



York Centre for Asian Research Update

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Our Researchers | News and Awards

Janet Landa, Faculty Associate | Professor Landa was keynote speaker at The International Conference 'Diaspora as a Resource: Comparative Studies in Strategies, Networks and Urban Space' organized by the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Hamburg in June 2010.



Naoko Ikeda, Graduate Associate | Ms. Ikeda's translation of "Gender as a Root Cause for Militarization and War," appears in the recently published *Society and Gender: Male History, Military and Sexuality (Shakai to Jendaa: Danseishi, Guntai, Sekushuaritii)* (Tokyo: Jumposha, 2010). She is a Doctoral Candidate in the School of Women's Studies.

She also received funding from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, located in UK, to cover travel expenses for her fieldwork trip to Okinawa in July-August 2010.

Eric Ping Hung Li, Graduate Associate | Mr. Li (Doctoral Candidate, Marketing, Schulich School of Business) along with colleagues from Australia, Italy and Germany, will present their research projects on the topic 'Globalcityscapes: Re-Reading Ethnicity in Movement' at the Association for Consumer Research (North America) Conference in October 2010. This is one of the major consumer research conferences in the world. Together with Bernardo Figuieredo (University of New South Wales), Mr. Li will present research on 'Mobile Ethnicities in Global Cities'. This multi-sited study seeks to examine how global cities become a "stage" on which mobilized ethnic consumers perform their created identities as well as an arena in which to circulate and regulate images and meanings generated by different market agents.

YCAR News | YCAR welcomes Shubhra Gururani as Associate Director



YCAR would like to welcome Professor Shubhra Gururani (Anthropology) as the 2010.2011 Associate Director for YCAR. She took up the position as of 1 July 2010.

Professor Michael Nijhawan (Sociology) completed his term as Associate Director in June.

Professor Gururani will assist the Director of YCAR with the administration and organizational activities of the Centre. She is responsible for the Graduate Diploma in Asian Studies (GDAS).

Professor Gururani will also be helping to advance the Ecologies on the Edge research programme during her term.

Professor Gururani's research explores the social histories and cultural politics of gender, nature, place, and science as they unfold in postcolonial settings like India. Interested in the cultural politics of power, knowledge, and difference, she draws from feminist and postcolonial theory, science and technology studies, and political ecology to analyse the material and symbolic co-production of nature, race, gender, caste, and ethnicity in India. Through archival and extensive ethnographic research in the Himalayas, her research contests the ontological divide between nature and society and demonstrates how nature is not merely the ground for environmental conflicts or a 'resource,' as it is commonly assumed, but is constitutive of everyday practices of labour, livelihood, knowledge and subjectivity.

Her interest in the cultural politics of nature is not limited to the rural and extends to new urban spaces in India. She is conducting research on the urban political ecology of water and sewage in the Millennial city of India, Gurgaon, and is currently part of a SSHRC-funded Major Collaborative Research Initiative (MCRI) on Global Suburbanisms, in which she is the Team Lead for South Asia as well as for Waste and Sewage Infrastructure.

Her papers have been published in *Journal of Peasant Studies*, *International Journal of Social Sciences*, and *Gender, Place, and Culture*.

Opportunity | Reference Specialist position at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library

The Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library (RCL CHKL) is inviting applications for the post of Reference Specialist. The candidate will assist the Library Director in developing a proactive and innovative programme for the Library’s reference and outreach activities.

Established in 2008 and operated within the University of Toronto Libraries system, the RCL CHKL has the largest research collection on Hong Kong studies outside Hong Kong. Its collection also includes materials on Canada-Hong Kong relations and Chinese Canadian studies. The Library has built a global network with scholars and community leaders for enriching its collection, services and programming. It successfully organized more than 20 well attended events, including conferences, seminars, book launches and exhibitions on a wide variety of topics related to Hong Kong and Canada-Hong Kong studies. This Library has a growing team working closely together to shape a system that looks forward to the future of the special collection.

To apply for this position, please submit a resume and cover letter to Library Human Resources at utlhr@utoronto.ca. Applications will be accepted until **15 July 2010**.

Opportunity | Early Researcher Award programme (ERA)

The Early Researcher Award programme (ERA) aims to help promising, recently-appointed Ontario researchers build their research teams of undergraduates, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, research assistants, associates and technicians. The goal of the programme is to improve Ontario’s ability to attract and retain the best and brightest research talent. The ERA will cover the following expenses for undergraduates, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, research assistants, associates and technicians carrying out the research: salaries and benefits; essential and reasonable travel and expenses related to conferences, workshops or seminars; and essential and reasonable travel and expenses related directly to offsite research activities.

Applicants are required to undertake annual youth research outreach activities and may use up to one per cent of the ERA award for this purpose.

The ERA programme is open on a competitive basis to researchers who are: full-time faculty or principal investigators who, at the application deadline, are based at an eligible institution; actively involved in conducting research that has been supported by peer-reviewed funding; no more than five years from having started their independent academic research career, as of 1 July 2010; and no more than 10 years from having completed their first Doctor of Philosophy, Medical Doctor or Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, as of 1 July 2010.

Applications will be accepted from researchers in all research disciplines and should demonstrate that the anticipated research results are of strategic value to Ontario. Strategic value includes but is not limited to the potential for: economic benefit; social and/or cultural benefit; knowledge transfer; ability to enhance the province’s profile in the global academic community; and anticipated impact on bio-economy and clean technologies, advanced health technologies, pharmaceutical research and manufacturing, and digital media and information and communication technologies.

Each award to a leading researcher is a maximum of CAD 100,000 and must be matched by an additional CAD 50,000 from the researcher's institution and/or a partner organization. In addition, up to CAD 40,000 will be provided by the Ministry to the institution for indirect costs.

The Round 7 Notice of Intent (NOI) deadline is Friday, 6 August 2010. The Ministry of Research and Innovation requires institutional research offices to submit NOIs on behalf of the institution. The Round 7 application deadline is 20 September 2010. Draft of NOI for review to York's Office of Research Services is **26 July 2010**.

Programme guidelines, application instructions and application forms can be obtained by consulting the MRI website at:

www.mri.gov.on.ca/english/programs/era/program.asp. Potential applicants should contact Steven Mataija (Manager, Government Research Initiatives Programmes) at ORS at x22507 or smataija@yorku.ca.

Opportunity | Ecohealth Emerging Infectious Diseases Research Initiative: Call for Proposals for Southeast Asia

In collaboration with CIDA and AusAID, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Ecohealth team is pleased to announce the Ecohealth Emerging Infectious Diseases Research Initiative (Eco EID) Call for Proposals for Southeast Asia. The Call has been developed by the IDRC [Ecosystems and Human Health](#) Programme and the [Global Health Research Initiative](#).

Research funded through the Eco EID initiative's Call for Proposals in South East Asia will apply an [ecohealth approach](#) to improve the understanding of the environmental, societal, and economic interactions associated with development that predispose the region to disease emergence and spread. It will also assist in the development of intervention strategies that sustainably prevent or limit the spread of emerging infectious diseases.

Eco EID is a global initiative of Canada's International Development Research Centre. The initiative is implemented by IDRC and is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency, Australian Agency for International Development and IDRC for a total of CAD 9 million. Eco EID's goal is to enhance preparedness and systemic response capacities to the threats from emerging infectious diseases in Southeast Asia and beyond.

Submission date for Letters of Intent is due **3 August 2010**. For more information, email EcoEID@idrc.ca. For more information, visit [www.idrc.ca/uploads/user-S/12771294741Eco EID Call for Research Proposals EN.pdf](http://www.idrc.ca/uploads/user-S/12771294741Eco_EID_Call_for_Research_Proposals_EN.pdf).

Opportunity | Positions in the Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS

The Southeast Asian Studies Programme of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore, seeks applications from scholars specializing in Southeast Asia.

One appointment will be at the Assistant Professor (tenure track) level; another appointment may be made at either Assistant or Associate Professor level (tenured or tenure track). Areas of specialization are open, but we are looking for candidates who complement the existing strengths of the

department. Teaching interests in one or more of the following are particularly desirable: literature, history, ecology and environmental studies, belief and ritual, political economy, and media studies.

Applicants should be committed to working and teaching in an interdisciplinary environment with an area studies perspective. Geographical specialization is open, but the department especially encourages applications from candidates who work on the Philippines, Vietnam and other mainland Southeast Asian countries.

Other criteria for the position(s) include teaching experience and evidence of teaching capacity, an active research agenda, and a strong publication record or the potential to develop one. Fluency in a Southeast Asian language is essential. The successful applicant will be expected to teach at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, including large introductory courses and individual student research supervision. Faculty in the programme should also have the ability to relate to students from diverse backgrounds.

Scholars willing to make a long-term commitment to Southeast Asia, including citizens of its countries, are especially encouraged to apply. A PhD is required at the time of application.

To apply, please submit a full CV, names of three referees, and a statement describing your research and teaching interests to the Chair of the Search Committee. If reference letters are available they should be sent directly to the Chair of the Search Committee. Further information about the Southeast Asian Studies Programme is available at www.fas.nus.edu.sg/sea/. Links to information regarding the University, terms of service, benefits and allowances are available at www.nus.edu.sg/careers/. The appointment(s) will begin on 1 July 2011 at the latest, with a possibility of beginning as early as 1 January 2011. Candidates should submit all application materials by **30 September 2010**.

Inquiries and completed applications should be directed to the address below. Only short-listed candidates will be notified of the selection committee's decision.

Opportunity | ACLS/CCK Comparative Perspectives on Chinese Culture and Society Program

The American Council of Learned Societies, with funding from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, invites applications for grants to support collaborative work in China studies.

In this cycle of competitions we are soliciting proposals in the humanities and related social sciences that adopt an explicitly cross-cultural or comparative perspective. We invite submission of projects that, for example, compare aspects of Chinese history and culture with those of other nations and civilizations, explore the interaction of these nations and civilizations, or engage in cross-cultural research on the relations among the diverse and shifting populations of China. Proposals are expected to be empirically grounded, theoretically informed, and methodologically explicit.

The program will support collaborative work of three types:

a) Planning Meetings - Grants up to USD 6,000 will be offered for one-day meetings to plan conferences or workshops, or for less structured explorations (e.g., brainstorming sessions) on issues of Chinese culture and society.

b) Workshops - Grants up to USD 15,000 will be offered for workshops designed to facilitate ongoing research on newly available or inadequately researched data or texts. Workshops are understood to last three to four days and provide an opportunity for participants to discuss and analyze new approaches and/or new sources in a seminar-like setting.

c) Conferences - Grants up to USD 25,000 will be offered for formal research conferences intended to produce significant new research that will be published in a conference volume.

The program aims to promote interchange among scholars who may not otherwise have the opportunity to work together. Accordingly, proposals will not be supported for activities of scholars from one institution or that fall within an institution's normal range of colloquia, symposia, or seminar series. The program will not support regularly scheduled meetings, conventions, or parts thereof. Proposals must include at least one scholar from Taiwan as a participant.

The deadline for completed applications is **29 September 2010**. Visit www.acls.org/programs/cck for program guidelines and application information. Decisions will be announced in January 2011.

For more information, contact Kelly Buttermore, Grants Coordinator, at kbuttermore@acsl.org.

Opportunity | New resources in Hong Kong studies

The research collection of the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library has been significantly enriched in 2009.2010. Materials on Hong Kong studies, Canada Hong Kong relations and Hong Kong-Canadian communities continue to grow substantially. In addition to the large volume of gift materials from our patrons and exchange partners in Hong Kong, the Library selected and purchased almost 900 items using the Hong Kong Subject Fund. New acquisitions include electronic resources, serial subscription, microfilms, films and monographs.

For more information about the Library's collection, please visit the Library's website at: <http://hongkong.library.utoronto.ca/collections>.

Upcoming Event | Hakka Castle Dwellings: UNESCO World Heritage Site

Friday, 9 July 2010 | 2:30pm | Current Periodical Area | Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library | 8th floor, Robarts Library | 130 St. George Street

Utilizing photographs and diagrams, Dr. Keith Lowe will present a survey of Hakka castle dwellings. He focuses on the *tulou* or round earth castles common to the mountainous Hakka heartland where eastern Fujian adjoins northwestern Guangdong and southern Jiangxi province. In 2008, UNESCO declared a group of *toulos* in Fujian a world heritage site. Dr. Lowe will analyze the relationship of these round structures to the oval or dragonbacked compounds found in these three provinces, and to the rectangular or fivephoenix compounds which flourished in south-central Guangdong, especially in the Shenzen region and the New Territories. He will show how the architecture reflects various stages of Chinese and Hakka history and culture. Limited seats are available; please RSVP to Lucy Gan by email (lucy.gan@utoronto.ca) or by phone at 416.978.1025.

Upcoming Event | Tenugui on the Kabuki Stage

Thursday, 15 July 2010 | 6:30 to 8:30pm | The Japan Foundation, Toronto | 131 Bloor St. W

Tenugui are one of the most expressive, effective props on the Kabuki stage. Some male characters hide their faces or wrap their heads with Tenugui, using a special style of wrapping that frames and enhances the actors’ handsome features. Female characters, traditionally performed by male actors, take particular advantage of Tenugui in their dance programmes. Simple cloths are imaginatively transformed into various objects, such as letters and water. In other scenes, Tenugui’s length assists the actors in conjuring up their feminine sensuality. Visual arts programmer Toshi Aoyagi will discuss the various ways Tenugui are used in Kabuki theatre, and present video clips illustrating their use in different plays. This talk complements the current exhibition, ‘Tenugui Towels: Design Excellence in Japanese Daily Life’.

Admission is free but reservations are required: www.jftor.org/whatson/rsvp.php or 416.966.1600 x229

Upcoming Event | Toronto Singapore Film Festival

16-17 July 2010 | Toronto

TSFF is returning for the fifth season in 2010. The two-day film festival is being held at the Revue Cinema (July 16) and Innis College (July 17). We selected a variety of features, shorts, and documentaries made by some of the most inspiring independent Singaporean filmmakers. The films are in several languages including Cantonese, French, Mandarin, and Tamil. All have English subtitles.

For more information, visit <http://tsff.org/2010/welcome.htm>.

York News | Professor helps set up Japanese degree program in Cuba

York Professor Norio Ota, coordinator of the Japanese and Korean sections in York’s Department of Languages, Literatures & Linguistics (DLLL), recently conducted a four-week faculty training seminar in the Faculty of Foreign Languages (FLEX) at the University of Havana. This was his third visit to the Japanese language program in Cuba.

“This visit was particularly important, because the Japanese language has been given the status of one of the second languages, same as Italian, and the degree program in Japanese studies will commence in February 2011,” says Ota. “I am very happy to take part in this project.”

The full story is available at: www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=15051.

Call for Papers | Bridging Cultures: China and Missions

After a long period of neglect, recent decades have seen the emergence of empirically grounded and often interdisciplinary approaches to a reconstruction and reevaluation of the historical and intracultural significance of the missionary experience in China. Biographies of leading figures, studies of

the home base and the emergence of this multi-national corporate organization, diplomacy and foreign policy, individual mission histories, the role of women and most recently attempts to map the “Chinese face” of Christianity have all contributed to a more sophisticated and dialogic understanding of missions in China.

This special issue of *Social Sciences and Missions* (Leiden: Brill) seeks to extend this effort by presenting innovative interdisciplinary scholarship on the bicultural nature of the largest of all the mission efforts of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. We seek essays that explore the missionary enterprise in China after 1800 from the perspective of cross-cultural bridging and encounters with the Other, that emphasize the dual and interconnected impact on both host and receiving societies. Studies of missionary kids, native Christianity, museums and collectors, translators and scholars are especially welcome.

Contributors should send a 250 word abstract either to Guest Editors Margo Gewurtz, (profgewurtz@gmail.com), or Kathleen Lodwick (KL12@psu.edu), by **30 September 2010**. Texts may be in French or in English. If the proposal is accepted, a first draft of the paper will be due by 30 April 2011 for submission to referees. Essays should be between 10'000 and 15'000 words in length including footnotes. For detailed instructions and a style sheet, see the following website: www.brill.nl/AuthorsInstructions/SSM.pdf.

For more information, please visit: www.brill.nl/ssm or www.lefaitmissionnaire.com/.

Call for Papers | Pakistan Workshop 2011: The Politics of Space

Although the use of space has been implicitly a part of many academic works, it is important to question how it is defined and reproduced. As a dynamic category, it is constantly divided, regulated and negotiated. In Pakistan, the division between the spaces of the private and the public, the visible and the invisible, between the rural and the urban, the legal and illegal, have in some places blurred and in others rigidified. The concept of space allows for an understanding of these and other categories on a concrete, literal and symbolic way. Some of the categories that emerge from within this realm include (but are not limited to):

- the increasing visibility of regional demands for greater autonomy;
- the different and competing expressions of religiosity as well as of politics in space;
- the sites at which gender is given meaning and reproduced;
- the space of the home/domestic/private as opposed to the external/world/public;
- changing and overlapping patterns of spatial segregation, communication and transport in the urban areas;
- changing social realities and migration networks between urban and rural areas;
- overlapping spheres of control occupied by the military, bureaucracy and elite groups;
- spaces of resistance and protest;
- diaspora.

The Pakistan Workshop 2011 invites research on Pakistan, the Pakistani diaspora and the Muslims of South Asia on the broad theme of space. We would particularly like to include fresh, critical perspectives on understudied areas within Pakistan; on ethno-nationalist movements and regionalism in Pakistan. The theme and categories listed above are used as a guide and should not discourage those whose work does not directly coincide with them.

The Pakistan Workshop was originally intended to bring together anthropologists and sociologists working on Pakistan, Pakistani diaspora and Islam in South Asia. However, we regularly receive work from a broad range of concepts and disciplines. This workshop is a forum for younger and more experienced researchers, providing an opportunity for people working in common fields to get acquainted with each other.

The deadline for abstracts is **31 January 2011**, after which the organizers will make a selection and inform the participants of their decision. The finished papers would be required two weeks before the workshop, so they can be pre circulated to all participants.

For further information, contact pakistanworkshop@gmail.com or become a fan of the Facebook group 'Pakistan Workshop'.

York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR)

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

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