



York Centre for Asian Research Update

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YCAR Members: Gregory Chin shares research at Atlantic Council of Canada annual meeting

YCAR Faculty Associate and Political Science Professor Gregory Chin presented his recent research to delegates at the annual meeting of the Atlantic Council of Canada earlier this month.

On 1 May, Dr. Chin shared research conducted last summer for the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) on China's role as an emerging international donor. Dr. Chin compared China and India's roles in Afghanistan and their relations vis-à-vis the 'traditional' donors as well as prospects for cooperation

and policy implications for Canada and the international community. York Professor Sergei Plekhanov also presented at the meeting.

Bill Graham, former Minister of National Defence and of Foreign Affairs was the meeting's opening speaker and session chair. Former Deputy Prime Minister John Manley gave the keynote speech.

YCAR News: Supporting Burmese cyclone survivors

For individuals wishing to support the Burmese survivors of tropic cyclone, YCAR received the following information from its Associates who conduct research in the local Burmese community or have contacts in Burma.

Zaw Kyaw is one of the lead coordinators of the local Burmese donation efforts. He can be contacted at zaw.w.kyaw@gmail.com. He indicates that those wishing to donate to the relief efforts can direct their donations to the Burma Cyclone Relief Fund Toronto, c/o Burma Buddhist Association of Ontario, 12 High Meadow Place, Toronto, Ontario, M9L 2Z5. The local Burmese community also plans to organize a fundraising event in the near future, with details to follow.

A Yangon (Rangoon) contact of one of YCAR's Associates also recommends the following site for making a contribution to aid the survivors: www.foundationburma.org/.

The Canadian Red Cross is also appealing for donations to support the relief efforts in Burma. Individuals wishing to help can make a donation and designate their donation to the "Myanmar Cyclone" in the following ways:

- make a cash donation online at www.redcross.ca;
- calling 1-800-418-1111, the 24-hour toll-free line that accepts VISA and MasterCard;
- in person at (list your local Red Cross Office); or
- mailing a cheque made payable to the Canadian Red Cross (earmarked "Myanmar Cyclone") and mailed to The Canadian Red Cross Society, 5700 Cancross Court, Mississauga, Ontario L5R 3E9. For more information, contact Jean Suh at 416.480.2500 ext. 2224

Another way to help those affected is through Third Party Fundraising Agreements. Those wishing to host a fundraiser to raise money in support of Canadian Red Cross Myanmar Cyclone Appeal can contact Julie Francis, Coordinator Fund Development at 416.480.2500 ext. 2226.

The CRC also provides tracing services for relatives inquiring about loved ones living in the affected regions. For information on Restoring Family Links program or to make an inquiry, please call 1-866-399-8412.

YCAR Events: York celebrates Asian Heritage Month

York University faculty, staff and graduate students feature prominently in Asian Heritage Month Festival events taking place across the GTA this month, including lectures, films, an exhibition and a dramatic presentation.

"We are celebrating the diverse culture and achievements of Asians who play a vital role in the unique and multicultural mosaic of Canada," said Kay Li, president of Asian Heritage Month – Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc. and a research associate in the York Centre for Asian Research. "The focus is for Canadians to learn about the Asian Canadians in our society and the role they play in this wonderful country of ours."



York's participation in the month-long celebration began with a lecture by York Professor **Ted Goossen** (right, with Bata Shoe Museum Director Dr. Emanuele Lepri) on May 7. Speaking at the Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto, Goossen delivered the museum's annual Asian Heritage Month Lecture. A specialist on Japanese literature and culture, Goossen explored Western perceptions of Japan and Japanese culture from the 19th to the 21st centuries in his lecture titled, "From Haiku to Anime: Japan in Western Eyes". The talk complemented the Bata Shoe Museum's month-long exhibition of Japanese footwear. To view the exhibition, visit the Bata Shoe Museum at 325 Bloor Street West in downtown Toronto.

Artist **Doris Ha-Lin Sung**, York doctoral candidate in social & political thought, will co-curate *Calligraphy-ism: An International Exhibition and Symposium*, from May 11 to 16, at the Cedar Ridge Creative Centre in Scarborough, Ont. "This art exhibition and symposium creates an opportunity to engage the art community and the public in dialogues on the aesthetic and philosophical concepts in traditional and modern Chinese calligraphy," said Sung.

Artists and scholarly experts are featured in the symposium, while the exhibition shows traditional and modern calligraphy, conceptual calligraphic art, installations and performances by artists from Toronto, Hong Kong and mainland China. The exhibition will open with the symposium and a performance this Sunday, from 1 to 4pm.

On June 3, the York Centre for Asian Research will host the inaugural **Asian Heritage Month Lecture** at York University on the life of James Endicott, a Canadian missionary and public figure in China who was condemned in Canada for his progressive political activities during the Chinese civil war and the early years of the People's Republic of China.

Retired York Professor Stephen Endicott will speak on the life of his father in the talk, "When China Stood Up: The Experience of Dr. James Gareth Endicott." The event, which will be held in the Moot Court of York's Osgoode Hall Law School, 6-8:30pm, will also feature the premiere of "Dragonfly: Scenes from a screenplay on Dr. James Endicott" written by York Professor Emeritus Robert Fothergill. Senator Vivienne Poy will chair the event. To reserve your seat, register at asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca.

York will also be the venue for the Asian Heritage Month Festival's three-day **Reel Asian Spring Showcase**, co-hosted by the Asian Heritage Month-Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc., Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival and York Centre for Asian Research, and organized by York Faculty of Fine Arts Professors Suzie Young and Wendy Wong, among others. The event, to be held on May 23 to 25, will feature renowned Asian films. Admission is free to the public. To view the films being screened, visit [www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/YCAR-sponsored events/Asian_Spring_Showcase.pdf](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/YCAR-sponsored%20events/Asian_Spring_Showcase.pdf).

A motion to recognize May as Asian Heritage Month was moved by Poy and approved by the Canadian Senate in 2001. Since then, Ottawa, Vancouver, Montreal, Winnipeg, Victoria, Toronto, Fredericton, Halifax and Calgary have celebrated Asian Heritage Month in their cities.

For more information on Asian Heritage Month events in the GTA, visit the Asian Heritage Month website at www.asian-heritage-month.org/events.html.

This article also appeared in the 9 May 2008 issue of the York University *Y-File*.

Opportunity: Young Chinese Leaders' Forum 2008

The theme for this year's Young Chinese Leaders' Forum is 'Thirty Years of Reform and Opening-Up on the Mainland China'. It will be held from 22 to 30 August 2008 in China.

Organized by the Dragon Foundation, the program was launched in 2002 as a network of talented young ethnic Chinese. 100 outstanding youth of Chinese origin from around the world participate in the programme each year, discussing topical issues of relevance worldwide. It provides a platform for sharing views, generating synergy and providing stimulus for those with potential to work together enthusiastically, sharing a commitment to improve the societies to which they belong. Its name comes from the tradition of using a dragon as the symbol for China for people of Chinese ethnic origin as 'descendants of the dragon.'

The programme includes three days of activities in Hong Kong and a six-day study and exchange tour in the Pearl River Delta Region.

Eligibility requirements include: aged 18-35, ethnic Chinese, outstanding academic and non-academic achievements, and excellent leadership in extra-curricular activities and/or community service.

Candidates can only be nominated by their university or an organization, and the deadline is 30 May 2008. For more details, please visit www.dragonfoundation.net or email dragon100@dragonfoundation.net.

Previously-posted opportunities

*** International Opportunities Fund (IOF) Program (7 May 2008)**

For further details on this program, please contact the Office of Research Services (ORS) at ext. 55055, research@yorku.ca, or consult SSHRC's web site at: www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/iof_e.asp.

*** South Asian Youth Advisory Committee seeks volunteers for South Asian Heritage Month event**

For more information, visit www.cassa.on.ca or email sayac@cassa.on.ca or neethan.shan@cassa.on.ca.

*** Faculty Incentive Grants (30 May 2008)**

To get an application form or more information, visit www.researchimpact.ca or contact Krista Jensen (kejensen@yorku.ca or ext 88847) or Michael Johnny (mjohnny@yorku.ca or ext 88876).

*** 2009-2010 India Studies Fellowship competition (30 June 2008)**

For details on the various fellowships, please visit www.sici.org/shastri/english/indiastudies.htm or contact York's Office of Research Services at research@yorku.ca.

*** Best Essay Prize in South Asian Studies (30 June 2008)**

For more information see the SAST website: www.arts.yorku.ca/sosc/sasia or contact the coordinator at ananya@yorku.ca.

*** Duke University travel grants for use of East Asian Collection**

For more information: http://library.duke.edu/ias/eac/travel_grant.html for more information.

Upcoming Event: Calligraphy-ism

*11 to 16 May 2008 * Cedar Ridge Creative Centre * 225 Confederation Drive, Scarborough*

Doris Sung will co-curate an art exhibition and symposium titled Calligraphy-ism from 11 to 16 May 2008 at the Cedar Ridge Creative Centre in Scarborough.

The aim of the event is to create an opportunity to engage the art community and the public in dialogues on the aesthetic and philosophical concepts in traditional and modern Chinese calligraphy. The symposium is made up of artists and expert scholars in the field. Work in the exhibition consists of traditional and modern calligraphy, conceptual calligraphic art, installation and performance by artists in Toronto, Hong Kong and China.

The opening, symposium and performance will take place on Sunday, 11 May 2008 from 1 to 4pm. Gallery hours are: Monday to Thursday: 9am to 9pm; Friday: 9am to 4pm. This event is presented by IS Gallery and the Asian Heritage Month, Toronto. For more information, visit: www.dorissung.com/shufa.

Upcoming Event: West Bengal: A Culture of Left Politics

*Monday, 12 May 2008 * 1 to 2:30pm * OISE * 252 Bloor Street West * Room 7-162 (7th floor)*

Abhishek Basu, visiting doctoral fellow from Jadavpur University, will present his research on Monday, 12 May 2008 at the University of Toronto.

The state of West Bengal in India, with a Left Front government in power for the last three decades, has a vibrant tradition of leftist political practice. In the formative years of the various cultural fronts associated with the Communist Party of India, Bengali intellectuals played a key role. The construction of a 'left' culture depended primarily on a 'folk' oeuvre where folk was seen as an entity preceding industrialization, related to a community, containing both 'regressive' and 'progressive' elements, which call for respective erasures and accentuations. The present paper explores the way in which this oeuvre was employed and reformulated by the cultural fronts, in particular their imagination of the 'folk' or population they wanted to reach. It looks at this process through the documents of the Indian Peoples Theatre Association (IPTA) and autobiographies of the cultural workers involved with this organization.

Abhishek Basu is a doctoral research scholar and a SYLFF Fellow in the Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. His interest lies mainly in Indian and African literature, translation studies, folk and popular culture, performance and theatre studies. His current research concerns 'left' political cultures in West Bengal, India.

Upcoming Event: 1998 – 10 days that shook Indonesia: 2008 – Still Searching for Justice, with Dr Eddie Lembong

*14 to 16 May 2008 * Toronto*

May 2008 marks the 10th anniversary of the May 1998 Indonesian tragedy where riots and associated atrocities took place in cities across the country. This resulted in the resignation of the late President Suharto and down fall of his Orde Baru administration. Canadians Committed to Ethnic Voice in Indonesia (CCEVI) has planned a series of public events in commemoration of this tragedy. YCAR is an event co-sponsor.

Events include:

* **Press Conference** - Wednesday, 14 May

2 to 4pm - CCNC Board Room, 302 Spadina Ave., 5th Floor, Toronto

* **Memorial Service** followed by **Panel Discussion** – Thursday, 15 May

7 to 10pm at Hart House, Wellesley St. West entrance, the University of Toronto

* May 16, Friday **Dinner with Dr Eddie Lembong**

6:30 p.m. Scarborough Grand Seafood Restaurant, Dragon Center, 23 Glen Watford Dr., Unit 9, North East Midland & Sheppard. Tickets are \$30pp and available from Jason Liang (416) 856-2128; Seh Ching Wen (416) 888-8119; or Ayrini Undyantara (416) 494-2844

In 1999, less than one year after the internationally condemned anti-Chinese riots took place in May 1998, this year's event guest, Eddie Lembong, founded Perhimpunan INTI (the Chinese-Indonesian Association). It became clear from the May 1998 tragedy that the racial divide between Chinese and native Indonesians, inherited from the colonial period, was an impediment to the nation's progress and development. From generation to generation, the Indonesian Chinese have suffered various forms of discrimination and violence. Perhimpunan INTI is also conscious of the fact that a compounding factor to the Chinese Indonesian dilemma is the prevalent perception among the Indonesian people that Chinese Indonesians are not contributing their fair share in commitments and obligations toward the nation.

Eddie Lembong, a nation builder and philanthropist, respected academic and visionary will share opinions with us in discussion with other panelists.

Visit www.ccevi.webs.com or email ccevi@hotmail.com for more information.

Upcoming Event: The material culture, language and religion of Central and Inner Asia

*16 to 17 May 2008 * Croft Chapter House & Room 179, University College * University of Toronto*

The 13th annual Central and Inner Asia Studies conference will be held on Friday & Saturday, 16 & 17 May 2008 at the University of Toronto. The event begins on Friday at 8:30am with registration and book sales. Presenters include scholars from Canada, the United States, Kazakhstan, the United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Germany and Australia.

A full schedule is available at <http://webapp.mcis.utoronto.ca/EventDetails.aspx?eventid=6243>. For more information, contact conference organizers at cias@utoronto.ca.

Upcoming Event: Mobility and Insecurity: Diasporas, Democracy, and Canada

*20 to 21 May 2008 * York University*

The York Centre for International and Security Studies is hosting an upcoming workshop as part of the Centre's Democracy, Diasporas, and Canadian Security in International Perspectives Program. This workshop, titled "Mobility and Insecurity: Diasporas, Democracy, and Canadian Security," is taking place on 20 to 21 May 2008 at York University and will feature papers by several Canadian scholars doing cutting edge research on issues of mobility and insecurity.

For more details, please visit www.yorku.ca/yciss/Workshop.htm. This event is open to everyone and we would encourage participation from academics and NGOs. If you would like to attend and know you are available ahead of time, please RSVP with David Nolan (dnolan@yorku.ca) by Wednesday, 14 May 2008, for organization purposes.

Upcoming Event: SSHRC Information Session

*Wednesday, 21 May 2008 * 2 to 4pm * Room 004 Atkinson Building, The Harry Leith Room*

The Office of Research Services (ORS) is coordinating a SSHRC Information Session for those faculty members who are in the process of preparing or are considering preparing an application to this Fall's SSHRC Standard Research Grant competition (deadline October 15).

This is a general information session that will be of interest to both new and returning applicants to SSHRC's Standard Research Grants Program. This session will be led by ORS staff and Professor Heather Lotherington, a Grant Selection Committee member from the Faculty of Education.

In addition to a general overview of the program guidelines and the application forms, best practices and useful tips for producing successful applications will be discussed. Useful information regarding the SSHRC adjudication process will also be presented.

To assist ORS in planning this session, please confirm your attendance by contacting ORS at ext. 55055 (research@yorku.ca).

Upcoming Events: The first Reel Asian Spring Showcase

*Friday, 23 May to Sunday, 25 May 2008 * York University*

The Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival and Asian Heritage Month -- Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc. have collaborated for the first time to present the three-day Reel Asian Spring Showcase at York University.

In celebration of Asian Heritage Month, the Showcase will present seven screenings of films and videos by Far East and Southeast Asian artists in Canada, the USA, Asia and all over the world. The showcase will

present work by, from and/or about people from Hong Kong, China, Canada, India, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, Germany, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, USA, Philippines and Vietnam.

The opening night presentation is Jacob Cheung Chi-Leung's 'A Battle of Wits' (China/Japan/Korea/Hong Kong, 2006) and the closing night's presentation is the Toronto premiere of 'Kieu' (Vù T. Thu Ha, USA/Philippines, 2006)

The event also features: Hou Hsiao-Hsien's 'Three Times' (Taiwan, 2005); the Toronto premiere of 'The Other Half' (China, 2006); Internationally acclaimed Canadian filmmaker and York Professor Ali Kazimi's 'Continuous Journey' (Canada, 2004); Canadian filmmaker Cheuk Kwan's 'Chinese Restaurants: Latin Passions' (Canada, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, 2005) as well as Shorts presentations with works by Howie Shia, Wayne Yung, Naoko Kumagai, Khanhthuan Tran, Joyce Wong, Jane Kim, Gloria Kim and Tak Koyama.

Admission is free. For film summaries, screening times and locations, please visit [www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/YCAR-sponsored events/Asian_Spring_Showcase.pdf](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/YCAR-sponsored%20events/Asian_Spring_Showcase.pdf). For 10 or more tickets, group bookings are available until 6pm on 20 May 2008. Contact Reel Asian by phone 416-703-9333 or by email at springshowcase@reelasian.com.

Reel Asian is Canada's longest-running showcase of contemporary Asian cinema and work from the Asian diaspora. Reel Asian fosters the exchange of cultural and artistic ideals between East and West, provides a public forum for homegrown Asian media artists and their work, and fuels the growing appreciation for Asian cinema in Canada.

This event is sponsored by the Department of Canadian Heritage, with additional support from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Canada).

Upcoming Event: Taiwanese Cultural Festival

*Saturday, 24 May * 11am to 2pm * Mel Lastman Square Amphitheatre, 5100 Yonge Street * North York * North York subway station*

The Association of Taiwanese Organizations in Toronto present their annual Taiwanese Culture Festival, which this year will take place on 24 May as part of Asian Heritage Month celebrations. The event begins at 11am and the opening ceremony starts at 12:15pm. In addition to exhibits, there will be continuous performances by Dance Works (a contemporary dance ensemble from Taiwan), Toronto Hakka Drummers, Echo Dance Studio and HMC – Happy Music Corp.

For more information, contact the Association of Taiwanese Organizations in Toronto at 416 543 6160 or email cyhong2355@yahoo.com.tw.

Upcoming Event: Yoshida Brothers – Shamisen Superstars

*Sunday, 25 May 2008 * 8pm * Enwave Theatre * 231 Queens Quay West.*

Afforded superstar status in Japan for revolutionizing the ancient three stringed instrument, the shamisen, Ryoichiro and Kenichi Yoshida are fast winning international acclaim. With their muscular playing and vivid sound, they have reinvigorated the shamisen for a new generation, weaving jazz, latin, pop and more into their own unique musical tapestry.

Online world music portal World Music Central notes, "Clad in formal, ceremonial attire of kimonos and hakama pants, but sporting the dyed light brown hair that is trendy among Japan's savvy youth, the Brothers play the age-old Tsugaru-shamisen - an instrument akin to a rustic three-stringed banjo - with the fervor of Jimi Hendrix."

Tickets are \$30 in advance and can be ordered from 416.973.4000. For more information, visit www.smallworldmusic.com.

Upcoming Event: Inaugural Asian Heritage Month Lecture at York University

Tuesday, 3 June 2008 * 6pm * Moot Court, Osgoode Hall Law School * York University

YCAR is happy to announce the first inaugural Asian Heritage Month Lecture at York University. Professor Stephen Endicott will speak on the life of his father in a talk titled, "When China Stood Up: The Experience of Dr James Gareth Endicott." The event will also feature "Premiere of "Dragonfly: Scenes from a screenplay on Dr. James Endicott," by York Professor Robert Fothergill. He is the winner of the Chalmers Award, and a Dora Award nominee. The event will be chaired by the Honourable Vivienne Poy, Senate of Canada.

Seats are limited. Please register early by e-mail: asianheritagecanadian@yahoo.ca. For more information, please visit www.asianheritagemonth.org.

This event is presented by YCAR, Asian Business and Management Programme and the Asian Heritage Month-Canadian Foundation for Asian Culture (Central Ontario) Inc.

Upcoming Event: Foot Binding and Chinese Modernity: The Demise of One of History's Most Enigmatic Practices – lecture and book launch

Wednesday 4 June 2008 * Doors open at 5:30 pm and close at 8 pm. Lecture 6 to 7 pm * Bata Shoe Museum * 327 Bloor St. West

YCAR Faculty Associate Joan Judge will present an illustrated talk titled, "Foot Binding and Chinese Modernity: The Demise of One of History's Most Enigmatic Practices" at the Bata Shoe Museum in early June. The event is also the launch for her new book *The Precious Raft of History: The Past, the West, and the Woman Question in China*.



Referring to the Museum's collection of Chinese lotus shoes, Professor Judge will focus on the beginning of the end of footbinding at the turn of the 20th century. While these tiny shoes once worn by bound-footed Chinese women are delicately embroidered and highly refined, the practice associated with them has been almost universally condemned as barbaric and inhumane. Under the scrutiny of Western missionaries, other foreigners, and Chinese reformers, the practice was transformed at this time from a marker of Han civilization to an emblem of national backwardness.

Professor Judge's talk is based on the research for her new book, which shows how China has been and will continue to be shaped by conflicting definitions of proper female behaviour.

Events tickets are \$20 per person, \$12 per student and free for Museum members. Pre-registration is required: call 416.979.7799 x242 or email programs@batashoemuseum.ca. For more information, visit www.batashoemuseum.ca/events/index.shtml - [lecture_footbinding_jun04](#) (*Bata Shoe Museum photograph*).

Upcoming Event: The Soul of Satsuma

Saturday, 14 June 2008 * 2pm * 6 Garamond Court * Toronto

The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre presents Master potter Saigo Takafumi, great-grandson of Saigo Takamori ("the Last Samauri"), who will speak on Satsuma-yaki pottery and his family's legacy. Admission is free. RSVP to 416.441.2345 or jccc@jccc.on.ca.

York News: Faculty of Education forges new partnerships with China

Paul Axelrod, Dean of the Faculty of Education at York, is continuing to forge new partnerships and initiatives between York University and China. His recent trip to the cities of Shanghai, Nanjing and Suzhou in China has faculty gearing up to deliver programming to visiting educators at the new SuOn Centre.

China's Jiangsu Educational Services for International Exchange (JESIE), a branch of the Department of Education, plans to open the SuOn Centre, a postsecondary educational training centre in North York, this spring. The name of the new centre is derived from the names of the two provinces, Jiangsu and Ontario. Several universities and colleges in Jiangsu plan to send faculty to Ontario to complete courses in English language and pedagogy, and to investigate current instructional practices and research in their fields.

Visiting educators will reside at the centre while participating in a range of short-term programs delivered by York's Faculty of Education and, in some cases, the York University English Language Institute (YUELI).

Two groups completed a similar program with York in 2006 and 2007. A series of courses for teachers (elementary, secondary and college) and programs for school administrators will be delivered in 2008. Once the program is fully operational, JESIE expects to send some 800 educators to the SuOn Centre each year to engage in programs with York and other Ontario universities. The SuOn Centre initiative is Jiangsu's largest educational venture outside of China.

Axelrod and Tove Fynbo, York International programs coordinator in the Faculty of Education, met with Xiaochang Ding, deputy director general of China's Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education, and his colleagues in Nanjing on April 3. Ding's officials expressed great enthusiasm for past collaborations with York and anticipate a strong working relationship in the future, said Axelrod.

"These international collaborations are mutually enriching experiences. Travel and educational interactions deepen our appreciation of different cultures and we expect that more of our own graduates will be looking for opportunities and experiences abroad," said Axelrod.

York's Faculty of Education has been working in close collaboration with the Jiangsu Department of Education in China since July 2006, when the first of several delegations from that province visited York as part of a larger set of agreements with Ontario, its sister since 1985.

During the trip, Axelrod and Fynbo also visited the Shanghai Normal School, Sanjiang University and the Suzhou Institute of Art and Design Technology, where potential new collaborations with York were explored.

York's Faculty of Education has two other initiatives in China, including a long-standing collaboration with the Hong Kong Institute of Education that includes study abroad semesters, internships and exchanges. As well, this spring marked the first year of a new international practicum placement (IPP) for consecutive education students at York who are completing a three-week practicum placement in Jiangmen, China. If successful, the IPP will be extended to include other partner schools in Jiangsu and Hong Kong as well as schools in other international settings.

"We are all aware of the current political controversies in China leading up to the Olympics. We hope that in a small way, our own collaborative educational programs can demonstrate the value of openness, dialogue, tolerance and respect for difference," said Axelrod.

York's Faculty of Education initiatives coincide with the recent agreement between York and Shanghai's Fudan University to offer dual degree programs.

This article originally appeared in the 2 May 2008 issue of the York University *Y-File*, available at www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=10385.

Call for Chapters: The "New" Central Asia: The Regional Impact of International Actors

The editor of a volume on *'The "New" Central Asia: The Regional Impact of International Actors'* announces a call for chapter submission from interested international relations scholars. The projected volume is both about the place of Central Asia in world affairs and the way the international politics of state-building and regionalization have affected Central Asia since the end of the Cold War. Therefore, this volume pursues the

twin-aims of simultaneously generalizing and contextualizing the “Central Asian experience” as well as re-thinking and re-evaluating its comparative relevance to the study of both other regions and international politics.

In this respect, the prospective submissions would assess the agency of different international actors in Central Asia and their impact on the dynamics of state-building and regionalization. At the same time, the contributions would make analytically and empirically grounded propositions on the possible trajectories of Central Asian state-building and regionalization, and the possible patterns/transformations in the agency of external actors in the region. In this way, the volume addresses the need to systematize the knowledge produced on Central Asia since the end of the Cold War.

The schematic list of the themes of the chapters includes:

1. The European Union (EU) and Central Asia.
2. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (PfP) and Central Asia.
3. The Conference/Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (C/OSCE).
4. The World Bank/International Monetary Fund/other international financial institutions and Central Asia.
5. The United Nations (and its various agencies) and Central Asia.
6. Russia and Central Asia.
7. China (especially, through the Shanghai Cooperation Organization) and Central Asia.
8. The United States of America and Central Asia.
9. India and Central Asia.
10. Iran and Central Asia.
11. Turkey and Central Asia.

Additionally, there would be chapters contextualizing the Central Asian reception/perception of this agency:

12. Kazakhstan and the role of international actors.
13. Kyrgyzstan and the role of international actors.
14. Tajikistan and the role of international actors.
15. Turkmenistan and the role of international actors.
16. Uzbekistan and the role of international actors.

For the purposes of coherence, the assessment of the roles/implications/agency of different international actors in Central Asia focuses on the notions and practices of:

- state-building—understood as an attempt by an international actor to suggest/promote a certain mode of governance to Central Asian states and, thereby, impact their practices of policy-making according to certain externally-promoted rules;
- regionalization—understood both (i) in terms of the existence of a “regional approach” by an international actor to Central Asia—i.e., is there something in the strategy of your actor (provision of funds/incentives/infrastructure) that allows/intends for a process of regionalization to take place; and (ii) in terms of whether there is anything in the Central Asian interactions with that actor that “justifies” the use of the term region (in a sense that designates something unique to the “Central Asian” practice that is broader than a mere geographical convenience/proximity);

Interested researchers and scholars, who would be willing to commit to such a collaborative project are invited to submit 500-word chapter abstracts (including chapter title and a clear explanation of how the authors would address the volumes objectives as outlined in the five sets of questions above) and a short CV (1-2 pages) by [25 May 2008](#). Authors would be notified by [30 May 2008](#) about the status of their proposals. Full chapters (9,000 to 11,000 words) are due by [10 December 2008](#). All questions, including submission construction details and submissions themselves, should be sent by email to Emilian Kavalski (emilian.kavalski@gmail.com).

Call for Papers: Asia on the Move

The Call for Papers has been extended to [1 August 2008](#) for the Canadian Asian Studies Association's 2008 conference. The conference is held in conjunctions with its three area councils: East Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia, and will be held from 13 to 16 November 2008 at the University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.

Over a decade after the Asian financial crisis, Asia has been transformed in many ways. Canadian and international scholars in the social sciences, arts, humanities and sciences are invited to take part in the next CASA conference to share their recent and cutting-edge research on Asia. Conference themes include but are not limited to;

- * Asianization of Global Culture
- * Science, Technology and Innovation
- * Migration, Transnationalism and Multiculturalism
- * "Asian Values" and "Reasonable Accommodations"
- * Health Challenges: Asian Flu, Ageing, Smoking...
- * Food, Energy and Environment
- * Regional Cooperation and Integration in the Asia Pacific Region
- * Historical Wars in Asia
- * Asian Perspectives on Economic Globalization
- * Languages and Language Acquisition
- * Asia and Outsourcing
- * Asia Faces Terrorism
- * Asia as a Success-Story in Poverty Alleviation
- * Asia-Canada Relations

Graduate students are strongly encouraged to present their original research at CASA conferences. Students from outside the greater Montreal area wishing to participate in the conference can benefit from partial financial assistance, providing that their membership with CASA for the 2008-2009 year is in good standing. All funding requests must be received no later than 1 August 2008.

All individual and panel submission forms, and registration forms are available on the conference website: <http://canadianasianstudies.concordia.ca/html/membere.htm>. A list of accepted proposals will be posted in September 2008 at <http://canadianasianstudies.concordia.ca>.

Call for Papers: Imperialisms: New and Old

The Fifteenth Annual Tri-University History Conference will be held at the Wilfrid Laurier University (Waterloo, Ontario, Canada) on 15 November 2008. Organizers welcome proposals for individual papers and complete panels from graduate students and established scholars in all fields and especially from those examining aspects of imperialism, colonialism, decolonization, post-colonialism; power, opposition and dissonance in the relationship of regional, national and supra-national communities; cultural imperialism and globalization. The deadline for abstract submissions is **5 September 2008**.

The Tri-University Graduate History Program (www.triuhistory.ca/), one of Canada's largest and most comprehensive history programs, unites graduate faculty and students at the University of Guelph, the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University.

Please send paper abstracts (not to exceed 250 words) and queries to Dr. Susan Neylan, History Department, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON, Canada, N2L 3C5 (sneylan@wlu.ca) or visit www.triuhistory.ca.

Previously-posted Call for Papers:

* **Rethinking Extractive Industry: Regulation, Dispossession, and Emerging Claims (30 June 2008)**
For more information: www.yorku.ca/cerlac/news_events.htm - call or cerlac@yorku.ca

* **Nationalism, Culture, and Identity: New Boundaries in Asia (1 July 2008)**
For more information, please contact Mugdha Yeolekar (Mugdha.Yeolekar@asu.edu); Seth Clippard (seth.clippard@asu.edu); William Nitzky (william.nitzky@asu.edu); Samsul Maarif (Samsul.maarif@asu.edu).

York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) To comment or for more information, contact ycar@yorku.ca
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