



# York Centre for Asian Research Update

## In this October 2010 Issue...

### Our Researchers | News and Publications

- \* Gregory Chin
- \* Ann Kim
- \* Lucia Lo
- \* Grace Shen
- \* Jessica Tsui Yan Li
- \* Michael Stainton
- \* Keith Barney
- \* Naoko Ikeda
- \* Colin McGuire

### YCAR News

- \* Getting up Close with India: YCAR welcomes Padmini Swaminathan
- \* Fine Arts and Social Sciences well represented with new Associates
- \* New faculty, graduate students join YCAR Executive Committee
- \* YCAR supported by four GAs in 2010.2011

### YCAR Events

- \* Examining Canada's relationship with China after 40 years
- \* Showcasing Philippines and Filipino Diaspora research at York
- \* A politician, a journalist and a historian: October talks at YCAR

### Opportunities

- \* Graduate School of Korean Studies
- \* Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)
- \* ORS Brown Bag Session - Don't Hide Your Head in a Brown Paper Bag!
- \* YCAR Graduate Student BrownBags

### Upcoming Events

- \* Employment and Maternity Protection: Understanding Poor Coverage of Beneficial Legislation through
- \* Content Analysis of Some Judgments in India (November 11)
- \* Israel Through Chinese Eyes (November 21)
- \* "Eating Chinese" book launch (November 24)

### York News

- \* York signs collaboration agreement with China
- \* The Journal of Burma Studies publishes its 14th volume

### Calls

- \* 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvard East Asia Society Graduate Student Conference



## Our Researchers | News and Awards

**Gregory Chin, Faculty Associate** | Professor Chin's (Political Science) article "Will China Change the Rules of Global Order?" co-authored with Dr. Ramesh Thakur, was published in the high-profile *Washington Quarterly* and listed as a 'must read' by the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). The New York City-based CFR is one of America's most influential think tanks and publishes the monthly magazine *Foreign Affairs*. The full text of the article is available at: [www.twq.com/10october/index.cfm?id=413](http://www.twq.com/10october/index.cfm?id=413).

**Ann Kim, Faculty Associate** | Professor Kim (Sociology) was invited to present her research at the First International Conference on Korean Diasporic and Immigrant Communities' Transnational Ties to Homeland. Her talk focused on the research developing from her current SSHRC funded grant and was titled "Explaining the Migration Strategy: Transnational and Intact Family Migrants from South Korea to Canada." The conference was held at the Research Center on Korean Community, Queen's College, CUNY on 8 October 2010.

**Lucia Lo, Faculty Associate** | Professor Lo (Geography) co-presented the paper "Economic Impacts of Immigrants: A Canada – U.S. Comparison" at the 15<sup>th</sup> International Metropolis Conference 'Justice and Migration: Paradoxes of Belonging' in The Hague this October.

**Grace Shen, Faculty Associate** | Professor Shen (Humanities) recently co-founded the Forum for the History of Science in Asia (FHSAsia). It is an association of individuals interested in furthering scholarship in the history of science, medicine, and technology in Asia. It aims to promote research and education in the history of science in Asia, to provide a forum for discussion, and to foster and support international collaboration among scholars working in all areas related to the study and practice of the sciences in Asia. For more information, visit: [www.history.ubc.ca/fhsa/](http://www.history.ubc.ca/fhsa/).

**Jessica Tsui Yan Li, Faculty Associate** | Dr. Li's chapter on "Ibsen's Nora Re-presented: Female Body and Identities in China Doll" was published in the Kwok-kan Tam, Terry Siu-han Yip and Frode Helland edited publication, *Ibsen and the Modern Self* (Open University of Hong Kong Press, and Oslo: Centre for Ibsen Studies, University of Oslo). Her chapter explores the explicit intertextual allusions to Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll House* found in the Chinese-Canadian drama *China Doll*.

**Michael Stainton, Research Associate** | Mr. Stainton organized and chaired the Presidential Roundtable at the 2010 Canadian Asian Studies Conference in Ottawa this October. The panel theme was "Promoting Human Rights in China from the Outside: Problems and Strategies". Panel presenters included YCAR Graduate Associate, Tenzing Jigme, whose spoke on the perspectives of Tibetan's in exile.

Other YCAR Associates who presented their research at the Conference included: **Kamal Arora** (Doctoral Candidate, Social Anthropology), **Pietro Giordan** (DLLL), **Veronica Javier** (Master's Candidate, School of Social Work), **Ghazy Mujahid** (Research Associate), **Hironori Onuki** (Doctoral Candidate, Political Science), **Sharada Srinivisan** (Social Science) and **Qiang Zha** (Education),

**Keith Barney, Graduate Associate** | Mr. Barney (Doctoral Candidate, Geography) recently presented his research at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars at an event on "Complex Connections: Ecological Impacts of Chinese Investment in Southeast Asia" that was held earlier this month. He presented case study on how cross-border resource production networks in the land and forestry sector are increasing environmental pressures and reshaping property rights and rural livelihoods in Southeast Asia and China.

**Naoko Ikeda, Graduate Associate** | Ms. Ikeda (Doctoral Candidate, Women’s Studies) provided translation assistance at the “Forgotten Voices, Living History – International Conference for Educators on the WWII History in Asian” in October. The conference was organized by the Toronto Association for Learning and Preserving the History of WWII in Asia (ALPHA) and focused upon giving voice to experiences of human rights violations that occurred during the Second World War.

**Colin McGuire, Graduate Associate** | Mr. McGuire (Doctoral Candidate, Ethnomusicology) has been working for several months composing the musical score for ‘[The Four Beauties of China](#)’, a new Little Pear Garden Collective (LPGC) production, which will debut on 26 November 2010. The SSHRC Doctoral Award recipient (2010) also had his article on “Rhythm Skills Development in Chinese Martial Arts” published in *The International Journal of Sport and Society* (Volume 1, Issue 3, pp. 209-218).



**YCAR News | Getting up Close with India: YCAR welcomes Padmini Swaminathan**

In a rapidly developing India, how is the role of women changing in the work place and the home changing? How has the ongoing migration from urban to rural affected this?

These are questions that Dr. Padmini Swaminathan is well qualified to respond to. As Chair at the Reserve Bank of India in Regional Economics at the Madras Institute of Development Studies in Chennai, she has been examining industry, labour and development from a gender perspective for the past 28 years.

In November 2010, she will explore these questions and share her experiences as a Shastri Indo-Canadian Visiting Lecturer in a three week visit that will take her from Toronto to Vancouver to Ottawa to meet with policy makers and share her knowledge with students, faculty and community members.



At York University, she will be hosted by the York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR). Her visit was organized by York University Professor Sharada Srinivasan (Social Science). While in Canada, Dr. Swaminathan will visit the Universities of Toronto, Guelph-Humber, Simon Fraser and Carleton and meet with officials in the nation’s capital.

“We are very pleased to be able to host Dr. Swaminathan. We are very fortunate to have a scholar of her caliber spent time with us. We are also grateful she will take time to review works in progress and meet with students here at York as well as further afield,” said Susan Henders, Director of YCAR.

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Visiting Lecturer programme is organized by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, which promotes ties between Canada and India. Every year, one recognized and engaging scholar can be nominated in one of the following areas: development, law, science, technology, agriculture, economic reform, environmental management, management, IT, education, arts, and the social sciences and humanities. This scholar then has the opportunity to lecture across Canada. For more information, please visit [www.sici.org/home/](http://www.sici.org/home/).

Dr. Swaminathan received her PhD in industrial economics from the University of Bombay in 1982 after which she joined the Madras Institute of Development Studies. Her work has always been interdisciplinary in nature. She has examined many different issues including the connection between infant mortality and women's choice of work as well as the informalization of the Indian economy.

Dr. Swaminathan says that with the rapid pace of development in the country, women's work is becoming more and more invisible as many women work in rural areas. According to Dr. Swaminathan, women also choose low paying jobs in order to complete housework.

Dr. Swaminathan expertise is widely recognized beyond academic circles and she has been requisitioned by provincial and central government bodies such as the Tamil Nadu State Statistical Committee, the High Court of Madras, and the Central Planning Commission, to name a few.

There are several opportunities to meet Dr. Swaminathan during her visit to York. She will chair a graduate workshop, "Interrogating Development and Development Indicators" on 3 November 2010. Students from seven GTA universities will have the opportunity to share and receive feedback on their research.

On 4 November, the Shastri scholar will be part of the Transnational Mapping of the Institutionalization of Women's Studies symposium, organized by York's Centre for Feminist Research. For more information, visit: [www.yorku.ca/gradwmst/newsandevents.html](http://www.yorku.ca/gradwmst/newsandevents.html).

In her final York event, she will speak on "Employment and Maternity Protection: Understanding Poor Coverage of Beneficial Legislation through Content Analysis of Some Judgments in India" on 11 November at 2:30pm at Founders College. This event is organized by the International Development Studies program and YCAR. For more information, visit [www.yorku.ca](http://www.yorku.ca).

Throughout her visit, Dr. Swaminathan is also available to meet with students and faculty in and around York by appointment only. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity, you may contact Dr. Swaminathan directly at [padminis@mids.ac.in](mailto:padminis@mids.ac.in). *(Story by Miriam Katz; YCAR photograph)*

### **YCAR News | Fine Arts and Social Sciences well represented with new Associates**

In Fall 2010, the YCAR Executive Committee welcomed eight new Associates to the Centre. Our new members include Professor Tony Fang (Human Resources Management) and the following Graduate Associates: Conely de Leon (Doctoral Candidate, Women's Studies); Aruna Panday (Doctoral Candidate, Social Anthropology); Daniel Schnee (Doctoral Candidate, Ethnomusicology); Akiko Takesue (Doctoral Candidate, Art History); Phyllis Tang (Master's Candidate, Ethnomusicology); Megan Youdelis (Master's Candidate, Geography); and Jianlan Zhu (Doctoral Candidate, Osgoode Law School).

Two visiting scholar applications were also accepted for this academic year. Sophie Regler, a Doctoral Candidate from Free University Berlin, will be based at the Centre until September 2011. She is working with Dr. Bernie Frolic on research related to the Asia Business and Management Programme. Ms. Regler's doctoral research is on Sino-American interaction in the Darfur crisis and the relational aspects of China's shifting approach to human security in general and to Darfur in particular.

Lawrence Santiago, a Trudeau Scholar and Doctoral Candidate in Geography from the University of British Columbia will join the Centre in December 2010. He will be working with Professor Philip F. Kelly (Geography). Mr. Santiago presented a talk at YCAR in last December on his research, which concerns

the recruitment and migration of Philippine nurses to Canadian health regions. He is looking at the processes that brought them from the Philippines to Canada.

Both visiting scholars will be presenting their research at talks in the Winter term.

For more information on becoming an Associate of YCAR, please visit:

[www.yorku.ca/ycar/Membership.html](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Membership.html).

### YCAR News | New faculty, graduate students join YCAR Executive Committee

Faculty Associates Hong Kal (Visual Arts), Alicia Turner (Humanities) joined the YCAR Executive Committee this fall along with Shubhra Gururani (Anthropology) who replaced Michael Nijhawan (Sociology) as YCAR Associate Director.

The YCAR Graduate Associates also elected two new members to join Naoko Ikeda (Doctoral Candidate, Women's Studies) as their representatives on the Committee. Ryan Foster (Political Science) and Nga Dao (Geography) are both doctoral candidates who will join the Committee for the next two years.

These five new members join ongoing committee members: Joshua Fogel (History), B. Michael Frolic (ABMP), Susan Henders (Political Science), Zulfikar Hirji (Anthropology), Ananya Mukherjee-Reed (Political Science) and Máire O'Brien (CMTP),

### YCAR News | YCAR supported by four GAs in 2010.2011

YCAR is pleased to have the support of four Graduate Assistants in the 2010.2011 academic year.

**David Hynes** worked as an English teacher for 10 years, during which time he lived in Japan. With a background in Philosophy and History, which he studied at the University of Toronto, he is currently working on a Master's degree in Radical Political Economy at York University. He became interested in Political Economy in the course of his union activism and organizing activities in the ESL industry.



**Gabor Jozsa** is a first year master's student in Social Anthropology at York. His research interests include stand-up comedy, performance and the public service. Gabor holds a BA in East Asian Studies and a BA in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Calgary (right).



**Miriam Katz** is a first year master's student in Environmental Studies at York. She has travelled extensively in Asia as well as having worked abroad in England and Japan. Miriam holds an honours BA in Political Science and Environmental Studies from the University of Toronto (left).

**Daniel Pomerants** has a MA in Political Science from York University. His research focused on international cooperation in the Arctic Ocean basin with an emphasis on Russia and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. He is currently pursuing a MES degree at the Faculty of Environmental Studies with a focus on the world's oceans.



**YCAR Events | Examining Canada's relationship with China after 40 years**

The 2010 Asia Lecture at York University celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between Canada and China. This year's lecture was given by Professor Emeritus B. Michael Frolic (Political Science) who presented "40 Years with China: From the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations in 1970 to the Present Day". Dr. Frolic's lecture focused on the history of the relationship between Canada and China up to the present day as well as discussing his own relationship with China. The talk and comments ,provided by Professor Ruth Hayhoe, will be published in YCAR's new series, *Asia Papers*, later this fall.



Bernie Frolic is the author of several books, monographs and articles on democracy, human rights and civil society, particularly on China and Russia. He is co-editor of *Democracy, Human Rights and Civil Society in Asia* (2001), *Civil Society in China* (1997), and *Reluctant Adversaries: Canada and the PRC* (1995). He is the author of *China's Second Wave of Development* (1995) and *Mao's People* (1980). He has written several articles and papers on modernization and urbanization in China and the USSR, state-led civil society, transitions to democracy after the cold war, non-comparative communism between China and the USSR, among a host of others

*(Miriam Katz photographs of B. Michael Frolic; Consul General of China Chen Ligang; Lorna Wright, AVP International; and Susan Henders, YCAR Director; Discussant Ruth Hayhoe , OISE)*

**YCAR Events | Showcasing Philippines and Filipino Diaspora research at York**



On Friday September 24th scholars at York University held a Philippine Studies symposium. The purpose of the event was to showcase the extensive research being undertaken at York on the Philippines and the Filipino diaspora, and to engage with Toronto's Filipino community. The event was organized by Dr

Philip Kelly and Nel Coloma Moya (Doctoral Candidate, Geography, Queen's University) under the auspices of the York Centre for Asian Research, and featured 11 York faculty and graduate students representing seven different academic fields.

The day started with two studies (by Adam Lukasiewicz and Jennifer Payton) concerning the effects of migration on rural areas of the provinces of Quezon and Cavite. Attention then shifted to Filipino communities in Canada, with Professor Philip Kelly, Veronica Javier and Conely De Leon all addressing the cultural and economic experiences of second-generation Filipino-Canadians. Cesar Polvorosa offered an analysis of the experience of Filipino entrepreneurs in Toronto. Attention shifted in the afternoon to questions of colonial history and religious practice in the Philippines. Ferdinand Caballero presented a paper on religious iconography, while Nel Coloma Moya explored the work of Gawad Kalinga. Professor Patrick Alcedo presented a compelling video documentary concerning the cultural meaning of the Ati-Atihan festival in Kalibo, Aklan. Colonial representations of Filipinos in both Spanish and America periods were examined by Lou Janssen Dangzalan and by Maita Sayo.

Issues of religious practice were featured in several presentation and so it was fitting that the day culminated with a keynote lecture by Professor Jay Gonzalez. Gonzalez directs the Yuchengco Philippine Studies program at San Francisco University and sits on the City of San Francisco's Immigrant Rights Commission. His lecture, titled "Kasamahan and Bayanihan: Understanding Filipino Migrant Cultural and Civic Capital," examined the role of Filipino churches in the integration of immigrants in San Francisco.

The Symposium and Lecture represented the first event of the academic year for the Philippine Studies Group at the York Centre for Asian Research. The Group welcomes interest from those within and beyond the York University community who have an interest in research on the Philippines and Filipino migrations. For further information is available from [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca).

The event was generously sponsored by several York sponsors. *(Story by P.F. Kelly. YCAR photograph of attendees at the second Philippines Study Lecture)*

### YCAR Events | A politician, a journalist and a historian: October talks at YCAR



**Mr. You Si-kun 游錫堃**, formerly DPP chairman and premier of Taiwan, spoke on "The Impact of ECFA on Taiwan – China Relations and Peace in East Asia" at YCAR on October 15. The event was co-sponsored by the Taiwanese Human rights Association of Canada (THRAC). YCAR Research Associate and THRAC President Michael Stainton chaired and translated for Mr. You, who spoke in Mandarin.

Mr. You has held office at every level in Taiwan since the 1970s, and been both general secretary and chairman of the DPP Party. In his talk, he argued that the signing of Economic Co-operation Framework Agreement with China by the current KMT administration in Taiwan was done carelessly and without thought to the long term negative consequences to Taiwan. These include making Taiwan even more economically dependent on China and exacerbating disparity between rich and poor in Taiwan.

Asked what he would have done he said that the DPP policy did not oppose such and agreement with

China, but it should have been done at the same time as a free trade agreement with other major trading partners, especially the U.S., and signed under the WTO framework. In conclusion he urged international society to give Taiwan strong support, as strengthening Taiwan's democracy is a key to expanding the reach of democracy in Asia.

The event was co-hosted by the Taiwanese Human Rights Association of Canada.

The seminar was attended by about 40 people, and covered by four local Chinese media as well as Radio Canada International (RDI) Chinese service. Listen to an interview with Mr. You on RDI at: [www.rcinet.ca/chinois/chronique/Interviews/14-27\\_2010-10-18-/](http://www.rcinet.ca/chinois/chronique/Interviews/14-27_2010-10-18-/).

*(Story by Michael Stainton. YCAR photographs of Michael Stainton, event organizer and YCAR Research Associate, with Mr. You)*

**Saeed Naqvi** presented the lecture "Afghanistan: An Indian's Perspective". Saeed Naqvi, Senior Journalist and Distinguished Fellow at Observer Research Foundation in New Delhi, spoke of the likely trajectory of the war in Afghanistan and its regional dimensions. Drawing from observations made during his recent travels in Afghanistan, he suggested that governments that use non-military methods--almost Gandhian-style strategies--may be more influential in the country, more trusted by its people. He said that if the Canadian government wishes to influence peace-making and development in Afghanistan it should not ally itself exclusively with the United States. Speaking to an audience of faculty, students, and members of the wider community, Naqvi said that the U.S. military will not entirely pull out of Afghanistan, that Pakistan will continue to be pivotal, and that a de facto Pashtun polity is emerging, spanning the Afghanistan-Pakistan border and with significant ramifications.



Naqvi is Visiting Professor at the Academy of Third World Studies, and Senior Advisor at the Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi. He is currently anchoring a Primetime show "In Conversation" based on interviews with world statesmen and other celebrities on NewsX, one of India's most influential news channels. Articles based on these interviews appear in various newspapers.

This event was organized with the cooperation with the Consulate General of India in Toronto. *(YCAR photograph of Saeed Naqvi with Professor Ananya Mukherjee-Reed)*

**Dr. Alwyn Austin** presented "Canada's Far Eastern Desk: Arthur Redpath Menzies and the Creation of Canada's Post-War Asia Relations 1940-1953". Arthur Menzies (1916-2010) was responsible - as much as any one man - for creating Canadian policy to East Asia (China, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Vietnam, etc.) in the Second World War and post-war period. Born and raised in China in the 1920s and educated in Japan in the 1930s, he felt sympathy towards both sides and steered Canada towards a just, even-



handed policy. He was Head of Canadian Mission to Occupied Japan (1950-1953) and Ambassador to the People's Republic of China 1976-1980). His paper covered his early career and his Japan years.



Historian Alwyn Austin obtained his B.A. in East Asiatic Studies (as it was called) at the University of Toronto in 1968. He appeared in the acclaimed film "Warrendale" in 1967. He took the Museum Studies course at the Royal Ontario Museum/University of Toronto and was hired

as the interpretation planner for the Norman Bethune birthplace in Gravenhurst (Parks Canada), which opened in 1976. Bethune introduced Dr. Austin to a different perspective on his missionary background, and he has made his life's work to write the history of Canadian missionaries in China and Taiwan. He is the author of *Saving China: Canadian Missionaries in the Middle Kingdom 1888-1959* and *China's Millions: The China Inland Mission and Late Qing Society 1832-1905* (Eerdmans 2007). Most recently, he had been working with Arthur Menzies on his memoirs, which are the subject of his paper.

*(Gabor Jozsa photographs of Joan Judge, Alwyn Austin and Alex Goddard; Historian Alwyn Austin (centre) with members of Arthur Menzies family who travelled to Toronto to hear Alwyn's talk on their father and uncle. Third from left is Professor Joan Judge (History), a grand-niece of Mr. Menzies who also chaired the talk.)*



**Opportunity | Graduate School of Korean Studies**

The Graduate School of Korean Studies (GSKS) at the Academy of Korean Studies in Seongnam is a research-oriented graduate studies institution offering humanities and social science programs with an emphasis on Korean studies. Full tuition waivers are available to international students as well as government supported scholarships. The deadline for the Fall 2011 semester is **30 April 2011**. Eligibility is restricted to individuals who have either completed 16 years of education outside of Korea or those who themselves, and their parents, do not possess Korean nationality.

Information on scholarships and admission requirements can be found in the GSKS Admission Guide at: <http://intl.aks.ac.kr/english/viewforum.php?f=26>.

**Opportunity | Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS)**

Established by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong in 2009, the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) aims at attracting the best and brightest students in the world to pursue their PhD studies in Hong Kong's institutions.

Candidates who are seeking admission as new full time PhD students in the following eight institutions, irrespective of their country of origin and ethnic background, should be eligible to apply.

- City University of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Baptist University

- Lingnan University
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- The Hong Kong Institute of Education
- The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- The University of Hong Kong

Applicants should demonstrate outstanding qualities of academic performance, research ability/potential, communication and interpersonal skills, and leadership abilities.

The Fellowship provides a monthly stipend of HK\$20,000 (approximately US\$2,600) and a conference and research related travel allowance of HK\$10,000 (approximately US\$1,300) per year to each awardee for a period of three years. About 135 PhD Fellowships will be awarded in each academic year. For awardees who need more than three years to complete their PhD studies, additional support may be provided by the chosen institutions. For details, please contact the institutions concerned directly.

The application deadline is **1 December 2010**. For more information on how to apply and selection criteria: <http://cerg1.ugc.edu.hk/hkpfs/index.html>.

**Opportunity | ORS Brown Bag Session - Don't Hide Your Head in a Brown Paper Bag!**

The Office of Research Services is offering Brown Bag sessions to address frequently asked questions and issues. These are informal sessions (please feel free to bring your lunch) with a short presentation followed by a discussion period. Please distribute to all researchers, research administrators, project managers, and other interested parties.

December's session is: Don't Hide Your Head in a Brown Paper Bag! , given by Steve Pottle, Manager, Insurance and Risk Management on Wednesday, 8 December 2010 from 1 to 2pm in 626 York Research Tower. He will speak on risk management and the dangers and opportunities associated with research activities.

Please RSVP no later than **Monday, 6 December 2010** to [safilici@yorku.ca](mailto:safilici@yorku.ca). We look forward to seeing you at the session,

**Opportunity | YCAR Graduate Student BrownBags**

YCAR will be organizing a BrownBag research presentation series in the Winter 2011 term. This series is an opportunity for students whose research focuses on Asia or the Asian Diaspora to present their research to colleagues and faculty to receive feedback critical to the development of their research. It is open to Masters and Doctoral students with the intention to assist students who may be at any stage in the development of their Graduate level thesis work.

For more information or if you are interested in presenting in this series, please contact YCAR at [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca).



**Upcoming Event | Employment and Maternity Protection: Understanding Poor Coverage of Beneficial Legislation through Content Analysis of Some Judgments in India**

Thursday, 11 November 2010 | 2:30pm | 305 Founders College | York University

The speaker is Dr. Padmini Swaminathan, Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, India and Shastri Indo-Canadian Visiting Lecturer at York University. The paper has done a content analysis of some judgments relating to the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 in India. The larger questions that this paper raises are the following: how does one understand 'bad, poor or nill' implementation of existing laws; how do employers/bureaucracy render eligible women workers ineligible; what implications does this study have for feminist politics of bringing in more and better legislation to address issues of gender justice.

**Upcoming Event | Israel Through Chinese Eyes**

Sunday, 21 November 2010 | 3:30pm | 136W Schulich School of Business | York University

Xu Xin, Director of the Glazer Institute for Jewish Studies at Nanjing University, recipient of an honorary doctorate from Bar Ilan University in Israel, and the only Professor of Jewish Studies in China, will be presenting "Israel Through Chinese Eyes" on 21 November.



Professor Xu created China's first exhibit on the Holocaust (in conjunction with the Simon Wiesenthal Center), produced a 900-page Chinese edition of the "Encyclopedia Judaica", many scholarly critical articles, and has translated the works of numerous Jewish-American and Israeli authors into Chinese. His translation of Agnon's novelette *In the Heart of the Seas* was the first time since 1949 that any Hebrew author's work had been translated into Chinese.

For more information, contact the Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies(CJS) at [milight@yorku.ca](mailto:milight@yorku.ca).

**Upcoming Event | "Eating Chinese" book launch**

Wednesday, 24 September 2010 | 5:30 to 7:30pm | University of Toronto Art Centre | 15 King's College Circle

The Canadian Studies program will host an event to celebrate the launch Visiting Prof. Lily Cho's book, *Eating Chinese: Culture on the Menu in Small-Town Canada*, on Wednesday, 24 November in the University of Toronto Art Centre. Lily Cho will read excerpts from her new book and will be interviewed by author Judy Fong Bates. Cho's book will be available for purchase and she will be signing copies at this event. Light snacks and refreshments will be served. This event is co-sponsored by the Asian Institute. For more information, or to reserve a place, please contact the Canadian Studies program director at [emily.gilbert@utoronto.ca](mailto:emily.gilbert@utoronto.ca).



**York News | York signs collaboration agreement with China**

York will have even more opportunity to partner with researchers from China after the University signed a collaboration agreement with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) Monday.

CASS has over 30 research institutes, while York has one of the largest faculties of social sciences and humanities in Canada, which makes this an ideal partnership. "CASS is the premier institution in China for social sciences research," says Lorna Wright, associate vice-president international. "As York international researchers and York faculty members have already partnered with CASS researchers, I thought it was probably time we formalize what we were doing."

Six delegates from CASS came to York from China to meet with York researchers and discuss future initiatives and collaborations. "Basically, it will give York researchers better access to opportunities in China for research and we'll have a partner for that research," says Wright.

The full story is available at: [www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=15479](http://www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=15479).

**YCAR News | The Journal of Burma Studies publishes its 14<sup>th</sup> volume**

Faculty Associate Alicia Turner (Humanities) is the Editor of *The Journal of Burma Studies*, which recently released Volume 14, a special issue featuring articles on Medicine in Colonial Burma, along with articles, research notes and a 'scholarly curiosity'. For more information: [www.niu.edu/burma/publications/index.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/burma/publications/index.shtml).



**Call for Abstracts | 14th Annual Harvard East Asia Society Graduate Student Conference**

The Harvard East Asia Society (HEAS) Graduate Student Conference invites graduate students from around the world, conducting research in all disciplines, to submit abstracts for our 25 to 27 February 2011 conference.

The first decade of the twenty-first century has brought East Asia unprecedented growth, challenging scholars all over the world to explore every facet of East Asia, past and present, and to engage in cooperative conversation.

The HEAS Graduate Student Conference is an annual conference which aims to provide an interdisciplinary forum for graduate students to exchange ideas and discuss current research on East Asia. The conference is an opportunity for young scholars to present their research to both their peers and eminent scholars in East Asian Studies. All panels will be moderated by Harvard University faculty. The conference will also enable participants to meet others in their field conducting similar research and forge new friendships.

We welcome submissions from graduate students in all disciplines. Papers should be related to East or Inner Asia. Papers focusing on Chinese, Korean, Japanese or Vietnamese Diaspora are also welcome. The submission deadline is **17 November 2010**.

For eligibility and application guidelines, visit [www.hcs.harvard.edu/~heas/conference](http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~heas/conference). For more

information, contact [heasconference@gmail.com](mailto:heasconference@gmail.com).

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

To comment or for more information, contact [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca)  
Eighth Floor | York Research Tower | York University | 4700 Keele Street | Toronto | Ontario | Canada  
[ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca) | [www.yorku.ca/ycar](http://www.yorku.ca/ycar)