POWER TO THE PEOPLE

A Research, Policy, & Community Conference

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 1
5:00 PM TO 8:00 PM
JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM
TATEUCHI DEMOCRACY FORUM
111 N. CENTRAL AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
“THE IN-BETWEENS: ASIAN AMERICANS AND SOLIDARITY IN THE ERA OF RESEGREGATION”
FEATURING JEFF CHANG WITH TANZILA “TAZ” AHMED

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 2
9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
UCLA LUSKIN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
2ND FLOOR
337 CHARLES E. YOUNG DR. E, LOS ANGELES, CA 90095
FULL DAY OF PLENARIES & WORKSHOPS ON CURRENT AAPI ISSUES
WELCOME

As the UCLA Asian American Studies Center (AASC) celebrates its 50th anniversary, the Center, along with the UCLA Asian American Studies Department and the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON), welcome you to our 2019 conference, “Power to the People”: 50 Years of Bridging Research with Community.

Thank you for joining us as we bring together diverse and intergenerational communities to appreciate the legacies, genealogies and futures of Asian American studies and communities. We hope you connect with many people and organizations today. With community engagement at the heart of the field, we strive to strengthen the connection between the university and community-based organizations. We encourage you all to discover how to bridge research and theory with our communities, as well as how to find ways to engage with current movements and issues.

Be sure to check out UCLA: Our Stories, Our Impact, a multimedia traveling exhibit sharing the stories of Bruins who have advanced equity and equality in America, that will be shown in the lobby of the Tateuchi Democracy Forum as well as in UCLA Luskin Commons Room 3383. Learn more about the exhibit at ourstoriesourimpact.irle.ucla.edu/.

Let us continue to build the power of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and work towards our collective futures - rooted in our histories, furthered by our communal experiences and research, and strengthened by our visions of social justice.

For more information on the conference, please visit aasc.ucla.edu/aasc50/conf19/.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Planning Group:
Victor Bascara, Karen Umemoto, Melany de la Cruz-Viesca, Barbra Ramos, Lauren Higa, Grace Lee, Meg Thornton, Manju Kulkarni, Nayon Kang, Tracy Zhao, Grant Sunoo, Amy Phillips, and Soo Mee Kim.

Special Thanks to Kylin Sakamoto, Greg Pancho, and Wendy Fujinami.

Organizers:
UCLA Asian American Studies Center
UCLA Asian American Studies Department
Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council

Venue Sponsor:
Japanese American National Museum

Co-sponsors:
UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs
UCLA College of Social Sciences
UCLA Institute of American Cultures
UCLA Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

FRIDAY, NOV. 1, 2019 | JANM Tateuchi Democracy Forum

SCHEDULE

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm  Reception & Viewing of UCLA: Our Stories, Our Impact
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm  Program with Jeff Chang and Taz Ahmed

The In-Betweens: Asian Americans and Solidarity in the Era of Resegregation will feature Jeff Chang (We Gon’ Be Alright author and Vice President of Narrative, Arts, and Culture at Race Forward) and Tanzila “Taz” Ahmed (Campaign Strategist at 18 Million Rising and 2019 UCLA Activist-in-Residence). Segments of Chang’s “We Gon’ Be Alright” digital series will be punctuated by conversation between Chang and Ahmed.
## Building Power | 9:45 - 10:30

2020 is a monumental year for Asian Americans and Pacific Islander communities. With the Census, state primary and national presidential elections and critical ballot measures all in play, it is imperative that AAPIs vote and engage civically. We need all hands on deck to ensure that we are all counted, that our voices are heard and American democracy represents our interests. This plenary will explain how students, faculty, advocates and others can get involved.

- **Manjusha Kulkarni**, Executive Director, Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON)
- **Natalie Masuoka**, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies and Political Science, UCLA

## Elevating Voices and Building Solidarities | 1:00 - 1:45

This panel will explore ways that Asian American Studies scholars, community-based organizations and policy makers can work collaboratively to elevate voices of API community members and marginalized groups more generally through research, advocacy on policy-making. We will discuss strategies to raise everyday voices, leverage research, build solidarities and create policy changes to address the most pressing needs of our communities and make people’s lives better.

- **Diane Fujino**, Professor of Asian American Studies, UC Santa Barbara
- **Chanchanit Martorell**, Founder and Executive Director, Thai Community Development Center
- **Karen Umemoto**, Helen and Morgan Chu Endowed Director’s Chair, Asian American Studies Center; Professor of Urban Planning and Asian American Studies, UCLA

## Alternative Imaginaries and Futures | 3:30 - 4:30

What does liberation look, feel, and sound like? Panelists will explore themes of economic solidarity, interdependence, memory, and language. This panel is an invitation to imagine what revolution means beyond the struggle. By exploring solidarity, relationships, and storytelling rooted in Asian and Pacific Islander ancestral, historical, and embodied traditions and their diasporas, we hope to inspire conference attendees to enact a post-revolutionary world today.

- **Meenadchi**, Trauma-Informed Nonviolent Communication
- **Yvonne Yen Liu**, Cofounder and Research Director, Solidarity Research Center
- **Tavae Samuelu**, Executive Director, Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)
- **Tracy Zhao**, Executive Director, API Equality-LA*  

\(^*\) indicates moderator
APIs and the Green New Deal Movement | Room 2343

The Green New Deal (GND) proposes to attack the climate change crisis and the crisis of economic and social inequality simultaneously. Addressing the climate crisis requires a massive, rapid transformation the economy, which also means hiring millions of people to do the work. Social and environmental justice call for prioritizing jobs for the people and places that need them the most. APIs, extending their longstanding struggles for justice, are supporting the GND as both national leaders and grassroots activists. Workshop speakers panelists represent organizations active in the movement. Join us!

- **Kiara Lee**, Progressive Asian Network for Action
- **Lisa Lei**, President, Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO, Los Angeles Chapter; UNITE HERE Local 11
- **Emily Reyes**, APALA and United Teachers of Los Angeles
- **Dean Toji**, Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council, Environmental Justice Committee*
- **Lynn Wang**, Sunrise Movement, Los Angeles Hub

Caring Across Generations | Room 2355

Whether it be a memory of an auntie watching over you as a child or, from the other side of the table, you, as an adult, navigating care for an aging parent, everyone has a “care story.” Together, these constitute a larger “care infrastructure.” At a systemic level, policymakers and community advocates work to strengthen systems intended to support family members and workers of this infrastructure. However, taking caregiving for granted paired with the sentiment that “Asian Americans take care of their own” make caregiving in the Asian American community no easy topic to discuss. This workshop will explore experiences of and initiatives for formal and informal caregivers; examine elderly care programs from an organizational standpoint; and formulate ways that we can uplift our intergenerational community.

- **Barbara Kim**, Professor of Asian & Asian American Studies, CSU Long Beach
- **Amy Philips**, Director of Senior Services, Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC)*
- **Aquilina Soriano-Versoza**, Executive Director, Pilipino Workers Center

Census 2020 | Room 2317

Every ten years, the Constitution requires the U.S. Census Bureau to count America’s population. With the upcoming 2020 Census, this workshop will provide Census basic definitions, myths, and an overview of the process. The census provides vital information for you and your community. Each year, the federal government distributes more than $675 billion to states and communities based on Census Bureau data. In 2020, new technology will allow you to respond online, as well as by phone and by mail. The workshop will also demo the U.S. Census Bureau’s Response Outreach Area Mapper (ROAM) tool developed to make it easy to identify hard-to-survey areas and California’s Hard-to-count interactive map.

- **Ivy Daulo**, Partnerships Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau
- **Melany De La Cruz-Viesca**, Associate Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center (AASC)*
- **Lily Anne Welty Tamai**, Lecturer of Asian American Studies, UCLA; U.S. Census Bureau National Advisory Committee

DisEDvantage: Barriers to AANHPI AMENSA Equity and Access | Room 4371

This workshop seeks to name key issues for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander and Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AANHPI AMENSA) students in education and how community organizations work to create equity and access for all.

- **Hammad Alam**, Attorney and Equal Justice Works Fellow, Asian Americans Advancing Justice-LA Impact Litigation Unit
- **Evyn Lê Espiritu Gandhi**, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies, UCLA*
- **Susana Sngiem**, Executive Director, United Cambodian Community
- **Donna Tang**, Education Equity Coordinator, Asian Americans Advancing Justice-LA Higher Education Unit*
- **Victor Thompson**, Executive Director, National Pacific Islander Education Network (NPIEN)

Introducing a Multi-Generational Domestic Violence Prevention Framework | Room 2319

Domestic Violence has been a significant issue for Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities; forty to sixty percent of API immigrant women have experienced domestic violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime. Beyond offering direct services for survivors of violence, a coalition of Los Angeles API organizations has sought to prevent future incidence of violence in our communities by identifying a multi-generational domestic violence prevention framework based upon a community assessment process and asset mapping project. Panelists will share findings and conclusions from the study and explain the next steps toward implementation of the prevention framework.

- **Connie Chong Joe**, Executive Director, Korean American Family Services (KFAM)
- **Brian Hui**, Special Service for Groups (SSG) Research and Evaluation
- **Debra Suh**, Executive Director, Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF)
- **Lee Ann Wang**, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies and Social Welfare, UCLA*

(*) indicates moderator
Migration, Resettlement, and Deportation | Room 4320
AAPI experiences with migration and community formation provide vital and needed perspectives on the ever contentious issue of immigration. This workshop will consider migration, resettlement, and deportation, with a particular emphasis on refugee communities. We will likely consider the relationship between geopolitical conditions and the lived experiences of migrants, refugees, and communities. From law and policy to trauma, resilience, and resistance, we plan to address diverse ways in which histories, experiences, conditions, and mobilizations are better understood through diverse forms of research to reframe entrenched debates and effectively serve communities.

Victor Bascara, Associate Professor and Chair of Asian American Studies, UCLA*
Jolie Chea, UC President’s Postdoc (UCR); Associate Professor of Asian American Studies, UCLA (2020)
Hiroshi Motomura, Professor of Law, UCLA
Cindy Sangalang, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies and Social Welfare, UCLA

Navigating Gentrification through the Intersection of Communities, Governance, and Research (Part I): What is Gentrification? | Room 4357
California is in a struggle for control over how to shape its landscape, which will have reverberating consequences for decades to come. This panel’s discussion centers on understanding ways that gentrification is defined and experienced by various communities, local governance, and research, contextualizing the conversation through recently discussed/proposed state senate bills that could impact everyday Asian American communities.

Emma Howard, Policy and Planning, Congressional District 4
Frances Huynh, Community Organizer, Chinatown Community for Equitable Development*
Soo Mee Kim, Lecturer of Sociology, CSU Los Angeles*
Chanchanit Martorell, Founder and Executive Director, Thai Community Development Center
Paul Ong, Professor of Urban Planning, Social Welfare, and Asian American Studies, Institute on the Environment and Sustainability, UCLA; Director, Center for Neighborhood Knowledge (CNK)
Sissy Trinh, Founder and Executive Director, Southeast Asian Community Alliance

APIs and Mental Health: Why Don't We Ask For Help? | Room 2355
This workshop will engage mental health experts from across the API community to discuss strategies for improving our communities’ access to care. Topics will include general strategies for outreach and engagement, working with specific populations, and the university experience.

Mihae Jung, Community Advocacy Director, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
Saeromi Kim, Assistant Clinical Director, UCLA Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
Mariko Kahn, Executive Director, Pacific Asian Counseling Services

API HTTF: Fighting Human Trafficking Through Collaboration | Room 2317
The Asian Pacific Islander Human Trafficking Task Force was formed in 2016 in response to increasing numbers of victimization among API foreign nationals in the United States. As the first API task force in the nation, our organizations support victims of human trafficking, as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. Identified victims receive free social, legal, and mental health services from linguistically and culturally competent organizations based in the greater Los Angeles area. This panel will discuss trends in human trafficking and case studies from Pilipino Worker Center and Thai Community Development Center to highlight what the fight against human trafficking looks like today.

Lucy Burns, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies, UCLA*
Panida Musikawong Rzonca, Directing Attorney, Thai Community Development Center
Paul Ong, Professor of Urban Planning, Social Welfare, and Asian American Studies, Institute on the Environment and Sustainability, UCLA; Director, Center for Neighborhood Knowledge (CNK)
Brenton Inouye, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Census 2020 II | Room 4320
How do we ensure an inclusive and complete count of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders? This session will discuss the coordinated efforts between the statewide AAPI Complete Count Committee led by Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Los Angeles, the local AAPI Complete Count Committee led by the Asian Pacific Policy Planning Council (A3PCON), UCLA Asian American Studies, and other stakeholders. We will discuss how to reach undercounted and diverse communities, practice various scenarios, and craft messaging around the Census to develop targeted outreach for the AAPI community.

Melany De La Cruz-Viesca, Associate Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center (AASC)*
Manjusha Kulkarni, Executive Director, Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON)
An Le, 2020 Census Advisor, Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON)
Natalie Masuoka, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies and Political Science, UCLA
Evolution of Asian American LGBTQ+ Community-Based Research: Exploring Capacity-Building and Collaboration | Room 4371

This workshop will discuss the historical context for Asian American LGBTQ+ community-based research, its relationship to Asian American Studies, and how to envision the future of researcher and community collaborations. Panelists will discuss the research and evaluation needs of Asian American LGBTQ+ CBOs through the topics of: community needs assessments, mental health issues, youth development, teaching pedagogy, and perspectives of graduate students and academic researchers. Panelists and workshop participants will discuss how researchers can offer collaboration, resources, and technical assistance to CBOs and grassroots groups seeking to further an Asian American LGBTQ+ community research agenda.

James Huynh, PhD Student, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, Community Health Sciences Dept; Board Member, Vietnamese Rainbow of Orange Count (VROC)
Kay Lam, Volunteer, API Equality-LA; MA Student, UCLA School of Education
Gina Masequesmay, Professor of Asian American Studies, CSU Northridge*
Rashmi Choksey, Founding Member and Advisor, Satrang

Housing and Homelessness in the AAPI Community | Room 2343

The housing crisis in the Los Angeles region will certainly have a disproportionate impact on AAPI communities. People in these already vulnerable communities are facing displacement due to rapidly rising rents. Furthermore, the pressures created by the hot real estate market are also contributing to a homelessness crisis in our neighborhoods. This panel will look beyond supply-side “build our way out of it” solutions and explore policy issues, strategies, solutions, and a local case study related to AAPI homelessness and housing.

Daniel Huynh, Vice President, Real Estate-LA Family Housing
Jane Nguyen, Founder, Ktown for All; Board Member, Invisible People
Grant Sunoo, Director of Planning, Little Tokyo Service Center*
Ananya Roy, Professor of Urban Planning, UCLA; Director, Institute on Inequality and Democracy

Labor Organizing | Room 2319

Labor organizing has long been a crucial and formative means through which AAPI communities have cohered and acted to bring about meaningful change. This workshop addresses the challenges and opportunities of current, past, and future conditions of labor organizing. Drawing on the experiences and expertise of the panelists and the group, our discussion will likely consider emerging forms of precarity, protest, and policy in the strategies facing workers and organizers. A particular focus will be on the role of diverse forms of research in effective and innovative labor organizing, from the local to the national to the global/transnational.

Victor Bascara, Associate Professor and Chair of Asian American Studies, UCLA*
Jennifer Chun, Associate Professor of Asian American Studies, UCLA
Lisa Fu, California Healthy Nail Salon Collective
Betty Hung, Staff Director, UCLA Labor Center

Navigating, Gentrification through the Intersection of Communities, Governance, and Research (Part II): Current and Future Movements | Room 4357

Recent proposed state senate bills and local measures reveal ruptures between various bodies of power, as well as diverse sets of communities. This panel centers on how CBOs, local government, and researchers have been approaching gentrification and its effects on various communities, as well as how each envision plans to navigate gentrification respectively and collectively.

Kristin Fukushima, Managing Director, Little Tokyo Community Council
Kris Chan, Community Organizer, Chinatown Community for Equitable Development
Nick Greif, Chief of Staff, Office of Los Angeles City Councilmember David Ryu
Frances Huynh, Community Organizer, Chinatown Community for Equitable Development*
Steve S. Kang, Director of External Affairs, Koreatown Youth and Community Center
Soo Mee Kim, Lecturer of Sociology, CSU Los Angeles*
For the first 35 years of Asian American Studies (AAS) at UCLA, the Asian American Studies Center (AASC) ably guided and administered AAS courses and curriculum for the campus, as well as provided faculty and student support for our ever growing field, in addition to the AASC’s diverse, abundant, and growing research and civic engagement activities. With all this growth of AAS came the desire and the opportunity to further establish Asian American Studies at UCLA. And so AAS faculty and staff, with students, alumni, and community members, devoted years of strategic mobilizing that led to the successful establishment, in 2004, of a UCLA Department of Asian American Studies (AASD). With departmentalization, AAS at UCLA added needed staff and space resources, and we also achieved more capacities for growing and supporting our academic personnel, students, curricula, and degree programs. These new developments therefore brought further growth and support for our ability to shape the future of our field at UCLA and beyond, as the AASD, together with the AASC, continue our work toward transformative change through research, teaching, service, contributions to diversity, and community engagement. We are proud to note that, starting in 2020, the AASD will reach an all-time high of 20 core faculty in the Department, including our new junior faculty who are rising to guide our field for the next generations and manifestations of our growth and community engagement.
Established in 1969, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center (AASC) is a national research center advancing historical, transformative and interdisciplinary scholarship and bridging research with community concerns. The Center grew out of the social movements of the 1960s, as students called for greater access to higher education that would help address vital issues in their lives.

Today, UCLA is recognized as the premier research and teaching institution in the fields of Asian American Studies and Ethnic Studies. The Center’s mission is to gather, produce and disseminate knowledge of the lives of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders through research, documentation, publications and civic engagement. We are partners with the UCLA Asian American Studies Department, established in 2004. Together through research, teaching and service, we seek to empower communities and the next generation of change agents to counter historic injustices and positively shape our futures.

Major contributions:
- Sponsors and co-sponsors an average of 30 educational events annually
- Publishes Amerasia Journal (since 1971) with over 2,500 institutional subscribers internationally
- Publishes AAPI Nexus Journal (since 2003) searchable through over 2,500 institutions internationally
- Informs policy through applied research and publications, including more than 25 books and over 100 reports
- Maintains the largest Asian American Studies Library and archives in US
- Houses 6 Endowed Chaired Professorships
- Awards over 30 scholarships, research awards, internships and academic prizes annually
- Administers Institute of American Cultures Fellowship Programs and Research Grants
- Trains students in filmmaking through EthnoCommunications
- Trains students in research, archives and community engagement through programs and activities
- Partners with community and civic organizations on major research projects
- Addresses social issues in partnership with local and national organizations

As we move into the next 50 years of Asian American Studies, we look forward to working in partnership with other institutions, agencies and community organizations to address critical issues of our time. Thank you for your participation and continued support! We hope to see you at our other anniversary events.

MARK YOUR 2020 CALENDARS!

WKND 1: MARCH 6-8
WKND 2: MARCH 13-15
WKND 3: MARCH 20-21

FEATURING
SCREENINGS PERFORMANCES RECEPTIONS
Panel Discussions Interactive Activities

TOPICS
Asian American Activism UCLA Alumnus 365
Documenting Community Food & Family
Immigration & Xenophobia AAPI LGBTQ+
Restorative Justice AAPI Cult Cinema
Pacific Cine Waves Asian American Icons
Creating (Music, Art & Dance)
Mental Health & Wellness

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