceptability of certification in Thailand, labour practices in Bangladesh and roundtables on salmon farming in Chile - all by researchers who work on Vandergeest's SSHRC-funded 'Privatizing Environmental Governance' (PEG) project.

Vandergeest's team on 'Privatizing Environmental Governance: A Global Analysis of the Effects and Effectiveness of Environmental Certification for Farmed Salmon and Shrimp' includes: Derek Hall (Wilfred Laurier University), Saidul Islam (Nanyang Technological University), Beatriz Cid (Doctoral Candidate, York University) and Paul Foley (Doctoral Candidate, York University).

Focusing on shrimp and salmon as two of the highest-value, and most controversial, species in global aquaculture, researchers are looking at the effects of seafood certification on the shrimp and salmon industries and on the communities affected in aquaculture.

The major proponents of a proposed Aquaculture Stewardship Council want environmental certification to encompass a major part of the aquaculture industry, especially the higher value species like salmon, shrimp, tilapia, tuna and pangasuis. However, the ability of these certifications systems to really address the key problems associated with intensive aquaculture, and be set up in ways that will not exclude small producers, has been questioned by many observers, especially in the global south.

With research sites ranging from shrimp and salmon farms to corporate offices, from supermarkets to international organizations, Vandergeest's team are also interested in how certification regimes could mitigate the negative environmental and social effects of intensive aquaculture. The results are also expected to be applicable to other controversial products including palm oil, wild caught seafood and forestry products.

The Conference held this year in Veracruz, Mexico, was hosted by The World Aquaculture Society (WAS), which is an international non-profit organization with over 3,000 members in about 100 countries. Founded in 1969, the primary focus of WAS is to strengthen and facilitate communication and information exchange on high priority topics and emerging issues within the diverse global aquaculture community.

In addition to Vandergeest and his research team, presenters in the 'Challenges' panel included other academics, industry representatives, non-governmental organization participants from Oxfam and the Environmental Law Institute (Washington, DC), and staff from certification organizations including GlobalGap and the Aquaculture Certification Council.

"The Conference is a chance to explore different issues and questions surrounding the way that certification has become the favourite way to address social and environmental problems within the aquaculture industry," says Vandergeest. "It is also a key way to mobilize research to reach stakeholders outside the bounds of academia."

The legitimacy of certification in the developing world, where it is seen as the rich northern countries imposing their regulations, and social auditing were also popular themes for discussion

amongst the 2,000 Conference participants.

For more information on the 'Privatizing Environmental Governance' project, please visit:
www.yorku.ca/ycar/Programs_Projects/PEG_main.html.

Abstracts on the PEG team presentations:

Peter Vandergeest | Certification and Legitimacy in Thailand

Derek Hall | Japanese Food Traceability Initiatives and their Implications for Asian Aquaculture

Saidul Islam | Privatizing Regulations in the Global Agro-food System: Labour Standards and their Implication in the Era of Certification

Beatriz Cid | Traceability of Chilean Salmon Farming: What is Left Behind?

CMTP/ABMP News: CMTP welcomes first group from Vietnam for training

The China Management Training Programme (CMTP), based at YCAR, recently welcomed its first training delegation from Vietnam. Former Director of Training Máire O'Brien and Lisa Drummond, YCAR Faculty Associate and Associate Professor in Urban Studies, were instrumental in securing a memorandum of agreement with the Vietnamese government.

The group of 20 arrived on 24 October 2009 and includes high level managers and leaders within the government. Their two-week training on land management includes instruction on the procedures and process of land resources management, requisition for public projects and dispute resolution, as well as an introduction to the Canadian political system.

CMTP organizes business and management training for employees from Chinese and now Vietnamese public sector departments and organizations.

CMTP/ABMP News: New director of training takes reins

Thor Boe joins the China Management Training Programme as its Director of Training this week. The Schulich School of Business MBA graduate replaces Elizabeth Batson. While at Schulich, Boe spent a semester at "China's 'Harvard'", the Guanghua School of Management at Peking University in Beijing. He also has experience with the Canada China Business Council.

YCAR Event | YCAR welcomes Sanskrit literary scholar and career diplomat to York

Distinguished Sanskrit literary scholar and career diplomat A.N.D. Haksar shared this love of Sanskrit literature with students and faculty during his visit to York in October.

The lecture, "Literary Translation in a Multicultural World", was held on 20 October 2009 at York University. The visit was organized by Shobna Nijhawan and moderated by Malcolm Blincow.



Mr. Haksar is a long time student of Sanskrit literature from which he has translated into English prose as well as verse. Educated at the universities of Allahabad and Oxford, he was a career diplomat for many years, serving as Indian High Commissioner to Kenya and the Seychelles, Minister to the United States and Ambassador to Portugal and Yugoslavia. He is now based in India.



His translations from the Sanskrit include plays and fables, stories and satires, a verse anthology from Kashmir and a collection of Buddhist *jatakas* with a foreword by The Dalai Lama, and the never before translated love story of Madhav and Kama, the original text of which he first saw at the Robarts Library. Five of these works have been published as Penguin Classics. He has also compiled *A Treasury of Sanskrit* poetry for the Indian Council for Cultural Relation (ICCR). His most recent publication is *The Courtesan's Keeper* (2008).

YCAR Director Susan Henders accepted two books donated to the Scott Library by Mr. Haksar: *Glimpses of Sanskrit Literature* and *A Treasury of Sanskrit Poetry*.



This event was hosted by YCAR and the South Asian Studies programme. Special thanks to the York University Bookstore for their assistance.

An audio recording of the lecture is available for anyone who missed the presentation. Contact YCAR for further details. Photographs from the event can be found at: www.yorku.ca/ycar.

(Top-Bottom: AND Haksar and Malcolm Blincow share a laugh; Malcolm Blincow, AND Haksar, Susan Henders, Mrs Haksar, Shobna Nijhawan and Sharada Haksar; AND Haskar presenting books to Susan Henders. Photographs by F. Caballero).

YCAR Events: South African scholar shares research on peace parks and ecological imperialism

The view that decolonization can be achieved through peace parks that straddle state borders thrives on the strategic de-linking of colonial and contemporary contexts and selective memories of the past, said Maano Ramutsindela at the recent seminar of the York Political Ecology Workshop (YPEW). In the process, the colonial notion of peace parks and its ramifications are sidelined in the quest to confine ecological imperialism to the past.

The York Political Ecology Workshop (YPEW) held its first workshop of the academic year on 26 October with special guest Ramutsindela from the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

Rumutsindela spoke on "Grounding Decolonization in Nature: Peace Parks and the Vicissitudes of Imperial Spaces of Conservation".

He argued that re-inserting the colonial contexts of peace parks achieves two main objectives: One, questioning the idea that peace parks are a contemporary phenomena in southern Africa and that they are a result of new and innovative thinking in environmental science and natural resource management; and second, to argue for the relevance of spaces of imperialism as primary sites at which notions of decolonization in nature conservation can best be understood and progressive conservation ideas appropriately evaluated.

YPEW aims to promote dialogue around human-ecological relations and processes through the organization of workshops and by facilitating research activities. The focus is Asia, but the group is interested in relevant work being done around the world.

Membership comprised faculty and graduate students of York University, the University of Toronto and further afield. Workshop attendance is limited to members. If you are interested in being involved, please contact ycar@yorku.ca.

Opportunity | YCAR Graduate Student BrownBag Research Seminars

YCAR will be organizing a BrownBag research seminar series in the Winter 2010 term for YCAR Graduate Associates or York University students whose research focus is on Asia and/or the Asian Diaspora.

The BrownBag series is an opportunity for students to present their research to colleagues and a York faculty member to receive feedback critical to the development of their research. It is open to Master's and Doctoral students with the intention to assist students who may be at any stage in the development of their graduate work (major research paper, dissertation or thesis).

All students are invited to participate in the series.

Please include a brief description of your research, preferences for the day of the week to present and suggestions for a faculty discussant (this could also be a senior PhD student). Anyone interested in participating or who has questions should send them by **20 November 2009** to Mary at biko88@yorku.ca.

Please pass this along to anyone you know who might be interested and/or benefit from the opportunity.

Opportunity: Korean Canadian Scholarship

The Korean Canadian Scholarship Foundation has been dedicated to supporting the academic development of the community for over 30 years. The deadline for this year's scholarship is **30 November 2009**. Please visit this link for further information: www.kcsf.ca/kcsf2/scholarships/scholarships_application.php.

Opportunity: Share your vision for Canada's future with Asia – 25@25 contest

The Asia Pacific Foundation's 25@25 contest, launched on 17 September 2009, asks young Canadians (18-35) to share their vision for Canada's future with Asia. With a whopping CAD 5,000 grand prize, 25@25 sets out to identify the 25 most important issues for Canada-Asia relations.

The deadline for submissions is **31 December 2009**.

The contest is being launched to celebrate the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada's 25th anniversary.

"We're eager to gain insight, especially from Canada's youth about how what goes on in the Asia Pacific is seen to interact with and impact Canada. That is at the root of why we're running the 25@25 contest, to help ignite a new dialogue that envisions Canada's future with Asia," says Hanna Cho, Project Manager for the 25@25 contest.

Entrants are invited to share their ideas as video shorts. The shorts can be presented in any style -- anything from a rant to camera to a visual collage, an animated short or a mini-feature. By encouraging participants to articulate their ideas, the contest hopes to stimulate a dialogue about Canada-Asia relations that is as creative as the entries provided.

The deadline for entries is **31 December 2009**. For more details and information about the contest, please visit www.25at25.ca.

Entries will be judged by a diverse panel of Canada-Asia innovators: Yuen Pau Woo, President and CEO, Asia Pacific Foundation; Hon. Jack Austin, former Senator; Nanon de Gaspé Beaubien-Matrick, investment fund manager; Hank Bull, co-founder of contemporary Asian art gallery Centre A; Gerri Sinclair, Executive Director of the Masters of Digital Media programme, SFU; Nobu Adilman, broadcaster and filmmaker; Ziya Tong, co-host and producer, Discovery Channel Canada and a representative of HSBC Bank Canada. Youth judges Nobu Adilman and Ziya Tong kicked off the contest with video letters available for viewing at www.25at25.ca.

Opportunity: Molson Prizes for the arts, social science and humanities

Two Molson Prizes are awarded annually to distinguished individuals (one in the arts and one in the social sciences and humanities), in recognition of an exceptional contribution in those fields. The prize for the social scientists or humanist is administered by SSHRC while the prize for the artist is administered by the Canada Council. Candidates may not apply for a Canada Council for the Arts Molson Prize: they must be nominated.

There are two prizes worth CAD 50,000 - one for the arts and one for the humanities or social sciences.

The ORS deadline is **17 November 2009**. For more information, please visit: www.canadacouncil.ca/prizes/molson/.

Opportunity: MA in Southeast Asian Studies at Walailak University

A new Master's degree programme in Southeast Asian Studies has opened at Walailak University, Nakhon Si thammarat in southern Thailand. The programme is open to Thai and international students.

International students have the option of studying either all or some of the programme's courses or to work with a supervisor on a topic of their choice. Credit transfer is available. There are a limited number of scholarships available that cover tuition fees, accommodation and medical insurance.

For more information, contact wu@wu.ac.th.

Opportunity | The Canada-Taiwan conference on Higher Education

The Canada-Taiwan conference on Higher Education has been held alternatively in Canada and Taiwan every three to four years since 1991. The conference provides an opportunity for universities in Taiwan and Canada to draw up plans for promoting academic collaboration between two countries.

The Ninth Canada-Taiwan Higher Education Conference will be held in Ottawa on 16-19 May 2010 at Carleton University. For more information, contact Randy Zadra, Director of Carleton International, at randy_zadra@carleton.ca.

Previously-posted opportunities:

York Seminar for Advanced Research (30 November 2009)

For more information: cpersaud@yorku.ca.

2009 Dan David Prize (16 November 2009)

For more information: www.dandavidprize.org/.

Democracy and Identity in Asia (15 January 2010)

For more information: asian.institute@utoronto.ca.

Canadian Japanese-Mennonite Scholarship (1 April 2010)

For more information: canada@mennonitecc.ca.

Upcoming Event | From Margin to Mainstream: Refashioning Women's 'Informal' Sector Work in the Philippines

Wednesday, 4 November 2009 | 5:30pm | Ontario College of Art and Design Auditorium | 100 McCaul Street | Toronto

Lynne Milgram will discuss her current exploration of Philippine women's work in the global trade and consumption of secondhand clothing between the Philippines and Hong Kong and women's work as street vendors. Lynne is an Ontario College of Arts and Design (OCAD) professor and YCAR Research Associate.

The lecture will begin in the OCAD Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. followed by an intimate reception in the Lambert Lounge, room 187.

For location and maps, click: www.ocad.ca/about_ocad/overview/campus_location.htm. Kindly RSVP by email to Heather Robson at hrobson@ocad.ca.

Upcoming Event | Reading by Denise Chong

Wednesday, 4 November 2009 | 7pm | North York Central Library | 5120 Yonge Street

Denise Chong, award-winning author of *The Concubine's Children*, will be reading from her new work *Egg on Mao: The Story of an Ordinary Man who Defaced an Icon and Unmasked a Dictatorship*. A Q&A will follow with the author. The event begins at 7pm at the North York Central Library, auditorium, 5120 Yonge St. (TTC: North York Centre) Free admission. Seating is limited. Call 416-395-5660 to register.

Upcoming Event | Information Session on York University's participation at COP 15 in Copenhagen

Wednesday, 4 November 2009 | 10H | 305 York Lanes | York University

York University, in partnership with the ECOAR Institute for Citizenship in Brazil, has received observer status for the upcoming United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (COP15) in Copenhagen, Denmark. A two-hour side event, aimed at international delegates from the North and South, titled "Global Forum on Climate Justice for the Disenfranchised", will be held on 15 December 2009.

The event will feature a panel of climate justice experts from Brazil, the Canadian Arctic, South Africa and India who will speak about climate change issues and adaptive initiatives undertaken in their respective countries. Those in attendance will hear about the activities already underway, such as an international course on climate change in Brazil and several pilot intervention/demonstration projects throughout our representatives' countries. Multimedia exhibits including videos, poster, photos and art will be used to show just how far we've already come!

Please come learn more about the side event, and how you can become involved in this project.

- Are you interested in climate justice?
- Are you attending COP 15, or know someone who is?
- Can you contribute to our side-event? i.e. posters, ideas, connections
- Do you have extra funds available to support the side event?

For more information, contact the Institute for Research & Innovation in Sustainability at irisinfo@yorku.ca.

Upcoming Event | Talk on Cinema Kabuki

Thursday, 5 November 2009 | 6:30 to 8:30pm | The Japan Foundation, Toronto | 131 Bloor St. W., 2nd Floor

All are welcome to this talk and DVD/slide show on Cinema Kabuki at The Japan Foundation, Toronto.

Part I | A Family Repertoire Passed Down Over Generations: The Traditions of *Triple Lion Dance*

Unlike in Western theatre, certain Kabuki roles and repertoires are taught by father actors to their sons. The theme of the Lion Dance is the affection in father-son relationships. When the parts are performed by a real father and son, the drama and reality start to reflect and resonate with each other. The Nakamura acting family has been parenting and nourishing this emotional dance piece through the

devotion of actors spread over three generations.

Part II | Passion in the Weeping Cherry Blossom: Kimono Patterns in *Dojoji*, *A Lover's Duet*

Dojoji, one of the most prominent Kabuki dances, is performed in the setting of a mountain covered by cherry blossoms. The central female character dresses in a weeping cherry blossom pattern in several variations. Such a varied but focused design concept evolves with gorgeous, radiant effects through the pageant of the female beauty of different characters ranging from a farm girl to a courtesan. Stage Kimono patterns will be compared to Chiyogami, traditional decorative paper, exploring Japanese aesthetics around the mystery of flowers.

The event will be moderated by Toshi Aoyagi, Program Officer, The Japan Foundation, Toronto. The special guest will be Nancy Jacobi, The Japanese Paper Place. Admission is free but RSVPs are required to www.jftor.org/whatson/rsvp.php or call 416.966.1600 ext. 103.

Upcoming Event | Native Bible Womanhood and Women's Rights in Late 19th century Taiwan: Minnie Mackay's Story

Friday, 6 November 2009 | 11am to 2pm | 280A York Lanes | York University

Dr. Jane Lee, Chair, English Department, Aletheia University, Taiwan

The legend and legacy of George Leslie Mackay, the first Canadian missionary to Taiwan, is fairly well known. Much less has been written on the experience of the women in Mackay's ministry for several reasons, including the patriarchal predilection that persists in academia, a lack of archival materials and that Taiwanese women's history is still something of a mystery to Western feminists. Mackay scholars have nearly all been men, focused on the life and legacy of George Leslie Mackay. Yet native women were crucial to Mackay's success—both religious and scientific/medical works—and it is high time that their story be told.



Mackay's taking of a Taiwanese wife against the expressed wishes of his colleagues in Canada was an unconventional and audacious act. His marriage to Tiun Chang-mia, the chattel of his first female convert, Tan A-So, was not for love, but partly out of compassion and partly out of devotion to his belief in the practicalities of native female missionaries and spouses. Formosa, as Taiwan was then known, was not a place for the average Canadian young woman and the average Canadian young man might find it less inhospitable, too, with a Taiwanese woman at his side—helping him master the language and navigate the culture. Scholars who marvel at Mackay's mastery of both rarely consider the important role that his wife "Minnie" played.

For more information, please contact YCAR at ycar@yorku.ca.

Upcoming Event | Living Songs benefit concert-dinner

*Saturday, 7 November 2009 | 7pm | The Music Gallery-inside St. George the Martyr Church
(one block north of John St. / Queen St.) | Toronto*

Machik Canada (reg. charitable org.) presents "Living Songs", a benefit concert-dinner featuring: Rob Simms (Kurdish Tanbur); James Kippen and friends (Balinese Wayang Group, Seka Rat Nadi); Tibetan Artist Amchok Gompo (songs of Amdo region, Northeast Tibet); Potala Tibetan Music Troupe (songs of Central & Western Tibet); songs from the Balkans and more.

Proceeds will benefit a new kindergarten class at the primary school, and a summer enrichment programme in Tibet.

Donations: \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door, with a cash bar. For more information visit www.machik.org or to reserve tickets in advance, please contact Jeff Cupchik at cupchik@gmail.com.

Upcoming Event | Graphics in Bloom: Koichi Sato Poster Exhibition

Until 7 November 2009 | The Japan Foundation | 131 Bloor Street West

Koichi Sato (b. 1944, Tokyo), a graphic designer with a scientist's mind, he visually questions and defines his nation's and humanity's place in the world.

The boundary between the past and the future, the traditional and the revolutionary is found in many forms in Koichi Sato's work. Influenced by the scientific understanding he acquired in the 1950s, and inspired by haiku as well as the poetry of music and theater, this master has conquered a dichotomy within himself by expressing it on paper. His work often combines a tight line with gradation, or images of space with the scribbles of man. Sato is a logician with a poet's desire to reach within. He is also a technical genius with a legendary interest in and understanding of the methods of his trade. In 1969 Sato graduated from the Tokyo University of Fine Arts and Music. After working for Shiseido for two years, he opened his own design office. His clients have included theatrical groups, fashion designer Jurgen Lehl, the established department store Mitsukoshi, paper manufacturer Takeo and Sogetsu, an established school of flower arranging.

Admission is free. For more information, visit www.jftor.org or call 416.966.1600 ext. 229.

Upcoming Event | Architecture and Spectacle in (Post) Socialist China

20-21 November 2009 | Munk Centre | University of Toronto | 1 Devonshire Place

An interdisciplinary workshop on the political economy of architecture and urbanism in contemporary China will be held on 20-21 November 2009 at the Munk Centre, University of Toronto.

Speakers include: Akbar Abbas (UC Irvine), Adrian Blackwell (University of Toronto), Anne-Marie Broudhoux (UQAM), Yung Ho Chang (MIT), Laurent Guttierrez (MAP Office HK), Tong Lam (University of Toronto), Meng Yue (University of Toronto), Xuefei Ren (Michigan State University), Wang Ban (Stanford University) and Jianfei Zhu (University of Melbourne).

For more information, visit www.utoronto.ca/ai/architectureandspectaclechina/.

Upcoming Event | Biography and the History of Hong Kong

Thursday, 26 November 2009 | 2:30 to 4:30pm | 956 York Research Tower | Keele campus of York University

This seminar will explore the contributions and limitations of various modes of life-writing ([auto]biography, oral history, and memoir) for telling Hong Kong's past.

Can life-writing make visible histories that would otherwise be unknown, unwritten?

What roles does life-writing play in the telling of the story of Hong Kong, given the rapid social, economic and political change experienced by the territory and its people over many decades?



Presentations by: Canadian Senator Vivienne Poy and York University Professors Bernard Luk and Yuk-Lin Renita Wong

All are welcome. For more information | ycar@yorku.ca or www.yorku.ca/ycar
For directions to York University | www.yorku.ca/yorkweb/maps/keele.htm

Upcoming Event | Santiago to share research on Filipino migration

Tuesday, 1 December 2009 | 1 to 3pm | 305 York Lanes | York University

On 1 December, the Philippine Study Group (PSG) will host a talk by Mark Lawrence Santiago, University of British Columbia Doctoral Candidate in Geography.

The Trudeau Scholar considers himself a child and a student of global migration. His research addresses an urgent social and economic phenomenon in the Philippines today – the large scale migration of its health care work force seeking better employment opportunities in more developed economies such as Canada.

Lawrence studied Philosophy at the National University of Singapore, where he was a Research Scholar, and at the Ateneo de Manila University. He is the initiator of 'Pacific Worlds in Motion', a global interdisciplinary graduate conference on Asian Migrations held at the University of British Columbia in March 2008 and reincarnated at the National University of Singapore in March 2009.

For more information, contact the Philippines Study Group at ycar@yorku.ca.

Call for Contributions | Literatures of Human Rights in Asia seminar series

YCAR is seeking participants and proposals for contributions for a seminar on the literatures of human rights in Asia. The seminar will take place throughout the 2010-2011 academic year. It will examine human rights struggles and issues (broadly and critically understood) in Asia and the Asian Diaspora through novels, short stories, poetry, plays, film scripts, essays, testimonials, visual arts, performance, and other literatures. Organizers Ted Goossen (Humanities) and Susan Henders (Political Science) seek by 18 November 2009 (to ycar@yorku.ca) expressions of interest from faculty and graduate students wanting to participate in the seminar, including both individuals from York University and those from other universities in the Toronto region.

The organizers also seek proposals for: (1) readings, both literary and scholarly, that seminar participants could examine together, with the names of potential seminar facilitators for the reading; (2) seminar topics, with the names of potential seminar facilitators; (3) draft papers to be presented by York and other Toronto area faculty and graduate students; (4) guest speakers from further afield.

The idea is to assemble a seminar agenda that will allow for sustained and directed discussion of the seminar themes over several months. The aim will be to produce an anthology of literatures on human rights in Asia and to develop a collaborative, multidisciplinary research project (and related external funding proposals) on topics emerging from the seminar. Some possible topics include how various literatures expand and deepen critical understandings of human rights struggles; how the relevant disciplines might inform and engage each other on matters of theory, practice, and pedagogy; ethical engagement with literatures and the implications for making global citizens; cultural, narrative, and artistic forms and the struggle for social transformation.

For more information, please contact Susan Henders (henders@yorku.ca).

Call for Papers | DESIRE 欲望: East Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference

How might the understanding of “East Asia” – be it in terms of a geographical, historical, and cultural locus or as a space of fantasy and the imaginary – be illuminated by accounting for the ways in which desires are produced, structured, regulated, and mobilized through various institutions and discursive formations? Whether understood as lack or a productive force or a form of affective labor, desire is a concept that intersects with and imbricates a range of complex issues operating on the level of the libidinal as well as the material economy. Nationalism and imperialism, genders and sexualities, aesthetics and consumer culture, and the politics of alterity are but a few, yet are all significant to the study of East Asia.

The East Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference at the University of Toronto invites paper submissions for its tenth annual conference titled *DESIRE*, to be held on 13 March 2010. Papers are sought that can critically interrogate the operations of desire, articulating how they are embedded in different modes of social organization at historically specific moments and bringing them into relation with larger issues of how East Asia is situated in the world.

Submissions from graduate students around the world in all disciplines within and beyond the field of East Asian Studies, including history, sociology, anthropology, economy, art, literature, cultural studies, philosophy, and others are welcome.

Possible topics for papers include (but are not limited to):

- theories of desire and their complications in the East Asian context;
- literary and cultural representations and mediations of desire;
- the mobilization of desires and affects through cinema and other visual spectacles;
- intersections of nationalism and the construction of national identities with the constitution, regulation, and circumscription of desire;
- the interplay of capitalism, commodity culture, and desiring production in East Asia;
- gender, sexuality, and the regimes through which desire is disciplined;
- the construction of East Asia as a space of fantasy, and its consequent structuring as object of desire.

All those interested in presenting papers are invited to submit an abstract (300 words maximum) along with brief biographical information by **21 December 2009**. Submissions from both individuals and panels of three (panelists should send individual abstracts and a panel abstract) are encouraged. Submitted papers are also eligible for consideration for the *East Asia Forum*, a journal edited and published by graduate students in the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto. Please indicate whether you wish to have your completed paper considered for publication.

Selected participants will be asked to submit completed papers by 15 February 2010. Those who wish their papers to be considered for publication should submit a publication-ready copy (about 4,000 words). During the conference, participants will be given 20 minutes to present their work; actual presentation papers should be about 1,500-2,500 words long. Please e-mail submissions and queries to easgsc2010@gmail.com. Further information as it becomes available will be posted on the conference website at www.chass.utoronto.ca/easgsc/.

Call for Papers | Community Building through Co-operative Research: Challenges and Opportunities at Home and Abroad

The 2010 Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) will be held at Concordia University in Montréal from 1 June to 4 June 2010. Abstracts are due on **11 January 2010**. Researchers, students and practitioners are invited to submit abstracts.

Co-operative research plays an important role in building equitable and sustainable community-based enterprises, which in turn contribute to vibrant local economies and healthy communities in Canada and throughout the world. Co-operative research is a foundational component of this movement; it provides insights that enrich our practice and offers us an enhanced understanding of the vital underpinnings of this work.

The important role of research has been highlighted in Canada through the five-year investment made in the Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships as well as through grants to support Community-University Research Alliances. It has also been acknowledged with new research funding made available through the Co-operative Secretariat's Co-op Development Initiative and the recent undertaking by the Co-operative Secretariat, the Canadian Co-operative Association and the *Conseil canadien de la coopération et de la mutualité* to foster the development of a national research agenda. Internationally, co-operative research contributes to community building through university-community partnerships focused on topics such as co-operative education, women and co-operatives, and the development of

social enterprises, to name a few.

Conference participants are invited to submit abstracts that in some way reflect on the importance of co-operative research to building equitable and sustainable communities. Possible topic areas include the following:

- innovations in community-based or participatory research
- co-operatives and the economic crisis
- co-operatives and urban environments
- new roles for co-operatives in international development (such as Fair Trade)
- co-operative governance
- co-operatives and changing population demographics
- co-operatives and green economies
- co-operatives and community economic development
- developments in co-operative theory
- funding/capitalization of co-operatives
- organizing co-operatives at local, provincial, national, and international levels

Abstracts and proposals for panels are due on **11 January 2010**. Please include your name, affiliation, title, and email address in your submission, as well as the title and a 100- to 200-word description of your presentation (including your research question, methods, and findings, where applicable). Abstracts can be sent by email to casc.acec@usask.ca.

Previously-posted Calls:

[Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies \(CCSEAS\) Fall 2009 Newsletter \(15 November 2009\)](#)

For more information: ccseas.executive@gmail.com.

York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR)

To comment or for more information, contact ycar@yorku.ca

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