



York Centre for Asian Research Update

Send your news and updates for inclusion in the YCAR Update to ycar@yorku.ca.

In this June 2011 Issue...

Our Researchers | News and Publications

- > Thomas Klassen
- > Ananya Mukherjee-Reed
- > Gregory Chin
- > Zulfikar Hirji
- > Keith Barney
- > Veronica Javier

YCAR News

- > York welcomes Korean Foundation President
- > 2011 YCAR award recipients
- > Conference explores popular press through Chinese women’s journals
- > 2011 YCAR Annual Report

Resources

- > China journals now available online to York researchers
- > APEC Economic Policy Report (AEPR) 2011

Opportunities

- > Association for Asian Studies 2012
- > YCAR Strategic Initiatives call for proposals
- > Visiting international professor applications accepted for researchers working on decentralization, local governance and Southeast Asia
- > AUCC-CIDA university partnerships

Upcoming Events

- > Meeting Friends through Books (June 24)
- > Tagore Fest 2011 (June 25, 26)

Calls

- > Our Journeys 2011
- > Chinese through the Americas
- > Asian Education and Development Studies

Our Researchers

Thomas Klassen, Faculty Associate | Professor Klassen (Political Science and School of Public Policy and Administration) has been invited to South Korea to be a visiting researcher. He will

spend several months at the [Korea Labor Institute](#) (KLI) in Seoul studying labor market policy.

Founded in 1988, the KLI is a public research institute specializing in labour issues and policies in Korea. For the past two decades, the KLI has contributed to developing labor policies for the nation and raising awareness of labour issues through timely and analytical research.

As part of the Visiting Researcher program, Klassen will examine how Korea's changing labour market, particularly a rapidly aging population, impacts mandatory retirement practices. In Korea, as in the case of some other Asian nations, many workers are forced to retire at relatively young ages (in their 50s) and must then begin a second career.

Klassen has written extensively on retirement and pensions, both in Korea as well as Canada.

Ananya Mukherjee-Reed, Faculty Associate | Professor Mukherjee-Reed is quoted in "Voices from the Indian diaspora share perspective on the community," an article in the 9 June 2011 *Globe and Mail*. She was asked to describe the Indian diaspora in Canada: "In Canada, we have representation from all over India, with the dominant group being the Punjabi community. In the last few years I've seen more of an effort to have a pan-Indian presence. We do tend to have more engagement with the mainstream, partly because of our prominence in the professions and our facility with English. We had the right colonizers." She also talks about the Day of Overseas Indians (*Pravasi Bharatiya Divas*) conference, held in Toronto on 9-10 June 2011 for the first time in its five year history

The article by Joel Friesen also featured several other prominent Indo Canadians. It can be found here: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/indian-diaspora-a-community-that-enriches-the-canadian-perspective/article2054869/>.

Gregory Chin, Faculty Associate | Professor Chin (Political Science) has been appointed acting director of global development at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), a Canadian research institute based in Waterloo, Ontario.

His article on "Innovation and Preservation: Remaking China's National Leadership Training System" was also published in *The China Quarterly* (205) in April 2011. This article details the reorganization of China's national leadership training system, and analyses the reforms as an integral element of the Chinese Communist Party's efforts to adapt institutionally to a rapidly changing environment.

He was quoted in the *New York Times* on 25 May 2011 in an article on the evolution of the G8 and the G20 titled "Asia sees G20 as more relevant than G8".

...Among Asian governments, the G8 "was last seen as a relevant force at the time of the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis," when it was still the Group of 7, wrote The New York Times. At the time, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), run by the G8 countries of Europe and North America, largely dictated what governments would do to get through the crisis. Since then, Chin said, "Asian governments have taken measures to mitigate against having to rely on the IMF in the same way. There was strong resentment in Asia toward the G7's control of the global financial institutions and the medicine that was offered." Today, he said, "only Japan seems to be hanging on to the G8."

Chin said most Asian leaders now see the G20 as better reflecting the evolution of the world economy

than the G8 and believe the larger forum has more potential to encourage benefit-sharing, as well as burden-sharing, among the key participants. But he said some ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] members, like Singapore, were “more reserved” about the G20.

This article originally appeared in *Yfile* on 27 May 2011 (www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=17086).

Zulfikar Hirji, Faculty Associate | Professor Hirji organized the Approaches to the Qur’an in sub-Saharan Africa, held on 20-21 May 2011 in Toronto and co-hosted by the Textile Museum of Canada. The workshop brought together an international group of scholars from various academic disciplines with artists, students and community members to examine a range of issues concerning Islam and Muslim societies in sub-Saharan Africa, with a particular focus on the Qur’an. The workshop explores the diverse ways in which the Qur’an has been used and interpreted throughout sub-Saharan Africa, particularly over the last two hundred years. The workshop is co-sponsored by The Institute of Ismaili Studies and York University (Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies and the Department of Anthropology). It is being held in collaboration with the Textile Museum of Canada’s exhibition, Magic Squares: The Patterned Imagination of Muslim Africa in Contemporary Culture co-sponsored by the Canadian Dawn Foundation and the Textile Museum of Canada (18 May to 20 November 2011).

Keith Barney, Graduate Associate | Mr. Barney (Doctoral Candidate, Geography) successfully defended his thesis last month. Titled "Grounding Global Forest Economies: Resource Governance and Commodity Power in Rural Laos," Mr. Barney’s research has focused on tree plantations, resource tenure and development in Laos.

His research was recently highlighted in an interview with Andy White of Rights and Resources Initiative, on the global market for forest carbon. The article is available at: <http://www.redd-monitor.org/2011/05/24/interview-with-andy-white-rights-and-resources-initiative-the-global-market-for-forest-carbon-is-not-going-to-establish-itself-anytime-soon/>.

Veronica Javier, Graduate Associate | Ms. Javier (Masters Candidate, School of Social Work) completed the requirements of her programme and successfully submitted her Practice Research Paper, titled “Re-negotiating Roman Catholicism: The Role of Religion in the Construction of Ethnic Identity among 1.5 and 2nd Generation Filipino-Canadians”.

Veronica conducted research on the lived experiences of 1.5 and 2nd generation Filipino-Canadian youth in Canada. Her research demonstrated how youth are challenging ideas around the role of religion in the construction of their “ethnic” identity within a Eurocentric and neoliberal Canadian context. She will graduate in June 2011.

Veronica’s future plans include establishing the Scarborough Community Services for Youth in Transition (SCSYT), a non-profit organization that supports youth, especially Filipino-Canadian youth in transition. SCSYT hopes to provide counselling therapies for groups and individuals; mentorship programs for youth to develop employability; academic skills enhancement for transitioning to trades, college, university and post-graduate opportunities; and a temporary safe haven for those in crisis.

YCAR News | York welcomes Korean Foundation President

York researchers and administrators hosted a luncheon for **Byung-Kook Kim**, the President of the Korean Foundation, on 25 May 2011. It was the first visit of the president of the organization to York.

2011 marks the Korea Foundation's twentieth anniversary.

The discussion focused on Korean Studies at York – past, present and future with focus on future opportunities and cooperation including the promotion of more intensive Canada-Korea research partnerships and forging stronger



opportunities and relationships between Canadian and Korean institutions and experts.

Researchers are also seeking seed funds to host a speaker series in the coming academic year, which they hope will include Swiss academic Martina Deuchler, who was Professor of Korean Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London from 1991-2001. Scholars and students would also benefit from funding for increased access to Korean materials through Korean databases like dbpia, KERIS, KINDS and KISS.

York is Toronto's 'hub' of Korean Studies with strengths of faculty in research in Korean and East Asian studies as well as the Korean Diaspora. More details can be found at: <http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Research/korea.html>.

President **Byung-Kook Kim** assumed office as the ninth president of the Korean Foundation in June 2010. He graduated from Harvard University with BA in Economics and Phi Beta Kappa in 1982 and with PhD in Political Science six years later. At the Department of Political Science of the Korea University, Dr. Byung-Kook Kim currently teaches party politics, methodology, and comparative political theory.

He is also the director of The East Asia Institute, a private non-profit organization founded with the goal of transforming East Asia into a society of nations based on democracy, market economy, open society and peace. He also serves on the editorial board of *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *International Political Science Review*, and *Pacific Affairs*.

His published works include *The Dynamics of National Division and Revolution: The Political Economy of Korea and Mexico* (1994); *State, Region, and International System: Change and Continuity* (1995); *Korean Politics* (1998); and *Consolidating Democracy in South Korea* (2000).

Photograph: Jiyoun Yoon (Program Officer, Korean Studies Department), Hyeon-Seon Choi (Director, Korean Studies Department), Janice Kim (Associate Professor, History), Byung-Kook Kim (President of the Korea Foundation), Mihyon Jeon (Assistant Professor, Department of Languages, Literature, and Linguistics), Hong Kal (Associate Professor, Art History). Photograph provided by Janice Kim (History).

YCAR News | 2011 YCAR award recipients

Conely de Leon is the recipient of the **2011 Vivienne Poy Asian Research Award**. Conely de Leon is a doctoral candidate in the School of Women's Studies at York University. She received her Masters of Arts in Sociology and Equity Studies in Education, and Women and Gender Studies at the University of Toronto, and her Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Women's Studies, and English Language and Literature at Queen's University. Her research interests focus on critical race theory, transnational feminist praxis, gender and migration, and the development of Critical Filipino Studies in Canada.



The award funds will assist de Leon in her dissertation fieldwork in Manila, Philippines during the 2011-2012 academic year. de Leon's research explores whether long-term family separation (for example, as an outcome of Canada's Live-In Caregiver Programme), results in enduring and pervasive adverse effects on the socioeconomic, cultural and political engagement of children of Filipina migrant domestic workers as adults. Specifically, de Leon's research in Manila will focus on the relationships that adult children now in Canada have to extended kin, often identified as grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and close family friends, who acted as their 'primary' caregivers in the Philippines while separated from their mothers. By exploring these relationship dynamics through one-on-one, in-depth interviews, de Leon hopes to offer some insight into the complexities of long-term family separation and its impact on the socioeconomic, cultural, and political development of children of Filipina migrant domestic workers into adulthood.

The award is named for the Honourable Vivienne Poy and assists a graduate student in fulfilling the fieldwork requirement for the Graduate Diploma in Asian Studies. YCAR is grateful for Senator Poy's support for this award.

Colin McGuire and **Chad Walasek** are the 2011 recipients of the **YCAR Language Award**. Mr. McGuire, a Doctoral Candidate in Music, will continue his Cantonese studies during a year abroad in Hong Kong. Mr. Walasek, a Masters Candidate in Dance, will use the award funding to build on his Urdu language skills in a Fall 2011 course in India.

Colin McGuire will be going on exchange to the Chinese University of Hong Kong in the 2011.2012 academic year. The YCAR Language Award will help to fund his language studies and advance his abilities in Cantonese. He plans to study at the Yale-China Chinese Language Centre for two semesters starting in September 2011.



His research is on the music of the martial arts and his doctoral dissertation will focus on the percussion repertoire performed by Chinese-Canadian kung fu clubs. His approach is interdisciplinary and draws from ethnomusicology, hopology, phenomenology, semiotics and Asian studies. Of particular importance to the intersection of music and martial arts are the processes of transmission, identity formation, creation of space, claiming of place and construction of meaning. Mr. McGuire is currently performing ethnographic fieldwork through participant observation at the Hong Luck Kung Fu Club in Toronto's Spadina/Dundas Chinatown.

Before entering the PhD programme, Colin earned a MA in composition (2003) from York University, was a course director for York's computer music classes, and received transmission of the complete Sum

Nung Wing Chun Kuen system of Chinese kung fu under Lo Kuen-Hung Sifu. His music has been featured on the award winning TV show “Departures” and also in the Little Pear Garden Collective’s production of “The Four Beauties of China.” He is the recipient of a 2010 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Award.

Chad Walasek is both a professional *kathak* dancer and a graduate student. After participation in an exchange program with India and subsequent work in Pakistan as part of a BSc in International Development Studies at the University of Toronto, he began training in the Hindustani performing arts (dance, percussion and vocal). He has studied *tabla* for the last several years and made his debut with the *Toronto Tabla Ensemble* in 2007. A senior *kathak* student of Joanna de Souza and disciple of Pandit Chitresh Das, Mr. Walasek tours internationally with *Chhandam Dance Company* and regularly participates in independent productions. He performed his first formal full-length classical solo in March 2008.

A recipient of an Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Chad is currently enrolled in the Masters programme in dance studies at York University where his research focus the development of *kathak* dance in post-Partition Pakistan and the ambivalent relationship between *kathak* dance and Pakistani identity.



The main phase of his fieldwork was conducted in Lahore, Pakistan, in February and March 2011. A combination of research methods were employed, including participant observation, oral history collection, English and Urdu language archival material collection and a series of semi-structured interviews conducted in both English and Urdu with local dancers, dance students, musicians and members of the performing arts community.

From September through December 2011, building on his knowledge of intermediate-level Urdu, Chad will participate in an intensive immersion-based Urdu language programme in Lucknow, India, through the American Institute of India Studies. Following this programme, follow-up research in Lahore will be conducted, if necessary, and Urdu language materials will be analyzed in detail.

The YCAR Language Award was created to support graduate students in fulfilling the language requirement for the Graduate Diploma in Asian Studies (GDAS) and to facilitate awardees masters or doctoral-level research.



Veronica Javier is the recipient of the **David Wurfel Award**. She will graduate from York University with a Master of Social Work from the School of Social Work in June 2011. She also holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Sociology and minor in Religious Studies.

Ms. Javier is currently a Research Assistant for the Filipino Youth Transitions in Canada (FYTiC) research project with Professor Philip F. Kelly. In addition, she is also a writer for the first Filipino-Canadian family and lifestyle magazine called *TAHANAN*, and has a regular section entitled, “Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives; featuring astonishing and inspiring stories of everyday heroes”.

Ms. Javier’s Practise Research Paper (PRP) brought to light the lived-experiences of 1.5 and 2nd

generation Filipino-Canadian youth in Canada. Her research demonstrated how youth are challenging ideas around the role of religion in the construction of their “ethnic” identity within a Eurocentric and neoliberal Canadian context. The youth see themselves as active agents in negotiating how they could continue to fit in while being a pro-active Catholic in contrast to the secular Canadian norm. During their process of re-negotiation, the youth’s Filipino identity moved to the background, and their Canadian and Catholic identity became more important. Their re-positioning of their “ethnic” and religious identity is reflective of the ways in which the youth’s subject position intersects within the whiteness that operates in Canadian society. For these youth, their re-negotiation utilizes a personal and experiential language that individualizes experiences and therefore also enables them to negotiate the imperfections within Catholicism.

She hopes that her research will contribute to the creation and implementation of more culturally sensitive social services programs that will better assist and take into consideration the lived, post-settlement experiences of Filipino-Canadians.

Veronica’s PRP was generously supported by the David Wurfel award. The award enabled her to bring to light not just the voices of the youth, but also a fuller picture of their lives. The financial assistance allowed her to travel to various Filipino youth events within the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) as well as to meet her research participants in different points in the GTA. Doing so enabled her to gain a better understanding of the environments of which the youth were a part. She was also able to give an honorarium for their participation and cover any expenses that her research participants incurred during the interview, such as meals and transportation. Finally, the award gave her freedom to network within the Filipino-Canadian community through community events, symposiums and conferences in order to better understand the issues the Filipino community is facing, especially the youth, and how she can ultimately be of service to them in the near future.

The Award was established in 2006 by Senior YCAR Research Associate Dr. David Wurfel. He wanted to contribute to the emergence of a new generation of Filipino leadership that is grounded in the country’s history, culture and public affairs. Dr. Wurfel is a Philippine specialist who received his PhD from Cornell University’s Southeast Asia Program.

Sara L. Jackson is the 2011 recipient of the **Albert C.W. Chan Foundation Fellowship**.

She has a BA in International Studies from the University of Washington and an MA in Geography from the University of British Columbia. She began her PhD at York Geography in Fall 2009, after lecturing at the Metropolitan State College of Denver and the National University of Mongolia. Last summer, Ms. Jackson was a language fellow at the American Center for Mongolian Studies in Ulaanbaatar.

Her dissertation research looks at the political and cultural impacts of mining-related infrastructure development in Mongolia’s South Gobi province. She will conduct ethnographic research in Ulaanbaatar and the regions surrounding the Oyu Tolgoi gold-copper mine beginning in fall 2011. Sara is also working on a graphic novel with an illustrator that draws from her research experiences. It will be translated and distributed in Mongolia. The working title of Ms. Jackson’s dissertation is *Building a Gold*



Rush: Imagining New Territory in Mongolia's South Gobi.

The Albert C.W. Chan Foundation Fellowship was established by the Albert C.W. Chan Foundation to encourage and assist York University graduate students to conduct field research in East and/or Southeast Asia. YCAR would like to thank the Albert C. W. Chan family for their support of York graduate students.

YCAR News | Conference explores popular press through Chinese women's journals

The May 2011 "Gender and Transcultural Production: Chinese Women's Journals in their Global Context, 1900-2000" conference brought together leading scholars of Chinese women's journals from China, Taiwan, Germany, the United Kingdom the United States, and Canada and foremost experts on British, American, Hindi, Japanese, Canadian, and German journals in London for a three-day conference.

The event was the culminating conference of a three-year, international collaborative project, funded by SSHRC and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany), on ["Gender and Cultural Production: A New Approach to Chinese Women's Journals in the Early 20th Century."](#)

"The purpose of the conference is to place Chinese gendered journals in comparative context in order to highlight the global similarities and cultural particularities of the medium," said Principle Investigator and conference organizer Joan Judge (History). "Collectively, we will seek to develop methods for examining an important and heretofore underexplored aspect of the popular press: the coincidence of the age of the modern periodical and the dawn of global communications."

The conference was co-organized by Michel Hockx (University of London) and Barbara Mittler (University of Heidelberg), researchers on the Women's Journals grant. It was hosted by the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Over the course of the three-day conference, discussion of individual papers prompted the twenty-six participants to probe the importance of transcultural influences and global flows of knowledge in the Chinese women's magazines. In addition to the fifteen paper givers who were all scholars of Chinese women's periodicals, five discussants who are experts in non-Chinese periodicals, and three panel commentators who are scholars of China but not of the periodical press, helped to broaden the scope of the discussions.

Also present at the conference and contributing to the discussion from the floor were a number of faculty members, visiting scholars and graduate students from SOAS, Cambridge University, and other universities in the London area.

The keynote speaker was Jennifer Scanlon, the William R. Kenan Professor of Gender and Women's Studies at Bowdoin College in Brunswick Maine in the United States and the author of *Inarticulate Longings: The Ladies' Home Journal, Gender, and the Promises of Consumer Culture* (Routledge, 1995) and of the recently published and highly provocative *Bad Girls Go Everywhere: The Life of Helen Gurley Brown* (first published by Oxford University Press, 2009). Scanlon offered a stimulating keynote address on "Ephemeral, Material, Instrumental: Meditations on Women's Magazines."

The database for the SSHRC-Humboldt-funded project, "A New Approach to the Popular Press in China: Gender and Cultural Production, 1904-1937," was also launched at the conference. Project Coordinators/Research Assistants Liying Sun and Doris Sung introduced the structure and functionality

of the database. Participants from both within and outside the China field were impressed with results of the three-year accumulative efforts by the research team and offered constructive suggestions for the improvement of this web-based project. Conference participants will be invited to do a trial run of the database and offer further feedback in the near future.

At the conclusion of the conference, principal researchers Joan Judge and Barbara Mittler consulted the group on details related to the projected edited volume, which will include selected papers from the conference.

The conference was funded by a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies, funded by the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange. Additional support was provided by: Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context" (Heidelberg University); Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council; The Universities' China Committee in London (UCCL); the York Centre for Asian Research (York University); University of London, Centre for Gender Studies; and the Centre of Chinese Studies, SOAS.

YCAR News | 2011 YCAR Annual Report

The YCAR Annual Report for 2011 is now available on our web site at: www.yorku.ca/ycar/Annual_Report_2011.pdf. We invite you to learn more about our programmes, projects and other initiatives in this annual publication. Hard copies are available upon request to: ycar@yorku.ca.

Any questions, corrections or insertions can be emailed to: ycar@yorku.ca.

Resources | China journals now available online to York researchers

York University Libraries just signed the contract for subscription of the China online journals in arts/humanities, social sciences, business/economics and law/politics by Wanfang Data. The coverage is from 1997 onwards and the number of journals (as of April 2011) is as follows:

Business and economics: 811; arts and humanities: 719; law and politics: 554; social sciences: 1,363. The database is updated weekly and can be accessed at:

<http://www.library.yorku.ca/find/Record/muler399575> (English) and

<http://www.library.yorku.ca/find/Record/muler399576> (Chinese).

Please note that journals in other subjects (health/medicine/biology, fundamental sciences, science/technology, agriculture) in this database are not accessible for York University users.

If you have questions about this e-resource, please contact Haiyun Cao, Bibliographic Services Librarian, at hcao@yorku.ca. Workshop about the use of this e-resource for classes or in other settings is also available.

Resources | APEC Economic Policy Report (AEPR) 2011

The Asia Pacific Economic Council Policy Report for 2011 is not available and can be accessed at:

http://publications.apec.org/publication-detail.php?pub_id=1153 (main report) and

http://publications.apec.org/publication-detail.php?pub_id=1154 (Summary).

Opportunity | Association for Asian Studies 2012

The Association of Asian Studies will be meeting in Toronto from March 15 to 18, 2012. This is a great opportunity for us both individually and collectively to make Asia-related research at York University better known and to get feedback from an international audience.

Relevant information has been posted on the AAS website at www.asian-studies.org/Conference/2012-Call-for-Papers.htm with a due date of **4 August 2011**.

We encourage you to propose papers and panels and are pleased to circulate related notices through the YCAR listserv and support folks in other ways. Let us know what might be helpful – ycar@yorku.ca.

Panels are a great way to get exposure and feedback from a broad international crowd and a great way to get together with colleagues with whom you are collaborating, as universities are often more likely to fund travel to this sort of conference.

The AAS gives travel grants (about \$250) to any graduate student presenting a paper who lives more than 100 miles away.

Generally people submit complete organize panels (see the instructions) although the AAS has some spaces for creatively panel formats and individual papers. They also have sections for "Border Crossing" panels and panels for under-represented social sciences. The process is competitive, but this is an excellent opportunity.

Opportunity | YCAR Strategic Initiatives call for proposals

The York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) (www.yorku.ca/ycar) is accepting proposals from York University faculty for modest seed-funding for innovative research initiatives that would enhance the scholarly understanding of Asia and/or Asian Diaspora while advancing the strategic objectives of the Centre.

The aim is to use YCAR funds to help the ability of researchers to secure external grants for creative research initiatives that also have strong potential to help YCAR meet one or more of its key strategic goals. These include: expanding its external funding and the sources of that funding, expanding its administrative capacity, and increasing its profile outside York University.

As such, the PI should be willing to base the research initiative at YCAR. In addition to having strong scholarly research goals, the initiative must be consistent with the mandate of YCAR, have the potential successfully to secure external funding, and have the clear potential to achieve one or more of the following key strategic goals:

1. Permit YCAR to expand its administrative capacity on a cost-recovery basis;
2. Involve collaboration with key external partners in Canada or internationally (such as strategically placed researchers; research institutions; granting agencies, donors, or other

- fundlers; policymakers; NGO or community groups);
3. Enhance the wider public understanding of Asia or Asian Diaspora communities in ways that enhance the visibility of YCAR.

The YCAR Director and Coordinator will be available to support the successful applicants as they develop the external funding applications that grow out of these initiatives.

Applicants should submit their proposals to the YCAR Executive Committee at ycar@yorku.ca by **31 August 2011**. The proposals, which will be adjudicated by an ad hoc committee of the YCAR Executive Committee, should include the following:

1. A description of the research initiative (its nature and scholarly and other aims), the names and CVs of the principle investigator/organizer(s) and key collaborators, an outline of activity plans for each year of the initiative, a budget;
2. A plan for securing external funding, including the names of the funders to whom an application will be made, the deadline dates for the applications, and descriptions of the criteria for the particular funding competitions of relevance. Successful applicants must commit to sending YCAR copies of its applications to external funders well in advance of the competition deadlines;
3. A detailed 1-2 page explanation of how the research initiative will help YCAR meet one or more of its key strategic goals.

For more information and to discuss ideas that might be developed into proposals, please contact Susan Henders (Director) at henders@yorku.ca or Shubhra Gururani (Associate Director) at gururani@yorku.ca.

Opportunity | Visiting international professor applications accepted for researchers working on decentralization, local governance and Southeast Asia

The College of Local Administration at Khon Kaen University is pleased to invite applications for Visiting International Professors. We are accepting applications in all areas of Public Administration, with particular emphasis on decentralization, local governance and Southeast Asia.

Applications should demonstrate superior research ability and teaching expertise. A Ph.D. in Politics, Public Administration or a related area is required. Candidates must have effective oral and written communication skills in the English language. Accepted Professors are expected to actively research local government in Thailand and to contribute to the teaching programs of undergraduate, masters, or Ph.D. students. All applicants should include a cover letter, resume, one recommendation and the names of two references who can provide information about the applicant's professional qualifications.

The College of Local Administration proudly sends 95% of its undergraduate and masters degree students to work in local government throughout Thailand. Research interests at CoLA include devolution, decentralization, and effective local governance. CoLA is located in Khon Kaen, in the heartland of the Northeast, six hours north of Bangkok.

The College of Local Administration can provide lodging, in-country research costs, and domestic airfare for accepted scholars as they continue their research throughout the country. For more information, and application materials, please contact us at supawata@kku.ac.th.

Opportunity | AUCC-CIDA university partnerships

AUCC is pleased to announce that the Partnership with Canadians Branch of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) launched a call for university partnership proposals. AUCC and the university community have worked hard to secure this university partnership projects funding mechanism. AUCC is very pleased that CIDA has created this dedicated vehicle for universities to continue their excellent work.

For information regarding “Partners for Development-Canadian Universities” please go to the following link: www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/eng/ANN-524911-HA7.

A preliminary analysis by AUCC has identified several noteworthy new features of this university partnerships call in comparison to University Partnerships in Cooperation and Development (UPCD) calls:

- Lead Canadian universities must demonstrate at least 3 years’ experience managing and delivering international development projects in developing countries.
- Developing country partner institutions are no longer limited to being post-secondary institutions and may also be research and policy institutes or non-government organizations.
- The maximum amount of the CIDA contribution that can be spent on direct research costs is 10 percent (down from 12 percent in UPCD.)
- Haiti projects require endorsement by the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC) and CIDA will forward proposals to the IHRC.

Upcoming Event | Meeting Friends through Books

Friday, 24 June 2011 | 2pm | East Asian Library, University of Toronto

A Book Donation Ceremony and Special Forum of Chinese Canadian Writers will be held in the East Asian Library at the University of Toronto at 2pm, June 24 (Friday), 2011. The event is co-presented by Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library and the Chinese Pen Society of Canada (CPSC). It presents a great opportunity to meet renowned Canadian writers of Chinese origin.

Attending writers will include He Chen (陈河), Bo Sun (孙博) , Xiaowen Zeng (曾晓文) and others.

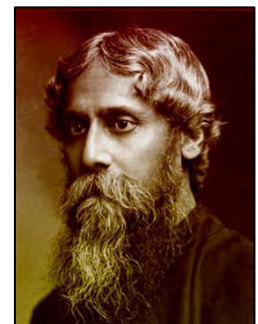
As part of the event, the writers will read their own works as well as share writing experience with the audience. CPSC will also donate its members’ works to the East Asian Library. The Forum is to be followed by a small reception.

Please see event details in the attached poster and refer questions about the event, if any, to Lucy Gan (lucy.gan@utoronto.ca; 416-978-1025).

Upcoming Event | Tagore Fest 2011

Please join us for this special celebration of Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941): poet, humanist and visionary and the world’s first non-European Nobel Laureate.

All presentations are in English or with onscreen projections of visuals and



transcreations. Our aim is to bring Tagore to the mainstream of Canadians, beyond the barrier of language.

Come and explore Tagore through music, performances, readings, art and photography. Two performance will be held on 25 and 26 June 2011 from 2:30 to 9:30pm each day at the Etobicoke School of the Arts, 675 Royal York Road, Toronto. Both performances have the same opening ceremony and concluding performance, with small variations in the themes presented. You should attend either one.

Full information about the programme can be found at: <http://tagore150toronto.ca/2011/05/24/fest/>. The event is supported by the Tagore 150 Anniversary Celebration Committee, Toronto (TACCT), whose website is: <http://tagore150toronto.ca>.

Tickets for each performance are: \$50 (limited seats); \$25 and \$15. For information and tickets, please visit <http://tagore150toronto.ca/2011/05/24/fest/> for a list of ticket providers.

Call for Abstracts | Our Journeys 2011

On October 1st, 2011, SAFAR –The Sikh Feminist Research Institute – will host a one-day conference entitled Our Journeys 2011 at The Centre for Women's Studies in Education (CWSE), Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE), University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

The Our Journeys Conference 2011 will explore and challenge past and current constructions concerning Sikhi and gender. With an interdisciplinary approach, this conference intends to examine gendered relations within Sikhi as well as Sikh philosophy regarding social life, gender relations, sexualities, racialized and gendered practices, institutions, cultural productions, theoretical concepts and frameworks, and understanding the application of Sikh philosophy rooted in the past, present and possible insights regarding the future of Sikh thought.

Although academic in scope and orientation, Our Journeys Conference 2011 is deliberately organized to be accessible to a diverse audience and range of interests. The conference will explore the topic of Sikh journeys from a variety of perspectives and disciplines. It is intended to provide a space for the articulation of Sikh feminist visions; intellectual and cultural inquiries; critical reflections on Sikhi and gender; and various modes of Sikh feminist thought, in Punjab, India and in the Diaspora.

The keynote speak will be renowned Sikh scholar and feminist theologian Prof. Nikky-Guninder Kaur Singh author of *The Feminine Principle in the Sikh Vision of the Transcendent*, *The Birth of the Khalsa: A Feminist Re-memory of Sikh Identity* and *Sikhism: an Introduction*.

Submissions from academics, educators, students, activists, community and independent researchers, those who work in or research this area are welcome. Topics can include (but are not limited to): race, nationhood, class, culture, ability, ecology, politics, theologies, social relations, psychology, sexuality, feminist scholarship, genealogy, transnational and geopolitical topics relating to Sikhism and gender, Sikh the[a]logy, the feminine perspective in the Sikh canon, gender in Sikh institutions, historical Sikh women, gender in social and political history, patriarchy in Sikh communities, Sikh women role models, Sikh liberation theology, Sikhism and social justice, Sikh feminist research methodology, and connecting Sikh theology to activism.

Deadline for submissions of a 300 word abstract (including citations) is **1 July 2011**. Submissions are to be made on-line, please check the website for updates (www.sikhfeministresearch.org).

Authors of abstracts accepted for oral presentations are expected to submit manuscripts of their completed papers by 1 October 2011 for publication in a special issue of the peer-reviewed, academic on-line journal: *Sikh Feminist Review*. These manuscripts shall undergo a double blind peer review process (details can be found at www.sikhfeministresearch.org). If you have any questions please contact the editorial board of SAFAR at editorial@sikhfeministresearch.org.

Call for Papers: Chinese through the Americas

The University of British Columbia's Asian Library is pleased to announce that, in cooperation with the Ohio University Libraries, it will host the 5th WCILCOS International Conference of Institutes and Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies on Chinese through the Americas. The event will be held from 16 to 19 May 2012 at the University of British Columbia (Point Grey Campus) in Vancouver, Canada.

It is fitting that Vancouver, Canada will be the venue for the 5th WCILCOS conference as this beautiful city has been a hub of transnational flows of Chinese migrants since the 18th century. As the host institution, the UBC Asian Library is prestigiously placed and equipped to orchestrate the upcoming conference. The return of the WCILCOS Conference to North America also serves to recognize the rapid expansion of Chinese overseas studies and its related fields in the region. As with previous WCILCOS conferences, the organizers hope to utilize this event to promote the nexus between research and documentation on Chinese overseas studies and to facilitate greater interaction between scholars and librarians around the world.

The conference now seeks roundtable, panel and paper proposals as well as poster presentations revolving around, but not limited to, the following topics: New Patterns of Migration; Chinese Overseas Heritage Treasures: Transnational Discovery & Delivery; Comparative Studies of Chinatowns in Asia, Europe, Australia and the Americas; Overseas Chinese Rare Collections; Emerging Communities and Descendants of Pioneers; Ethnic Relations; Identity Issues, Values and Culture; Organizations, Documentations, Archives and Networks; Immigration and Emigration Policies; Chinese Overseas Literature

Proposals are welcome from academics, librarians, graduate students and undergraduate students. Continuing with the WCILCOS tradition, the conference will accept papers in both English and Chinese. For individual papers/ posters please submit a 300-500 word abstract, a 150 word personal bio and a CV of no more than 2 pages. Abstracts should include a phone number and email address. For panel presentations, please submit a panel abstract of 450 words or less, along with the names and paper titles of each presenter, contact information [phone and email] for the primary contact person, and a CV of no more than 2 pages for each presenter. Panels should include 3-4 presenters. We will provide moderators for each panel session.

Please email the abstract and proposal to wcilcos.2012@ubc.ca. Further information about submitting abstracts, bios and CVs can be found at: <http://wcilcos.library.ubc.ca/>. The deadline for abstracts is **15 September 2011**.

Call for Papers | Asian Education and Development Studies

Asian Education and Development Studies (AEDS) promises to showcase the latest research on education, development and governance issues in Asian contexts, fostering cross-boundary research with the aim of enhancing our socio-scientific understanding of Asia.

AEDS is unique in its combination of education, development and governance with an Asian focus. The journal comprises two main sections and articles with strong comparative perspectives and regional insights are welcome in both sections.

1) Analysis / Research Articles

Features: Original empirical research and comparative analyses.

Review process: Double blind peer review.

Word Count: Maximum of 7,000 words (including notes and references)

2) Praxis / Practitioners' Corner

Features: Reports, practitioner profiles and research notes.

Review process: Reviewed by Editorial Team

Word Count: Maximum of 3,000 words.

Please submit all papers to the Managing Editor: Professor Sunny Lo, Hong Kong Institute of Education, P.R. China at: sonny@ied.edu.hk. For author submission guidelines and full editorial team details see: www.emeraldinsight.com/aeds.htm.

Previously Listed Calls

> *The Ninth International Conference on the Philippines* (1 November 2011)

For more information: asiansc@msu.edu.

York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR)

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

Eighth Floor | York Research Tower | York University | 4700 Keele Street | Toronto | Ontario | Canada

ycar@yorku.ca | www.yorku.ca/ycar