



## York Centre for Asian Research Update

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- > Fourth International Conference on New Discourses in Contemporary China
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### Our Researchers | News and Awards

**Gregory Chin, Faculty Associate** | In late 2010, Professor Chin (Political Science) presented in a panel on “China and Governing the World Economy” at the Beijing Forum hosted by Peking University and supported by China's State Council, Beijing Municipal Government, The Korea Foundation and Peking University. He also presented at a workshop on China’s RMB Internationalization at the Central Policy Unit of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, which was co-organized by the CPU of the Hong Kong SAR and Chatham House (UK). In December Dr. Chin also presented at the Annual Conference of the Asian Development Bank Institute in Tokyo.

His Fall 2010 publications include: “Global Economic Governance” in *Studia Diplomatica* (The Brussels Journal of the International Relations)(December 2010); "Asian Regional Interdependence and Economic Globalization", a conference paper for the Asian Development Bank Institute (December 2010); and "G20 Development Plan Bridges Old and New", a Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) G20 Commentary (November 2010).

**Margo Gewurtz, Faculty Associate** | Margo Gewurtz (Humanities) and Professor Kathleen Lodwick (Penn State Lehigh Valley) will guest co-edit two special volumes of *Social Sciences and Missions*, dedicated to the China field. Volume 25 will appear next year and is titled “Bridging Cultures: China and Missions.” Contributors include Gregory Scott (B.A. in East Asian Studies from York) and Corey Willmott (daughter of retired Professor Don Willmott, Glendon College), whose research focuses on textile collecting by Canadian women missionaries in West China. “Beyond Borders: ‘China’ in Mission” (Volume 26) will appear in 2013. Contributors to this project include scholars from the United States, Britain, Europe, Australia, Hong Kong and China.

Scott Library is acquiring an online subscription to this bilingual (English-French) journal, which provides a forum for exploration of the social and political influence of Christian missions worldwide. The aim of the journal is not to study missions for themselves, but rather as "total social facts", an idiom, which history, anthropology, sociology or political science can use to analyze reality and give it meaning. It is the only social sciences journal dedicated to this object of study.

**Janet T. Landa, Faculty Associate** | Professor Landa (Economics) was awarded a position as Visiting Professor at the East China University of Political Science and Law (ECUPL) in Shanghai, China in October 2010. Professor Landa gave a seminar on the law and economics of property rights to faculty and students at ECUPL. In the same month, she gave a keynote speech on "Chinese Merchant-Entrepreneurial Success and the Nature of Chinese Family Firms" at the International Symposium on Entrepreneurship and Family Business, organized by the School of Management, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou in China.

**Afsan Chowdhury, Research Associate** | Mr. Chowdhury's chapter "Hindus in a Polarized Political Environment: Bangladesh's Minority" appeared in the edited volume *States in Conflict with Their Minorities: Challenges to Minority Rights in South Asia* (Sage Publications, 2010).

**Akbar Hussain, Research Associate** | Dr. Hussain's article "Living in the High-rise Flats and Apartments in Dhaka City" appeared in the *Journal of Anthropology* (Volume 15).

**Ghazy Mujahid, Research Associate** | Dr. Mujahid recently co-authored a United Nations Population Fund report on "Assuring Income Security in Old Age: Views of the Mongolian Elderly" (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: 2010). "The Senior Population in Peel Region: Characteristics, Trends and Issues (1996-2006)", a report for the Social Planning Council of Peel was published in March 2010.

**Keith Barney, Graduate Associate** | Mr. Barney (Doctoral Candidate, Geography) was invited to speak at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in December 2010, where he spoke on "The Political Ecology of Cumulative Effects: Remaking Environmental and Livelihoods Through Resource Concessions in Lao PDR" at the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies.

**Sonja Regler, Visiting Graduate Associate** | Ms. Regler (Doctoral Candidate, Freie Universität Berlin) presented her paper "Struggle over Darfur: A Field of Conflict for Sino-American Relations" at the 'Resource Diplomacy Under Hegemony' conference in January in Hong Kong. The conference was co-hosted by the Center on Environment, Energy, and Resource Policy, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and the University of Macau.

Ms. Regler will be sharing her doctoral research during a talk at YCAR later this term.

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### YCAR News | Romantic landscape painting of post-war Manila finds new home at YCAR

David Wurfel, a YCAR Senior Research Associate, has donated a painting by a noted Philippine artist to the Centre.

Dr. Wurfel, a Philippines scholar and Professor Emeritus at the University of Windsor, is a strong supporter of YCAR and its activities. He supports the David Wurfel Award, an annual prize given to a student engaged in research on the Philippines or Filipino Diaspora.



The painting, titled 'Street View of Sta. Cruz, Manila' (1965) is a Alfredo O. Buenventura Y Ostria work of post-war Manila. It shows an approach to an intersection where a church is crowded by what appears to be hastily built structures on the right and a *talipapa* market (a fish-market with temporary stalls under a flat shed) crowding the street on the left. Appraiser Robert Lane called the appearance of three horse-drawn vehicles abreast in the street as impressionistic as no street in this hub of Manila could have managed this access.

Buenventura (1942-1982) was born into a distinguished artistic family in Bulacan, a province north of Manila, the Philippines. After a brief study of art at the University of Santo Tomas, Alfredo came under

the tutelage of his uncle Cesar Buenaventura, a well known artist in the Philippines. In the 1960s, Alfredo worked as a *manchador* in his uncle's studio at a time when Cesar was at his creative best and among the leaders of the school of romantic landscapes that were so popular at that time.

"Nevertheless, one is left with the impression of inclement weather in a maelstrom of activity that is not disturbing to the participants. Their lives continue in spite of destruction, chaos and weather. The Filipino mind accepts fate with serenity and continuity."

"Alfredo became adept at combining the soft mystic strokes of impressionism with the thick impasto expressionism of the palette knife for a rather modern look at traditional scenes," said Lane of Alfredo's style.

Alfredo died of a heart ailment days before his fortieth birthday and today his works are recognized as prime exemplars of the style that his uncle Cesar has made so popular. His paintings are found in private collections in the United States and Spain.

Dr. Wurfel is the author of several books on political economy and social justice in Southeast Asia. He is co-editor of *Southeast Asia in the New World Order: The Political Economy of a Dynamic Region* (1995), *Political Economy of Foreign Policy in Southeast Asia* (1990) and author of *Filipino Politics: Development and Decay* (1988). He has also published and presented a number of papers on Vietnamese foreign policy, democratization and economic crises in Thailand and the Philippines, human security in East Timor, Japanese NGOs in Southeast Asia, and Southeast Asian foreign policies and regional political economy.

*Doris Sung photograph*

### **YCAR News | Guangzhou Auditing Department programme marks busy end to year for ABMP Training Programme**

The Asian Business and Management Programme's Training Division (ABMP-T) recently graduated its fourteenth group of this fiscal year with a short programme on advanced issues in auditing for a group from the Guangzhou Auditing Department. January is normally a very quiet month for the programme, but it turned out to be quite busy with the programme for the Guangzhou Auditing Department group, facilitating a meeting with York's Department of Earth Science and Space Engineering, and a group from the Beijing Aerospace Institute, as well as the travel of ABMP-T Director Máire O'Brien to Vietnam to meet with clients and colleagues prior to the Lunar New Year.

The Programme is pleased to welcome back Sonja Regler from her travels, research and conference participation in Europe and Hong Kong. Ms. Regler is a YCAR Visiting Graduate Associate from Freie Universität Berlin in Germany who is conducting evaluative research on the training programme in collaboration with the Foreign Experts Bureau of China. Ms. Regler is completing her thesis on China and the Darfur conflict.

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### **YCAR Events | Documentary explores Philippine life through the eyes of a Filipino-Canadian**

On 18 January 2011, Filipino-Canadian photographer and filmmaker Alex Felipe spoke to the Philippine Studies Group at YCAR.

Mr. Felipe shared his personal experiences in making both the documentary and a photography installation about being Filipino in Canada. Both projects were funded by the Ontario Arts Council.

“What We Left Behind” (2010) is a 20 minute dialogue-free documentary about the Philippines, a country many second generation Filipino-Canadians know little about, said Felipe. The work uses music and ambient sounds, along with images from a range of socio-economic classes, to tell the story of the place.

Felipe’s work, and the commentary he provided, stimulated much discussion among the audience of students, faculty and members of the Filipino community in Toronto who attended, said Professor Philip Kelly (Geography).

Mr. Felipe was born in Manila and migrated to Canada when he was two years old. He graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Toronto with the goal of being a human rights lawyer, but instead became a documentary photographer/film-maker.



His work has been featured in publications and exhibitions in Canada, the United States, Italy, Australia, and the Philippines. His work has been published and/or exhibited by Amnesty International, CARE-Canada, Oxfam-Australia, *NOW Magazine*, *The Toronto Star*, *This Magazine*, Red Bull Entertainment, the Immaginario Scientifico Museum in Trieste , Italy, and others. He has also had articles written in the *Toronto Star*, *This Magazine*, and on a variety of online blogs.

He won honourable mention at the 2009 National Magazine Award for Photojournalism for his exposé on Canadian mining in the Philippines.

For more information on the Philippine Study Group, visit [www.yorku.ca/ycar/Research/philippine.html](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Research/philippine.html). To join the listserv, please email [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca). Further information on Felipe’s work can be found at: <http://alexfelipe.wordpress.com/>.

*Veronica Javier photograph*

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### **Opportunity | Three Awards for Language and Fieldwork Available to Graduate Students**

The York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) is accepting applications for three awards offered in the winter 2010 term – the Vivienne Poy Asian Research Award, the YCAR Language Award and the Albert C.W. Chan Foundation Fellowship. A reminder that the application deadline for all three awards is Monday, **14 February 2011 at 4pm.**

There is one Vivienne Poy Asian Research Award available worth CAD 1,500. It will be given to a graduate student who is enrolled at York and is a graduate associate of YCAR. Priority will be given to

students who apply to do research in fulfillment of the fieldwork requirement of the Graduate Diploma in Asian Studies (GDAS). The award is open to local and international students who have a grade point average of at least B+ and can demonstrate how fieldwork in Asia will contribute to the completion of their programme and to an understanding of Asia. Financial need will also be considered.

The criteria for selection will include the importance of fieldwork for the graduate student's programme, the academic merit of the research proposal, the fit with YCAR's research mandate and active participation in YCAR, including enrolment in the GDAS. Academic merit will include the clarity of the proposal, the potential contribution of proposed research to Asian studies and to Asian communities, and the feasibility of the research.

There are up to two YCAR Language Awards available to local and international graduate students enrolled at York and registered for the GDAS with a grade point average of at least B+. Each award will provide up to CAD 1,500 to reimburse costs directly related to language study. Receipts will be required before related language training expenses are reimbursed. The awards are open to students with demonstrated need to learn a specific Asian language to appreciate and better understand the context and perspectives relating to their area of research study.

One Albert C.W. Chan Foundation Fellowship worth CAD 1,000 is available. Established by the Albert C.W. Chan Foundation, the fellowship encourages and assists graduate students to carry out field research in East and/or Southeast Asia. Applicants must be Canadian citizens, permanent residents or protected persons, be Ontario residents and demonstrate financial need.

For more information, to obtain the application forms and for details on what to include in the application, visit [www.yorku.ca/ycar](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar) or email [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca).

### **Opportunity | Database of Chinese published academic journals available to York community**

The York University Libraries has made available, on a trial basis, an online database of publications from China. From now to the end of April, the York community can access thousands of academic journals, among other documents, published in Chinese. You can access the database here:

<http://g.wanfangdata.com.cn/>.

The following documents are available through the database: (学术期刊) Online journals; (学位论文) Dissertations; (学术会议) Conference proceedings; (法律法规) Policies and Laws of China; (新地方志) China New Local Gazetteers.

English journals in the database are available at: <http://www.wanfangdata.com>.

The materials can be accessed via a York University IP address until the end of April 2011. If you would like to access the databases from home or other computers, you have to install VPN on your computer to generate a virtual IP address.

### **Opportunity | Feedback on York Libraries collection of East Asian materials**

York University Libraries would like to know more about faculty and graduate students research needs and requirements in relation to the University's East Asian collection. If you feedback on this or items that should be brought to their attention, please let us know ([ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca)) by **28 February 2011**.



The library develops this collection according to your needs so if you have purchasing requests for the Library to consider and/or would like to endorse an ongoing subscription to the Wanfang database mentioned in the previous story, please contact Haiyun Cao at York University Libraries at [hcao@yorku.ca](mailto:hcao@yorku.ca).

### Opportunity | York Academic Innovation Fund

Following the endorsement by Senate of the White Paper, and in consultation with the Senate Committee on Academic Policy, Planning and Research (APPRC), the Provost announced the establishment of an Academic Innovation Fund to provide funding for initiatives that will advance the objectives of the White Paper and the new *University Academic Plan* (now in development). The purpose of the fund is to facilitate the implementation of strategic academic initiatives that enjoy wide institutional support, through an initial investment of resources. The fund is thus intended to enable innovation and change at York by supporting innovative new initiatives or those that extend current initiatives in significant new ways and initiatives that promote cross-Faculty collaboration and/or leverage new resources.

#### Categories of Proposals for Funding:

A total of \$2.5 million will be available annually over a three-year time horizon (i.e., 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014) to support initiatives proposed by Faculties and other academic units and individuals. There will be three categories of funding available:

Category	Description	Funding Available
Category I	<i>Pan-University proposals</i> : Initiatives intended to have an impact across the University and/or that are a collaborative effort by two or more Faculties	Up to \$200,000 per year
Category II	<i>Faculty-based proposals</i> : Initiatives which apply wholly or primarily within a particular Faculty	Up to \$100,000 per year
Category III	<i>Individual or group proposals</i> : Initiatives submitted by faculty, staff, or students individually or in groups	Up to \$10,000 per year

Proposals are invited from Faculties, units and individuals, as described above, for initiatives to advance the White Paper/UAP objectives relating to Teaching and Learning and/or the Student Experience. These initiatives may focus on specific tools, the development of tools, projects, processes, curriculum, faculty support and development to incorporate EE and/or web enhanced learning, blended learning and online education, and so on, including courses/certificates/partnerships that offer improved access to postsecondary education and which open academic opportunities to diverse communities locally, nationally and internationally.

The deadline is **15 February 2011**. The full call for proposals and application form is available at [http://vpacademic.yorku.ca/announcements/docs/Academic\\_Innovation\\_Fund\\_Call\\_For\\_Proposals.doc](http://vpacademic.yorku.ca/announcements/docs/Academic_Innovation_Fund_Call_For_Proposals.doc).

### Opportunity | National University of Singapore Summer School Programme

The National University of Singapore through its Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is organizing a summer school for the summer of 2011. Hosted by the Department of Southeast Asian Studies, this Summer School Programme is designed to provide students with the opportunity to live, study, and travel together, making it a valuable learning experience that extends beyond normal classroom-related

activities. Participants are exposed to the region through lectures, popular media, group activities and fieldtrips to different parts of Southeast Asia. This year Summer School offers a two-tier summer school programme at the introductory and advanced levels and both tiers are opened to all students from our partner universities.

The deadline is **1 March 2011**. More information and the application is available at:

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/edu/ng.html#applicationprocedures>.

### **Opportunity | Korean Studies Grant 2011**

The aim of the Korean Studies Grant programme is to deepen the world's understanding of Korea by supporting academic activities that will help spread Korean studies and nurture talented scholars of Korean studies. Another key purpose the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) is dedicated to achieving is to enhance the universality and quality of Korean studies through its support of activities undertaken by overseas researchers of Korean studies.

Programs include:

1. Visiting Lectureships | The programme assists universities in promoting Korean studies by sending qualified lecturers.
2. Competitive Research Funding | The programme sponsors projects related to Korean studies including research papers and books.
3. Workshop and Conference Support | The programme provides funding to academic forums hosted by Korean studies research organizations.
4. Scholarly Journal Support | The programme promotes publication of Korean studies works.
5. Publication Subsidy | The programme assists researchers in publishing Korean studies related materials.
6. Distinguished Paper Award | The programme encourages researchers who publish in international journals. The journal must be registered in A&HCI, SSCI, SCI, SCOPUS and published outside of Korea.

Application forms and guidelines are available from the AKS website:

<http://intl.aks.ac.kr/english/viewtopic.php?t=389>.

The submission deadline is **11 March 2011**.

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. An emailed application without a hardcopy will not be accepted. Inquiries should be directed to Jeonghyun Kim, The Academy of Korean Studies, at [grant@aks.ac.kr](mailto:grant@aks.ac.kr) or visit [www.aks.ac.kr](http://www.aks.ac.kr).

### **Opportunities | Scholarships opportunities for study in Taiwan**

Students interested studying in Taiwan from two unique opportunities.

**The Taiwan Scholarship Programme** is offered to people who wish to enrol in a degree programme in Taiwan. Recipients enrolling in a Masters or Doctoral programme will receive a monthly stipend of 30,000 NTD (approximately 1,000 CAD) for two or three years respectively.

**The Huayu Enrichment Scholarship** is tailored for students who wish to focus exclusively on the study of Chinese. Recipients of this scholarship will be given a monthly stipend totalling 25,000 NTD



(approximately 800 CAD) for up to one year study at a university-affiliated Chinese language centre.

It should be remind that applicants for both two programmes have to apply to the university or language center of their selection. The information related to all application procedures has been sent with this letter. The applicants have to submit all required application documents to our office by **31 March 31 2011**.

For more information, please email [tecoedu@taiwan-canada.org](mailto:tecoedu@taiwan-canada.org) or visit [www.edutw.ca](http://www.edutw.ca)  
Documents related to these applications can be found at:  
<http://international.yorku.ca/m/Taiwan/scholars.html>.

### **Opportunity | 2011 Call for Concept Notes as part of the Canadian International Food Security Research Fund**

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is pleased to announce the 2011 Call for Concept Notes as part of the Canadian International Food Security Research Fund, a joint initiative of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and IDRC.

The deadline for submission of concept notes is **23 March 2011**. Project budgets under the upcoming call will be in the range of CA\$1 to \$5 million.

Notable changes from the 2010 CIFS RF Call for Concept notes include: increased eligibility for international organizations; restrictions on the allowable number of applications in which researchers can be involved; and shorter project duration, which must not exceed 30 months, including field research and final reporting

The Call can be found at: [www.idrc.ca/cifsr/ev-151057-201-1-DO\\_TOPIC.html](http://www.idrc.ca/cifsr/ev-151057-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html).

The online application will be available for six weeks on the CIFS RF website, starting Wednesday, 9 February 2011 and closing Wednesday, 23 March 2011.

The CIFS RF is a five-year, CA\$62-million fund that supports research partnerships between Canadian and developing-country research organizations for applied research to find lasting solutions to fight hunger and food insecurity in the developing world. The Fund is a core element of CIDA's [Food Security Strategy](#) and of IDRC's food security programming priorities.

### **Opportunity | 2010-2011 York International Award for Outstanding Contribution to Internationalization**

York International is now accepting nominations for the 2010-2011 York International Award for Outstanding Contribution to Internationalization.

The award is open to all individuals and groups that have made a positive contribution to the York community. An awards committee comprised of representatives from York University will determine up to four recipients of this award each year. The committee aims to present one award to a member or group from each of the following categories: 1. York student or student group; 2. York Faculty member or Faculty; 3. York staff member or department; 4. External community member or group.

Nominations for this award may be made by any member of the York community. Nomination forms are due to the York International office no later than 4:30 pm on **Friday, 25 February 2011**. The award will be presented to the recipient(s) at the York International Year End Event on Friday, 25 March 2011.

If you have further questions about this award, please contact T. Craig Wright, Coordinator, International Student Programs, York International at 416-736-2100 x70650 or [cwright@yorku.ca](mailto:cwright@yorku.ca).

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### **Upcoming Event | Eat for Tibet Food Festival**

*Sunday, 13 February 2011 | 11am to 5pm | Queen St W and Callender St to Queen St W and Jameson Ave | Toronto*

Have you ever wanted to try traditional Tibetan cuisine and experience Tibetan culture? Do you want to see freedom and independence for the Tibetan people? Well now's your chance to support Tibetan independence simply by satisfying your cravings for delicious Tibetan food!

Join Students for a Free Tibet Canada in celebrating Tibetan cuisine in the name of Tibetan freedom, culture, and identity in Toronto's own "Little Tibet", the largest Tibetan neighbourhood in Canada! There will also be cultural performances, raffle draws for special prizes, and much, much more throughout the day - so don't miss out on SFT's first-ever Eat for Tibet Food Festival!

The fabulous restaurants participating and showcasing their delicacies are:

- Om Restaurant, 1439 Queen Street West <<http://www.blogto.com/restaurants/om-parkdale-toronto>>
- Himalayan Cafe, 1500 Queen Street West
- Le Tibet, 1526 Queen Street West
- Tsampa Cafe, 1528 Queen Street West
- Tibet Kitchen, 1544 Queen Street West <<http://www.blogto.com/restaurants/tibet-kitchen>>
- Shangrila, 1600 Queen Street West

Participating restaurants will donate 50 per cent of sales during the festival to Students for a Free Tibet Canada. Proceeds will go to fund SFT Canada's important work for Tibet. Through education, grassroots organizing, and non-violent direct action, SFT campaigns for the Tibetan people's fundamental right to freedom and independence.

For more information, email [canada@studentsforafreetibet.org](mailto:canada@studentsforafreetibet.org) or visit [www.SFTCanada.org](http://www.SFTCanada.org).

### **Upcoming Event | Careers in Asia panel**

*Tuesday, 15 February 2011 | 4 to 6pm | Munk School of Global Affairs, Room 208N, 1 Devonshire Place | University of Toronto*

The Asia-Pacific Club at the University of Toronto presents its second Careers in Asia panel featuring guests who have achieved great things in their careers, and can motivate students to strive for their personal and professional bests. The panel features a bevy of inspirational speakers including: Senator Vivienne Poy (Chancellor Emerita, University of Toronto); Steve McLuskie (Producer and Senior Writer at CBC Television, Toronto; Consultant at the Asian Institute); and Donald Rickerd (Research Fellow, Asian Institute; Associate Director, Asian Business and Management Programme, York University).

For more information, visit: [www.utoronto.ca/davidchu/news.html#careers2](http://www.utoronto.ca/davidchu/news.html#careers2).

**Upcoming Event | Population Ageing in Asia: Trends, Issues and Implications for Diaspora in Canada with Dr. Ghazy Mujahid**

*Wednesday, 16 February 2011 | 12:30 to 2:30pm | 626 York Research Tower | York University*

Asia's population is aging rapidly. The trends are projected to continue and between today and 2050 the percentage of those 60 and over in Asia will increase dramatically. This will give rise to a number of policy challenges which are new to many Asian countries. The presentation will outline the nature and causes of the demographic change and the policy implications that arise from it. The presentation will also discuss the implications of Asian population aging for Canada resulting from the presence of a large Asian diaspora and continuing large scale immigration from Asia to Canada.

Dr. Ghazy Mujahid has more than 30 years of experience of working in the area of population and development in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. For more than 20 years, he worked for the United Nations International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). He served as Population Advisor to the Governments of Jordan, The Gambia and then Malawi. His last assignment was as UNFPA Advisor on Population Policies and Development for East and Southeast Asia based in Bangkok, Thailand. In recent years he has been working increasingly in the area of population ageing.

He has worked closely with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in developing the Guidelines for the National Implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and is an Advisor to the Asia Pacific Population Journal of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. He has a number of publications to his credit including most recently "The Senior Population in Peel Region" published in 2010 by the Social Planning Council of Peel; and "Assuring Income Security in Old Age: Views of the Mongolian Elderly", published by UNFPA in 2010.

Dr. Mujahid has a Masters in Economics from the University of Karachi (Pakistan) and a Doctorate in Economics from the University of Cambridge.

For more information, visit: [www.yorku.ca/ycar](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar) or email [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca).

**Upcoming Event | Paper Wishes: Symbolic Hopes and Desires in Japanese Woodblock Prints**

*Wednesday, 16 February 2011 | 6:30 to 7:30pm | Japan Foundation, Toronto | 131 Bloor Street W. | Toronto*

Today Japanese woodblock print art, known as ukiyo-e, is much admired for the quality of its delightful graphic images, and for the technical excellence achieved by the printers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The best known subjects are the inhabitants of the floating world—flamboyant Kabuki actors, beautiful courtesans and elegant geisha—joined in the nineteenth century by the wonderful landscapes of Hokusai and Hiroshige.

But there exist, in addition to these iconic images of Japanese art, a number of prints devoted to less well-known subjects. Many of these prints were *surimono* (privately commissioned prints), which would have had symbolic significance for those who originally bought them or received them as gifts.

The Live Long & Prosper exhibition features many prints that would have conferred wishes for longevity on their owners. This talk will expand on some of the themes from the exhibit, including Jo and Uba, The Seven Gods of Good Fortune, and, of course, turtles and cranes. It will also introduce other images that would have had symbolic meaning for Edo period print collectors, such as Shoki the destroyer of Demons, the zodiac and other birds and animals linked to special meanings.

Guest lecturer Carol Dorman, M.A., is a specialist in ukiyo-e with The Stuart Jackson Gallery. Ms. Dorman has had a long and prosperous relationship with The Stuart Jackson Gallery. She has curated or helped to curate a number of exhibitions on Japanese prints, both with the gallery and independently. She has appeared on television and lectured throughout Canada.

Admission is free but reservations are required to [www.jftor.org/whatson/rsvp.php](http://www.jftor.org/whatson/rsvp.php) or 416.966.1600 ext. 104.

### **Upcoming Event | Living in the High-rise Flats and Model of Urban Life: Perspectives of Dhaka City, Bangladesh**

*Wednesday, 2 March 2011 | 2:30pm to 4:30pm | 626 York Research Tower*

With a growing population and land within city limits exhausted, Dhaka, Bangladesh is on the verge of a change in its urban character – vertical growth is overtaking horizontal expansion. The construction of high-rise buildings is on the rise and with this change comes new forms of social affiliation and a new dimension in urban life.

Dr. Akbar Hussain's presentation will explore his research into this new urban life, with a focus on the social relations and culture of community living among high-rise apartments dwellers in Dhaka. He will also consider the pattern of high-rise apartments, family distribution as well as the experiences of living in the flats in local and global contexts.

Akbar Hussain is an Anthropologist with 15 years of teaching and research experience. Currently he is teaching at Jahangirnagar University in Bangladesh. He obtained his PhD and MA in Anthropology from the University of Tsukuba, Japan. He conducted a post-doctoral research work under the fellowship of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). He conducted fieldwork among the island communities in Bangladesh and fishing communities in Japan. Dr. Hussain taught courses at the College of International Studies, and the Graduate School of Area Studies, the University of Tsukuba, for many years. He is the author of a book and published numerous articles in journals. For last three years, he was the Chair of the Department of Anthropology at Jahangirnagar University. His research interests include the environment, health and culture, human rights and legal issues, and migration and diaspora studies.

This event is presented by the York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) and the City Institute at York University (CITY). For more information, email [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca) or visit [www.yorku.ca/ycar](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar) or <http://www.yorku.ca/city/Home/>.

### **Upcoming Event | The Gender of Memory: Rural Women and China's Collective Past**

Thursday, 3 March 2011 | 2:30 to 4:30pm | 280N York Lanes | York University

Professor Gail Hershatter's talk on *The Gender of Memory* will explore the collective past of rural socialist China as remembered and reinterpreted by older women half a century later. It draws upon more than 70 life history interviews with rural women in Shaanxi province, supplemented by extensive research in published and archival sources. Refiguring our account of Chinese socialism and rural life, *The Gender of Memory* asks what would happen to our understanding of modern China, and history more generally, if gender were placed at the center of the inquiry.

Gail Hershatter is Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of History at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her books include *The Workers of Tianjin, 1900-1949* (1986), *Personal Voices: Chinese Women in the 1980s* (with Emily Honig, 1988), *Dangerous Pleasures: Prostitution and Modernity in Twentieth-Century Shanghai* (1997, awarded the Joan Kelly Memorial Prize in Women's History, American Historical Association), and *Women in China's Long Twentieth Century* (2007). Her book "The Gender of Memory: Rural Women and China's Collective Past" is forthcoming from the University of California Press in 2011. She is Vice-President of the Association for Asian Studies.

This talk is kindly supported by the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation, the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies, the Department of History and York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR). For more information on this Critical China Studies event, please visit:

[www.yorku.ca/ycar/programmes\\_projects/critical\\_china\\_studies.html](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/programmes_projects/critical_china_studies.html) or email [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca).

### **The Impact of People's Tribunals: Reflecting on the International Tribunal on Crimes against Women of Burma**

Thursday, 3 March 2011 | 12:30 to 2pm | 519 York Research Tower | York University

What are the benefits, weaknesses, and long-term effects of so-called "people's tribunals" for ending the impunity that states too often enjoy in the face of human rights atrocities?

The panellists for this event include: Sheila Htoo, testified at the International Tribunal on Crime Against Women in Burma in New York; Julaine Eberhard, coordinated the Burma women's tribunal through the Nobel Women's Initiative; Professor Annie Bunting, Law & Society Program, York University, respondent; and Professor Susan Henders, Director, York Centre for Asian Research, moderator.

This question will be explored in a panel discussion on 3 March 2011 to mark the first anniversary of the International Tribunal on Crimes against Women of Burma, which convened in New York City to hear testimonies of women from Burma and consider charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity against the Burma military junta. The Tribunal was jointly convened by the Ottawa-based Nobel Women's Initiative and the Women's League of Burma, with an expert panel of judges made up of Nobel Peace Laureates Shirin Ebadi and Jody Williams, and human rights experts Professor Vitit Muntarbhorn of Thailand and Dr. Heisoo Shin of the Republic of Korea.

In its judgment, the Tribunal determined that: "the Burmese military regime is responsible, both individually and as a State, for the crimes and violations at issue here, based on its acts and policies of commission. Burma is also responsible based on its failure to act to prevent these crimes and violations through investigating, prosecuting and punishing the perpetrators, as well as its failure to protect and provide reparations to the victimized. The testimonies we have heard today reconfirm that the regime's

actions amount to war crimes, crimes against humanity, crimes subject to universal jurisdiction and the failure of the regime to exercise its Responsibility to Protect and human rights violations."

A complete text of the judgement is available at:

<<http://www.womenofburma.org/Report/BurmaTribunal-Report-WLB&NWI.pdf>>

The anniversary panel at York University brings together organizers of the International Tribunal on Crimes against Women of Burma, members of the Burma community, and scholars to reflect on the achievements of the Tribunal and of the larger "people's tribunal" phenomenon.

This event is organized the Centre for Refugee Studies and the York Centre for Asian Research at York University.

### **Upcoming Event | Cities of the Asian Century: Urban Futures as Mass Dreams**

*Friday, 4 March 2011 | Noon to 2pm | 140 University College | 15 King's College Circle | University of Toronto*

Ananya Roy (Department of City and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley) will present 'Cities of the Asian Century: Urban Futures as Mass Dreams' on 4 March 2011.

The twenty-first century will be an urban century, one in which the human condition will be the urban condition. But the twenty-first century will also be a "Southern" century, even an "Asian" century, with much of the urban growth taking place in the cities of the Global South, especially in the emergent economic powerhouses of India and China. Such transformations are accompanied by ambitious claims of tectonic shifts in global power, of the making of "Asian" futures, and of the building of Asian "world-class" cities. This talk outlines the making of cities of the Asian century - as both a place-in-the-world and as global future. But it also outlines the contradictions and contestations that haunt the Asian city, how the global future is constantly reimagined and reclaimed as a mass dream.

Ananya Roy is Professor of City and Regional Planning and Friesen Chair in Urban Studies. Roy is also co-director of the Global Metropolitan Studies Center and education director of the Blum Center for Developing Economies. She is the author of *City Requiem, Calcutta: Gender and the Politics of Poverty* and *Poverty Capital: Microfinance and the Making of Development*. Roy's most recent book is a co-edited volume, with Aihwa Ong, titled *Worlding Cities: Asian Experiments and the Art of Being Global*.

Register online at: <http://webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca/EventDetails.aspx?eventid=9031>.

### **Upcoming Event | Sex-Selective Abortion and Son Preference in Canada**

*Monday, 7 March 2011 | 1:30 to 3pm | 830 York Research Tower | York University*

Sugandha Nagpal will present the second presentation in the 2011 YCAR Graduate Student Workshop series on her research titled 'Sex-Selective Abortion and Son Preference in Canada'.

In India, sex-selective abortion and son preference are established phenomena that cut across rural/urban, educational and socioeconomic status divides. Increasingly, media reports, sociological and medicolegal literature have identified sex-selective abortion in diasporic Indian communities. This paper



utilizes a transnational, anti-racist feminist and reproductive justice lens to map the complex dynamics of sex-selective abortion in the South Asian Canadian context. The analysis indicates that: diasporic transformations of cultural norms, institutionalized racism, discrimination against immigrants, patriarchal forces and western pro-choice feminist discourse significantly shape the terrain for resistance movements against sex-selective abortion in the diasporic Indian community. Moreover, the ability of legislation and state policies to prevent the practice of sex-selection is constrained due to the capitalist and racist objectives that underlie policy initiatives. An examination of progressive community-based initiatives implemented in India offer directions for future interventions and research projects.

For more information, email [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca) or visit [www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/graduate\\_student\\_workshop\\_series\\_2011.html](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/graduate_student_workshop_series_2011.html).

### **Upcoming Event | Focus on Scholarship on India**

*Tuesday, 29 March 2011 | 2 to 4pm | 519 York Research Tower | York University*

The next event in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies RESEARCHMATTERS Speaker Series is titled, "Focus on Scholarship on India." Dean Douglas Peers (Faculty of Graduate Studies) will be the panel chair and discussant, talking about "The History of British Imperialism in India."

The panelists include:

'Towards an Aesthetic of Opposition: Listening to Dalit Voices' - Professor Arun Mukherjee (English); 'Surviving Cyclones and Tsunamies in India: Emergency Management and Rebuilding - Professor Niru Nirupama (Emergency Management, Administrative Studies); and Professor Ananya Mukherjee Reed (Political Science, International Development Studies, Social and Political Thought, Director of International Secretariat for Human Development, and Director of South Asian Studies).

Please RSVP to Renee Irons ([rironson@yorku.ca](mailto:rironson@yorku.ca)) or 416.736.2100 ext. 33584 to allow organizers to prepare appropriately.

### **Upcoming Event | Labouring Brown Bodies: Exploring the Mass Reproduction of Filipina Caregivers in the Global Labour Market**

*Thursday, 31 March 2010 | 3 to 4:30pm | 901 York Research Tower | York University*

Conely de Leon (Doctoral Candidate, Women's Studies) will present her research as part of the YCAR Graduate Student Workshop series in Winter 2011.

The Philippines is one of the largest organized exporters of human bodies and labour in the world (San Juan Jr. 2006). The mass exodus of Filipinos to over 190 countries has resulted in a 'crisis of care' wherein over nine million children have been separated from their migrant parents (Parreñas 2005). Particularly striking is the disproportionate number of children being separated from their mothers, a phenomenon which is directly attributable to the mass consumption of labouring bodies from the Global South, as well as the high demand for Filipina domestic workers and caregivers in the global labour market.

Drawing on in-depth, one-on-one interviews with three Filipina mother-daughter pairs living and working in Ontario and Quebec, Ms. de Leon argues that the mass consumption of domestic and care

work does not seem to end with the labouring bodies of single Filipino women, but rather persists with the labouring bodies of their *daughters*. Employing a critical transnational feminist framework, I suggest that highly gendered and racialized processes are at work in circulating and reproducing a demand not simply for single Filipinas, but also for their immediate and extended female kin. She further suggests that an exploration of the complexities of intergenerational conflict and compromise among Filipina mothers and daughters may draw greater insight into the ways in which Filipinas create networks of solidarity and resistance in response to an overwhelming demand for their labour.

This series is intended to be an opportunity for York students in graduate programmes in the social sciences, humanities, fine arts, natural sciences, and professional schools to get presentation experience and valuable feedback on their research in a friendly and supportive environment.

For more information, email [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca) or visit [www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/graduate\\_student\\_workshop\\_series\\_2011.html](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/graduate_student_workshop_series_2011.html).

### **Upcoming Event | What Happens When the Land is Needed, but the People are Not? Challenging Transitions in Southeast Asia**

*Thursday, 31 March 2011 | 5:00pm | 305 Founders College | York University*

Tania Li, Professor of Anthropology and Canada Research Chair in the Political-Economy and Culture of Asia-Pacific at the University of Toronto, will be giving a public lecture titled “What Happens When the Land is Needed, but the People are not? Challenging Transitions in Southeast Asia”. YCAR Associates Peter Vandergeest, Philip Kelly, Robin Roth, Keith Barney, Vanessa Lamb and Nga Dao were part of a recently completed SSHRC-MCRI project with Dr. Li titled ‘Challenges of Agrarian Transition in Southeast Asia’.

Tania Li received her PhD from Cambridge University in 1987. Her early research in Southeast Asia concerned urban cultural politics in Singapore. Since 1990, her research has focused on questions of culture, economy, environment and development in Indonesia’s upland regions. She has written about the rise of Indonesia’s indigenous peoples’ movement, land reform, rural class formation, struggles over the forests and conservation, community resource management, and state-organized resettlement. She is the author of *The Will to Improve: Governmentality, Development, and the Practice of Politics* (Duke University Press, 2007). The book explores governmentality in its colonial and contemporary iterations, tracking interventions devised by experts to improve landscapes and livelihoods in Indonesia.

### **Upcoming Event | YCAR Annual General Meeting**

*Wednesday, 27 April 2010 | 1:30 to 4pm | 280N York Lanes | York University*

YCAR’s Annual General Meeting allows its Executive Committee, Director and Associate Director to report directly to the wider YCAR membership on activities at the Centre over the last year, and make decisions for the coming year. Important issues on the agenda include planning in light of the proposal for new structure and policy for organized research units (ORUs).

The 2011 YCAR Annual Report will be made available online at least one week prior to the meeting on YCAR’s website ([www.yorku.ca/ycar](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar)).

We need a quorum of faculty associates in order to be able to make these decisions. Please RSVP to

[ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca) if you are able to attend and/or if you have any questions.

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### **Call for Papers | Fourth International Conference on New Discourses in Contemporary China**

New discourses are understood as new ways of using language to do things as well as new lexicons, which, while being brought about by the social change, contribute to it to a great extent. To look at the new discourses helps us to better understand the socio-political transformation in contemporary China. Therefore, the general aim of NDCC 2011 is to explore the dialectic relation between discourse and social change in various domains of social life in China.

The first colloquium and workshop were jointly organized by Nankai University and Tianjin University of Commerce in April 2006, the second by Lancaster University (IAS, LCMC, and LEAL) in September 2007, the third by Tianjin University of Commerce and Nankai University in May 2009. The fourth NDCC conference will be held by Guangdong University of Foreign Studies in November 2011.

Participants intending to give a paper are requested to e-mail an abstract of 500 words in English to Dr. Yu Shengming at [fourthndcc@126.com](mailto:fourthndcc@126.com). The abstract should include the participant's name, academic position, affiliation, e-mail address and postal address.

The deadline is **28 February 2011**. For more information, please visit: <http://sfl.tjcu.edu.cn/ndcc>.

### **Call for Papers | Canada-China Relations: Past, Present and Future**

Expressions of interest are invited for a series of interdisciplinary panels on Canada's relations with China to be held on 7-8 October 2011 at the at the University of Regina as part of the thirtieth anniversary of the university's partnership agreement in 1981 with a Chinese university, the first such arrangement by a Canadian post-secondary institution. The conference also marks the fortieth anniversary of the exchange of embassies between Canada and China.

In conjunction with other commemorative events, the conference will welcome scholars and representatives of government, the private sector and NGOs that have played an active role in this relationship. Conference participants will be drawn from the University of Regina, other Canadian institutions and their Chinese counterparts. Applications from diverse disciplines including history, sociology, political science, economics, international studies, education, business administration and religious studies are encouraged. Participation is also invited from graduate students. It is hoped the results of the conference will be disseminated in at least one edited work to be published.

If interested, please send a paper title and a short one-paragraph description by **15 March 2011** to David Webster and John Meehan at [canada-china@uregina.ca](mailto:canada-china@uregina.ca).

### **Call for Papers | Fifth China Goes Global Conference**

China's present status in the world economy is already very impressive: The country is the world's most populous nation, biggest trader and recipient of inbound investment, and second largest economy (in GDP PPP) and third largest trader, and the largest recipient of foreign direct investment. China has 170 cities of over one million people, as well as three of the world's largest 20 cities: Guangzhou, Shanghai and Beijing. With over 800 million cell phone subscribers and the largest on-line population, China is

also a major force in the introduction and diffusion of technology.

Not only a source for cheap labour, China is now a major market for consumer goods. It buys over 12 per cent of the world's luxury goods. It is a major player in world energy markets. In the area of finance, Chinese banks are now among the world's largest in terms of market capitalization. In addition, China has over two trillion dollars in foreign currency reserves.

While China has many economic achievements under its belt, it also suffers problems that can seriously hinder its development. China fast economic growth is unbalanced and, perhaps, unsustainable. China's governance still lags behind on many indicators and the rule of law is weak. The Chinese Communist Party retains a tight grip on many activities, limiting human rights and civil liberties. The environment is polluted and products coming out of China are unsafe for consumption.

In this context, we announce the fifth international research conference examining China's globalization. We seek multi-disciplinary approaches, which can include analyses of China's businesses, economic environment, political systems and social structures.

The deadline is **1 April 2011**. For more information, please visit: [www.chinagoesglobal.org/](http://www.chinagoesglobal.org/).

**York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR)**

To comment or for more information, contact [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca)  
Earlier Updates can be found on YCAR's website: [www.yorku.ca](http://www.yorku.ca)

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