

York Centre for Asian Research

2018 Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 5 September 2018 | 10am to 12:30pm | York University

In attendance: Nabeel Ahmed, Kushan Azadah, Ranu Basu, Elena Caprioni, Katherine Cheng, Lily Cho, Hazel Dizon, Alex Felipe, Alicia Filipowich, Bernie Frolic, Jillian Fulton, Andrew Gayed, Pietro Giordan, Humayun Hamidzada, Anindo Hazra, Susan Henders, Hong Kal, Philip Kelly, Nazilla Khanlou, Abidin Kusno, Jessica Li, Kay Li, Clarence Magpantay, Radhika Mongia, Jacob Nerenberg, Desmond O'Doherty, Sergei Plekhanov, Kimberly Roberts, Michael Stainton, Alicia Turner, Wendy Wong, Tian Yun, Qiang Zha

A. Kusno opened the meeting. He thanked the YCAR Coordinator, Bernie Frolic, the YCAR Executive Committee and former Director Philip Kelly for their work. He thanked the Associates for their participation, reminding them that the Centre relies on their contributions to research. He thanked everyone for their support as he learns more about YCAR, its structure and that of York University.

Approval of Agenda for 5 September 2018

Motion to accept the Agenda for 5 September 2018 moved by S. Plekhanov and seconded by P. Kelly. No further discussion or objections. All in favour, none opposed, no abstentions.

Approval of Minutes from 27 April 2017

Motion to accept the Minutes of the 27 April 2017 meeting was moved by P. Kelly and second by Q. Zha. No further discussion. 10 abstain. The remainder were in favour.

There were no matters arising from the minutes

Internal Board

A. Kusno briefed the membership on the Centre's Internal board meeting in June 2018.

Nomination of new member to the YCAR Executive Committee

A. Kusno thanked Joan Judge and Shobna Nijhawan for their service on the Committee.

A. Kusno explained the rationale for the selection of the nominee for the committee. He introduced the nominee. Wendy Wong (Dance) agreed to have her name put forward for nomination. This is one-year position to replace J. Judge who will be on sabbatical. Motion to approve the nominations to the YCAR Executive Committee for a term of one year was moved by B. Frolic and seconded by L. Hae. No further discussion or objections. Three abstention (including W. Wong), none opposed. The remainder were in favour.

A. Kusno told the AGM that Xueqing Xu agreed to serve as the Executive Committee's new Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics representative. Laam Hae (Political Science) will continue as YCAR Associate Director and GDAS Coordinator. She will also teach the core course.

Report on Key Accomplishments for 2017–2018

Intellectual exchange

A. Kusno reviewed the Centre's activities over the past year, including lecture series, workshops and conferences. *See Appendix 1 for full details.*

He highlighted YCAR's organization and hosting of the 33rd Canadian Council for Southeast Asian studies (CCSEAS) conference that took place at York in October 2017. He noted that CCSEAS is the only oldest of the Canadian councils and the only one to survive out of those associate with the Canadian Council for Asian Studies (CASA). SEA scholars in Canada appointed YCAR as the organization's new/first secretariat to ensure the Council's survival and growth. A. Kusno explained YCAR's proposed role and his hope for CCSEAS. The 34th conference will be held in Montreal/Sherbrooke in 2019.

Asian Business and Management Program (ABMP)

A. Kusno acknowledged the importance of ABMP in YCAR's operations and survival and thanked B. Frolic and his team for their contributions to YCAR this year and over the past almost two decades. He spoke about the planned Canada-China Initiatives Fund, proposed by B. Frolic and supported by ABMP, which will support York University China and Diaspora scholars in growing studies in this area at York and attract additional funding. He explained that we are awaiting senior administration's approval for the funds transfer.

Visiting Scholars | A. Kusno named the visitors who spent time at YCAR in the past year: Ruth Pison (University of the Philippines – Patrick Alcedo), Jonathan Tardif (SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow CCGC project – Robin Roth); Yookyoung Lim (Architecture and Urban Research Institute, Korea – Laam Hae); Lianbin Dai (YCAR-CCKF Postdoctoral Fellow – Joan Judge); Piti Srivongchai (Khon Kaen University – UCRSEA); Ly Quoc Dang (Chiang Mai University – UCRSEA).

Research support | A. Kusno highlighted the funding received by Korea and Korean Diaspora scholars at York from the Academy of Korean Studies. The US\$1.1 million will support teaching and knowledge dissemination over the next five years under the theme of Korea in the World, the World in Korea. He congratulated the team. L. Hae noted A. Kusno efforts in getting the MOU signed by both sides.

A. Kusno reviewed current projects and programmes at the Centre, Publication Fund recipients. *See Appendix 1.*

YCAR Awards | A. Kusno reviewed the 2018 award winners, highlighting the new The Penny and John Van Esterik Award for Graduate Research on Southeast Asia. Sheila Htoo (Environmental Studies) is the inaugural recipient. A. Gayed and J. Fulton spoke about their awards and how the funds have supported their research.

Graduate Diploma in Asian Studies | Coordinator L. Hae reviewed the health of the diploma programme. Total enrollment is 45, 19 students took the core course in Winter 2018 and seven students graduated with the diploma over the past year. The course is consistently over enrolled though the majority of students are not enrolled in the GDAS. P. Kelly explained to the membership that the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies supports the diploma programme by mounting the course. No one programme would be willing to do so; it is currently crosslisted across six graduate programmes. Given its popularity, renewing the course should not be a problem when this issue is raised in the rechartering process.

A. Kusno reviewed the Centre's web site and social media health and activity. *See Appendix 1.*

A. Kusno reviewed the list of groups that the Centre and its Associates have engaged with over the past year.

Finances

A. Kusno introduced the 2017–2018 statements of operations and the proposed 2018.2019 budgets. Discussion of revenue sources.

Motion to approve the budgets for 2018–2019 and accept the draft statements of operation as tabled for 2017.2018 moved by D. O’Doherty and seconded by P. Kelly. No further discussion or objections. All in favour, none opposed, no abstentions.

2018.2019 Activities

A. Kusno briefly reviewed the Centre and the Associates’ plans for the coming year. *See Appendix 1*

The Next Five Years

A. Kusno talked about this vision for Asian studies at York. He envisions a transnational Asian studies hub that includes YCAR and other relevant offices at the university. He noted that it is still meaningful to organize around geography in conjunction with the actual themes, mentioning specifically south-south relations for South Asia, China studies and its various iterations as well as Southeast Asia. He asked the membership to consider fundraising possibilities for this plan. He noted the redevelopment of the External Advisory Council in the coming year.

Discussion questions related to 2020 rechartering, York International, the AKS grant, ways in which to get senior administration to release the aforementioned funding from ABMP, areas missing from the abovementioned geographic areas

A. Kusno ended by asking the membership to consider organizing their own initiative under YCAR.

Other Business

No other business

A. Kusno thanked all participants in attendance.

Motion to close the meeting moved by M. Stainton and seconded by B. Frolic. No discussion or objections. All in favour, none opposed. No abstentions.

Appendix 1 is available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/utagl0qpuybkjc3/Appendix%201%20for%20YCAR%202018%20AGM%20Minutes.pdf?dl=0>