

# CROSSCURRENTS

2022 EDITION



UCLA ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

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As the newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, **CrossCurrents** keeps readers informed of Center activities, including academic programs, research projects, student achievements, and relevant university and community issues. **CrossCurrents** also covers important events and projects related to Asian American Studies and communities, but not directly sponsored by the Center. Past issues can be found on the Center's website.

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COVER IMAGE: Student assistants and student researchers gather with some staff members for an end of the year lunch in the UCLA Sculpture Garden during the summer (UCLA AASC).



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## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Center Director Karen Umemoto  
(UCLA Luskin)

We are cautiously emerging from the pandemic as 2022 comes to a close and 2023 begins. I would like to give special thanks to all of the staff, faculty affiliates, student assistants, interns and donors who have weathered many difficulties yet continued to advance our collective work. We hope you enjoy some of the highlights in these pages of *CrossCurrents*.

When the pandemic struck our communities, we immediately conducted research to examine the damages and develop recommendations to inform an equitable recovery through our **AAPI Policy Initiative**. When anti-Asian hate and racial violence spread across the nation, we began mobilizing experts across the country to create curriculum so every student can learn who we are in the fullness of our humanity through the **AAPI Multimedia Textbook**. And in this era of racial reckoning, we helped to advance Pacific Islander concerns through providing feedback and support of the **Chancellor's Native American and Pacific Islander Bruins Rising Initiative**.

We ramped up these efforts on top of the ongoing work of the Center – **archival projects, publications, public programs, fellowships, scholarships, visiting scholars, and more**. Thanks to you and our dedicated community at UCLA, our work continues to be impactful.

With warm regards,

**Karen Umemoto**

Helen and Morgan Chu Endowed Director's Chair  
of the Asian American Studies Center



# AASC RECEIVES \$10 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING TO SUPPORT OPEN-ACCESS EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center was honored to be awarded \$10 million in state funding for the **Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPM) Multimedia Textbook**. This major support will be instrumental in furthering key content development and expanding the reach of the project over the next few years.

Curated by members and scholars of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, the textbook is an open-access, online platform with flexible lesson modules, activities, and materials for students in high school and college, as well as lifelong learners. Chapters will highlight the histories, struggles, cultures and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

Center Director **Karen Umemoto** said that “the textbook will be the most comprehensive, scholar-informed, online history of AAPMs that redefines the American narrative and opens unlimited possibilities for building a just, multiracial and democratic future.”

The textbook comes at an important time as ethnic studies became a graduation requirement for all public high schools, California State University campuses and community colleges in the state. Other states such as Illinois, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Jersey also have requirements to teach AAPM history at the elementary and high school levels.

“There will be a tremendous need for high-quality curricula that reflect cutting-edge Asian American studies scholarship and pedagogy with learning outcomes that will equip future leaders to build a more just and equitable future,” said **Dr. Kelly Fong**, co-director of the project and a lecturer in UCLA’s Asian American Studies department.



The one-time funding from the 2022-2023 California budget provides an infrastructure to support broad curriculum development as well as aid in the procurement of multimedia materials, build and test a new online learning platform and launch a national training program for

teachers and school districts. The Center will also use the funds to evaluate and refine the content for future editions.

The Center is deeply grateful for the support of the State Senate and State Assembly budget committees along with Governor Gavin Newsom and the entire Asian American Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus.

*The Asian American Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus played a key role in securing this major support. A few of the members shared their support and enthusiasm for the project.*

“This AAPM Multimedia Textbook produced by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center will provide an authoritative and invaluable resource for California high schools and colleges as we prepare for the teaching of ethnic studies throughout the state. I look forward to continuing to collaborate with UCLA to ensure that Asian American and Pacific Islander history and perspectives are properly taught in our classrooms.”

- **Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi**

“The work that Dr. Umemoto and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center is doing is more important than ever. The increase in anti-AAPM hate crimes is an indication of the lack of understanding and appreciation for the contributions made by our community to California and our nation. I am grateful for the support from the AAPM Legislative Caucus, the legislature and the governor, and I look forward to seeing the final product of the AAPM Multimedia Textbook project.”

- **Assemblymember Mike Fong**

“As California requires ethnic studies for high school graduation, the Asian American Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus secured funding for the AAPM Multimedia Textbook, which brings together distinguished scholarship, open access technology and ethnic studies pedagogy as a critical resource to teach AAPM history. We are thankful to the UCLA Asian American Studies Center for leading the project and look forward to its widespread use.”

- **State Senator Richard Pan**

“For decades, Asian American and Pacific Islander communities have been longing to be seen and heard. In my experience growing up, I didn’t learn anything about AAPM history in school. It’s as if we didn’t exist, which contributes to perceptions that we don’t belong in America. Inclusion in textbooks and lessons are key to fostering greater understanding and acceptance, and I’m happy to champion state funding that help us reach those goals.”

- **Assemblymember Phil Ting**



**LEARN** | For more information on the AAPM Multimedia Textbook, visit <https://www.aasc.ucla.edu/textbook>.

# AAPI MULTIMEDIA TEXTBOOK

As one of the Center's core projects, the **AAPI Multimedia Textbook** is developing at a rapid pace! We asked two team members to give us a little more insight into it as it continues to grow.



## KELLY FONG

Co-Project Director  
UCLA Archaeology PhD, Asian American Studies Graduate Concentration '13

**Kelly Fong (KF)** has taught Asian American Studies in the California State University and University of California systems over the past 10 years. She has been a lecturer with the UCLA Asian American Studies Department since 2014. She began working on this project with Center Director Karen Umemoto in 2020.



## LAUREN HIGA

Content Manager  
UCLA Asian American Studies MA & Masters of Social Work '21

**Lauren Higa (LH)** is a mixed, third-generation Filipina-Okinawan American from the San Gabriel Valley. She holds joint graduate degrees in Asian American Studies and Social Work from UCLA and joined the project team in 2021.

### What are you most excited about the project?

**KF:** When I teach lower division Asian American Studies (AAS) courses, students often ask me why they had to wait until college to learn histories of their own communities. I'm excited to help move AAS beyond universities and into the hands of teachers, high school students and lifelong learners. Relevant histories should be accessible to everyone, not just in college classrooms.

**LH:** I'm most excited at the potential for the impact of having Asian American Studies content and pedagogy at the high school level. I found ethnic studies as an undergraduate, and it totally transformed how I thought about the world and my place in it. I'm thrilled at the prospect of more young people being armed with knowledge centered on their communities and the critical tools to engage with and transform the world around them.

### What is one thing that you have learned or discovered through/from this project that has surprised you?

**KF:** In connecting with scholars, teachers, students, organizations, and more for this project, I have been surprised and energized by the sheer level of enthusiasm for the project. It has helped reinforce what we already know - Ethnic Studies and AAS is needed more than ever and it is needed right now.

**LH:** I've been surprised—in the best way—at all of the support the project has gotten thus far. The educators we've talked with are hungry for this content in their classrooms and asking how soon they can beta test. Scholars and curriculum developers are excited to take on chapters. Different archives and institutions from across the country have connected with us to see how they can take part. The energy is good all around.

### What do you hope people learn from the project?

**KF:** I hope this project helps raise awareness about AAPI histories and community experiences, which remain widely under-taught in mainstream history narratives. Additionally, I hope this project becomes a starting place to empower AAPI teachers and learners with knowledge about their histories, their communities, and themselves.

**LH:** From this project, I hope that people begin to see the AAPI community in its beautiful, nuanced multiplicity, which I think is at the heart of why we call this a "narrative change" project. Along the lines of what Viet Thanh Nguyen calls "narrative plentitude," we're fighting against a scarcity of stories that can pin a single (and often damaging) idea to the whole AAPI community. In this, we hope to share many histories — the facts, if you will — in order to showcase how expansive the AAPI community is. In showing readers that "AAPI" is not one thing through these stories, we also challenge them to understand that these different realities all exist at the same time, even if under a single name.



**WATCH |** Check out Kelly and Lauren, along with Stan Yogi, presenting a preview of the AAPI Multimedia Textbook at the Teaching for Justice Conference at <https://teacheracademy.uci.edu/teaching-for-justice-conference-a-spotlight-on-teaching-asian-american-studies-across-the-curriculum/>.

# ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER POLICY INITIATIVE

Building Solutions for an  
Equitable Future

## Research Briefs

This year the **Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Policy Initiative** released research briefs to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and to offer paths to recovery and positive change. Research areas include: AANHPI Data Equity and Disaggregation; Anti-Asian Hate Creative Project Activities; Arts; Combating Hate; Economic Recovery; Healthcare Access and Equity; and Immigrant Protections and Policies. See the list of titles and contributors below and visit the AAPI Policy Initiative website to learn more.

**READ |** Check out the briefs at  
<https://www.aasc.ucla.edu/aapipolicy/>.



- **Closing the Care Gap: Understanding Asian American and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Youth At-Risk for Suicide in Los Angeles County**  
*Belinda C. Chen, Joyce H. L. Lui, Lisa A. Benson, Yen-Jui R. Lin, Ninez A. Ponce, Anna S. Lau*
- **Filipino American Essential & Frontline Workers Battling Multiple Crises: COVID-19, Economic Inequality, and Racism**  
*Cindy C. Sangalang, Marisa Montoya, Samantha R. Macam, Audrey Chan, Madonna P. Cadiz, Romeo Hebron, Jr.*
- **Unmasking COVID-19 in the Pacific: Funding Equity for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Community-Based Organizations and the COVID-19 Pandemic**  
*'Alisi T. Tulua, Savenaca Vakatawa Gasaiwai, Rev. Pausa Kaio "PK" Thompson, Audrey Aofia Kawaiopua Alo, Christopher Kodiak Alvord, Kevin Escudero*
- **Unmasking COVID-19 in the Pacific: Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Communities Require Language Translation Resources and Services to Mitigate Their Status as the Most Affected Population by the COVID-19 Pandemic**  
*Neritha Kelani Silk, Heidi Chargualaf Quenga, Kiana M.K. Keli'i, Tia Aga Tevaseu, Karla B. Thomas, Keith L. Camacho*
- **Unmasking COVID-19 in the Pacific: Standardizing Disaggregated Racial and Ethnic Data Collection and Reporting Practices to Ensure Equity and to Accurately Reflect California's Diversity**  
*Richard Calvin Chang, Kawika Liu, Corina S. Penaia, Nikki M.S. Wong*
- **Community-led Disaster Relief for Excluded Immigrant Workers: Addressing Policy Gaps and Strengthening Community Infrastructure**  
*AJ Kim, Jennifer Jihye Chun*
- **COVID-19 Pandemic Employment Impacts on Asian Americans**  
*Paul Ong, Chhandara Pech, Darlene Medrano*
- **COVID-19 Pandemic Housing Impacts on Disadvantaged Asian Americans**  
*Paul Ong, Chhandara Pech*
- **The Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Korean American Small Businesses**  
*Kyeyoung Park*
- **Anti-AAPI Racism in Immigration and Criminal Law**  
*Hiroshi Motomura, Astghik Hairapetian*
- **The State of Undocumented Young Adults in California: The Health, Social, and Economic Impacts of COVID-19 between 2020-2022**  
*May Sudhinaraset, Hye Young Choi, Ezinne Nwankwo, Michelle Kao Nakphong, Annie Ro*
- **Support Asian American Theatres and Reach Thousands of Constituents**  
*Sean Metzger, Janine Sun Rogers*
- **Longitudinal Trends of Hate Crimes Targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles County, 2012–2020**  
*Maggie Seay, Karen Umemoto*

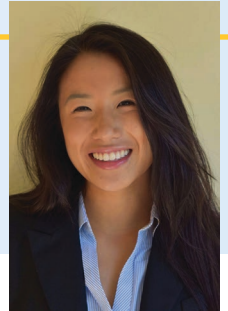


The **Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Policy Initiative** features research from faculty, researchers, and students across disciplines. This work could not be done without the extraordinary work of these brilliant scholars. Here we highlight one student, Belinda Chen, who served as a lead author for research done with Professor Anna Lau.

## GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

### BELINDA CHEN

PhD Student  
Program: Clinical Psychology



**Belinda Chen** is a third-year clinical psychology PhD student working under the guidance of **Dr. Anna Lau** in the Culture and Race/Ethnicity in Youth Mental Health (CARE) Lab at UCLA. Prior to graduate school, Belinda's work in the healthcare industry and in clinical intervention research gave her an acute awareness of how structural inequity in the nation's mental health systems disproportionately impacts marginalized individuals (e.g. individuals of color, individuals living in poverty) and their communities. Inspired to find ways to increase access to high-quality, evidence-based mental health services for these groups, Belinda started her research in graduate school on an AASC-funded project studying youth who had experienced a psychiatric emergency (e.g. self-harm, suicide attempt and received care from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health [LACDMH]).

Belinda led two research projects using LACDMH data: one project examined how a child's neighborhood (racial composition, access to social determinants of health, opportunity gaps) impacted the occurrence of psychiatric emergencies, while another examined gaps in the receipt of ongoing therapeutic care for youth of color after they experienced a psychiatric emergency. Her results revealed numerous racialized inequities in both the incidence of youth psychiatric emergencies (e.g. neighborhoods with Black youth witnessed more psychiatric emergencies) and in children's receipt of necessary mental healthcare (e.g. Asian American and Pacific Islander youth received the least amount of ongoing therapy after a psychiatric emergency), leading her to question how healthcare providers' implicit biases might impact care for youth holding marginalized identities. Currently, Belinda is working on a project examining whether first responder biases lead to disproportionate involuntary hospitalization of youth of color and youth who live in low opportunity neighborhoods.

First funded by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, Belinda's projects that are currently being published in peer-reviewed journals (*Clinical Psychology Science*, *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*) have led to the creation of policy reports to inform decision-making around mental health policy in California. They have also been funded by the National Science Foundation, UCLA Graduate Division, and the UCLA Racial and Social Justice seed grant.

*Through my work thus far, I have learned that scientific research can powerfully elevate the voices of marginalized communities that may have been historically overlooked or mistreated. Not only can research be a powerful medium to document historic injustices, it can also be the tool that identifies the most effective way to ameliorate them. Furthermore, by engaging in my graduate work, I have formed lifelong friendships and met thoughtful and compassionate collaborators who have pushed my critical thinking and personal growth beyond what I ever imagined possible. By prioritizing precise scientific inquiry, collaborative, interdisciplinary partnerships, and effective communication around and public dissemination of research findings, I have come to believe that one person can make a lasting impact on tackling society's most pressing concerns.*





Marjorie Lee

(Courtesy of Marjorie Lee; by J. Michael Kwok)

## MARJORIE LEE

AASC Librarian, Information Specialist, and Archivist

UCLA BA East Asian Studies, MA Asian American Studies, and Master of Library and Information Sciences

Marjorie “Marji” Lee has been collecting, preserving, and honoring the history and heritage of Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders at the Center for over 35 years. Some of her many accomplishments include a more than 25-year search for and archiving of evidentiary records verifying Chinese American veterans’ World War II (WWII) military service, as well as serving as a consultant to the Asian Division of the Library of Congress, and editing *Duty & Honor*, a compilation of military records and photos that documented WWII military contributions of Southern California’s Chinese Americans.

This year she was honored at the Chinese American Museum’s annual Historymakers Gala with the 2022 Heritage Keeper Award. In addition, she was recognized as one of PBS SoCal and KCET’s Local Heroes, especially for her work as co-chair of the all-volunteer Southern California Regional Committee of Chinese American Citizens Alliance Los Angeles (CACA LA).

Congratulations to Marji on these well-deserved recognitions! Below we share her remarks as she accepted the Heritage Keeper Award from the Chinese American Museum (CAM/CAMLA).

*Family, Friends, Colleagues, Comrades, CAM—*

*CAMLA’s recognition of my milestones called to mind many individuals from several villages who must be held responsible for achieving those milestones. I’m not referring to the villages in Toisan, Sunwui, Hoiping, Enping, and elsewhere in the Pearl River Delta. Rather—I’m speaking of my homestead in Los Angeles.*

*The UCLA Asian American Studies Center—I’m grateful for the space to grow my mind, critique my core ethics and faith, and refine leadership and teambuilding skillsets. What I have valued most about my work is that I can boldly practice my library and archival profession as means to serve and preserve Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities in America.*

*The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California—I know you are represented all over this ballroom and you know who you are! Our Center was and remains grateful to the Society for partnering with us to do community research and documentation over the years. The Society first embraced me as a graduate student, and it was there my fascination with garages and junk rooms took root. The Society and Center have undertaken several partnered efforts—one of which was to mount a community research documentation project to seek out and search for Chinese Americans who served in the US military during WWII. It did not occur to us how much it would take to wake the community up from decades of silence and perplexing memory lapse. Can you believe we were successful without the aid of email, internet, and digital imaging!?!*

*Duty & Honor restored dignity and recognition to WWII vets in Southern California. But what I never imagined was how it would pave the way 25 years later for the Chinese American Citizens Alliance—along with a remarkable host of constituents—to inspire remarkable resonance throughout America for a successful lobby and advocacy all the way to the White House for national Congressional recognition. CACA’s Los Angeles Lodge was charged to contact and distribute Congressional Gold Medals*

*to the more than 470 CGM-eligible Southern California Chinese American WWII veterans—in less than 2 pandemic years. Thank you—CACA LA—for allowing me and our Center to be part of this overdue historic achievement.*

*Last but certainly not least I must acknowledge the 2 villages closest to my soul: my family and my family friends. They fed me, got me to laugh, and bore conscience to mind my health and wellness. They have also kicked me up-side the head when necessary to put my feet back on ground, and put me back together each time I’d gotten gravely ill, broken, and then some.*

*Gratitude to Dad who as my heritage-keeper hero suffered beyond word and expression due to tragic family loss in China. WWII prevented him from rescuing his children now alone. But he remained resolute, established a new family in Southern California, and immediately upon war’s ending headed for China to claim his eldest two to join his younger two in America. His family was now complete, and he promised them all a safe, literate, and thriving Angeleno heritage. No longer to be carved in silence.*



Marjorie Lee (in red) at the CAM gala with UCLA librarian colleague Norma Corral (bottom left) and some of Marji’s former assistants and current colleagues (starting counterclockwise from Marji) - Aidan Yun, Jamie Chan, Daniel Kim, Roy Nakano, Susie Ling, Tom Nguyen, and Kim Yamasaki. (Photo courtesy of Roy Nakano)



# NATIVE AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER BRUINS RISING INITIATIVE

In June, the Chancellor announced the **Native American and Pacific Islander Bruins Rising Initiative**, which aims to promote lasting change, deepen support for UCLA's Native American and Pacific Islander communities, and positively impact campus.

Developed in collaboration with UCLA's American Indian and Pacific Islander x Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Group, this initiative will provide a comprehensive approach to furthering equity and inclusivity through efforts to diversify and support student, faculty and staff populations.

As part of the initiative, initial commitments were made, grouped into these three themes:

- Advance UCLA's intellectual community devoted to Native American and Pacific Islander peoples
- Support inclusive and equitable student experiences
- Provide meaningful support for staff

This initiative represents a major commitment to support American Indian and Pacific Islander research, teaching and

community engagement at UCLA. The UCLA Asian American Studies Center is proud to have been a part of the coalition of students, staff and faculty who worked with the EDI office under the support of the Chancellor's Office to make this initiative a possibility.

Due to these efforts, resources were provided for two faculty searches focused on Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian communities. First is an open-rank position with the Asian American Studies Department in Pacific Islander Studies. The second is a tenure-track assistant professor position with the Department of Community Health Sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health that will focus on Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian communities. The Center is providing support for these two 2022-23 faculty searches.



Stay tuned for updates and read more of the Chancellor's message at:

<https://chancellor.ucla.edu/messages/announcing-the-native-american-and-pacific-islander-bruins-rising-initiative/>.

## MITCHELL CHANG APPOINTED ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

A UCLA alumnus, **Mitchell Chang '96** is a professor of education in the School of Education and Information Studies and the Department of Asian American Studies and a nationally recognized scholar whose research focuses on the educational efficacy of diversity-related initiatives on college campuses. He also serves on AASC's faculty advisory committee.

As AVC, Chang aims "to contribute to improving the environment to maximize educational opportunities and experiences at UCLA. This is obviously a community that I care a lot about and I feel some responsibility for taking care of it, so I want to leave it in much better shape than I came into it 30 years ago. I don't see myself as a temporary member of this community, but as a permanent one, and as a permanent member, you ought to care about your community and try to make it better."

In an interview with UCLA Newsroom, he stated that "the overarching purpose of universities is to offer a vibrant intellectual



Mitchell Chang (UCLA).



space to seek truth by engaging with and building upon the existing knowledge base, and then sharing that knowledge. UCLA does this best when we bring together people who hold different viewpoints and perspectives shaped by different experiences and backgrounds. Such a diverse setting increases the chances that we will look and think beyond our limited sphere of association and be exposed to and challenged by the most thought-provoking ideas, pressing problems, and strongest evidence. This kind of exposure not only expands and sharpens our own thinking but also helps us better recognize shared interests, which leads us to forge deeper bonds across difference to offer new discoveries and innovative solutions."



**READ** | Check out a Q&A with AVC Chang by the UCLA Newsroom at <https://newsroom.ucla.edu/stories/q-a-mitchell-chang-EDI>.

## JULIE HA

UCLA BA English-American Studies '94

**Julie Ha's** storytelling career spans more than two decades in ethnic and mainstream media, with a specialized focus on Asian American stories. She was the former editor-in-chief of *KoreAm Journal*, a national Korean American magazine. She was honored this year as one of the 2022 K.W. Lee Spirit Awardees alongside her fellow filmmaker Eugene Yi. ***Free Chul Soo Lee***, which premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival, is her first documentary film. The Center is proud to have sponsored the film's production.

### What drew you to create this film?

The seeds to make this film were planted at the funeral of **Chol Soo Lee** in 2014. I had attended the funeral to write an obituary about Chol Soo Lee for a Korean American magazine and also to check on my longtime mentor, **K.W. Lee**, the journalist whose series of stories helped trigger the movement to free Chol Soo Lee. K.W. was in terrible anguish after Chol Soo died. He had become almost a father figure to Chol Soo and had never expected to outlive him.

While at the funeral, I felt this emotion in the space that was beyond grief; there was an overwhelming heaviness. At one point, K.W. stood up and, while clutching this Buddhist monk's walking stick that Chol Soo had carved for him, he questioned why the story of Chol Soo Lee had gone "underground," essentially been forgotten. This was a landmark and successful pan-Asian American social justice movement—the first of its kind—and it was not even being taught in Asian American studies classes in U.S. colleges and universities. It was at risk of staying buried in history.

My co-director Eugene Yi and I could not allow that to happen. We previously worked together as journalists and share a passion for telling complex Asian American-centered stories with nuance and depth. We knew it was our generational responsibility to free the story of Chol Soo Lee and, together with an amazing team, make this important film.

### How has the reception to this film been?

The reception has been incredible—beyond what our film team ever could have imagined. After having its world premiere at Sundance in January, the film has been screened throughout the U.S., as well as in Korea, Germany, Hong Kong, and the United Kingdom, and it continues to spread far and wide. The film is currently streaming on mubi.com and will have its public TV broadcast premiere on PBS' *Independent Lens* in April of 2023.

It's been really heartening to see audiences embrace the story of Chol Soo Lee so deeply and profoundly. People are often in tears after they watch the film. Many say they have never heard this story before and thank our team for making this film. They connect to Chol Soo's pain and his struggle, but also to his resilience. They also are inspired by the compassion and righteousness of K.W. Lee and the Asian American activists

*Free Chul Soo Lee* narrator **Sebastian Yoon** (left) with directors **Julie Ha** and **Eugene Yi** at CAAMFest for the film's San Francisco premiere in May 2022. (Courtesy of Julie Ha)



who led this movement of resistance that managed to do the impossible: to overturn two murder convictions in our American criminal justice system and to free a man from death row. And their shining examples are especially resonant now, as we're confronting this disturbing wave of anti-Asian violence; in this atmosphere, it can feel like we're helpless or powerless. This history tells us otherwise.

I also want to mention that what's been so rewarding is to see how the people who lived this story have told us that they feel like Chol Soo, in a way, spoke to them through this film. For some, it's even provided a sense of peace and closure. After watching the film, K.W. Lee said: "At last, Chol Soo Lee is free."

### What do you hope people learn from the film?

K.W. Lee has said, "People without a history are hollow." With this film, we wanted to arm people with this incredible history — of an unlikely movement that formed around a poor Korean immigrant street kid, who was no model minority. Chol Soo in fact had already had brushes with the criminal justice system by the time of his unjust conviction. And yet a group of people — young and old, politically conservative and politically radical — looked at Chol Soo Lee and deemed him worthy of their time, attention, love and care. They united in unprecedented fashion and formed a movement in his name. I think that's such a powerful statement that they demonstrated, and a lesson we can be inspired by today.

So, after watching this film, if you find yourself aching for this stranger, Chol Soo Lee, then lean into that empathy. How will his story move you or change you? Will you allow it to affect the way you vote, the causes you support, the values with which you raise your children, perhaps even your career? Will you think about the other Chol Soo Lee's in society, who need our help. Armed with this history, hopefully new generations can carve out a meaningful legacy for Chol Soo Lee.

## About Free Chul Soo Lee

Sentenced to death for a lurid 1973 San Francisco murder, Korean immigrant **Chol Soo Lee** was set free after a pan-Asian solidarity movement of Korean, Japanese, and Chinese Americans helped to overturn his conviction. After 10 years of fighting for his life inside San Quentin, Lee found himself in a new fight to rise to the expectations of the people who believed in him.



**LEARN |** For more information on the film, visit <https://www.fcsl-film.com/>.

Left to right: Free Chul Soo Lee co-directors **Julie Ha** and **Eugene Yi**, narrator **Sebastian Yoon**, and producers **Su Kim** and **Jean Tsien**, at the film's New York theatrical premiere in August 2022. (Courtesy of Julie Ha)

## ALUMINI NEWS

UPDATES FROM AASC AND UCLA AAPI ALUMNI

Alumni **OiYan Poon '10**, **Janelle Wong '95**, and **Mike Hoa Nguyen '14, '19** along with **Liliana Garces** co-authored and filed amicus briefs supporting diversity and race-conscious admissions for Supreme Court cases *SFFA v. Harvard* and *SFFA v. UNC*.

**Scott Kurashige '96, '00** became the Executive Director of the American Studies Association.

**Sefa Aina '97** (and former AASC staff) was the Commencement Speaker for the 2022 Asian American Studies Department Graduation at UCLA.

**Michelle Magalong '03, '17** was promoted to assistant professor of historic preservation at the University of Maryland after serving as a Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow at their School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

**J. Lorenzo Perillo '13** was promoted to associate professor of dance in the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

**Trinh Le '06** joined the Stop AAPI Hate team as their Director of Community Capacity.

**Christine Najung Lee (Huang)** joined the Asian Youth Center as the Deputy Director.

2014-2015 IAC Visiting Scholar **Margaret Rhee** is now an assistant professor of media studies at The New School.

**Kristina Wong '00** was a 2022 Pulitzer Prize finalist in Drama for her work *Kristina Wong, Sweatshop Overlord*. She is also the first recipient of the Joan D. Firestone Commission from En Garde Arts, which she will use for a new work on food insecurity.

**Katherine Cho '20** joined the faculty of Loyola University Chicago as an assistant professor in higher education.

**Amy Uyematsu** released a book of poetry entitled *That Blue Trickster Time* and participated in the *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books.

**Mike Fong '99** was elected as the California State Assemblymember for District 49, serving the San Gabriel Valley, and as the Assembly Vice Chair of the AAPI Legislative Caucus.

**Emily Lawsin '00** stepped down from the Filipino American National Historical Society after serving for thirty years on their Board of Trustees, including four years as Vice President and the last two years as National President.

The Park's Finest (**Christine Araquel-Concordia**), **Maria-Kassandra Coronel**, **Mia-Kyla Coronel**, **Devin Mallory**, and **Kyla Ross** were awardees at the UCLA Pilipino Alumni Association 30th Anniversary Gala.

**Mike Hoa Nguyen '14, '19** joined the faculty of New York University's Steinhardt School as an assistant professor of education.

*City of Ghosts*, created by **Elizabeth Ito '00**, won the 2022 Children's and Family Emmy Award for Outstanding Animated Series.

**Celine Parreñas Shimizu '96** released *80 Years Later*, which won several awards including Award of Merit Special Mention at the Impact Docs Awards and Best Archival Film at the Bangkok International Documentary Film Festival.

**Irene Suico Soriano**, former AASC office manager, is a now part of the shorts programming team for the Sundance Film Festival.



## READING SA I GU



Thirty years have passed since the 1992 Los Angeles Civil Unrest, which is also known as Sa I Gu in Korean American communities. As part of this commemoration, the Center released **READING SA I GU**, an online archive of writings and images, as well as resources related to this important period.

The site features three important collections:

- **The Korea Times English Edition** (KTEE) articles are provided with the permission of *The Korea Times*. The KTEE journalists were led during that time by **K.W. Lee** who had founded and edited *Koreatown Weekly* (1979-82) and edited *The Korea Times* weekly English edition (1990-92).
- **Amerasia Journal**, a leading academic journal in Asian American studies, published a series of articles, essays, commentaries, interviews and creative writings on Sa I Gu. We feature a selection of these as an open-access volume.
- **KoreAm Journal** was a monthly print magazine featuring Korean American social commentary, news, lifestyle, politics and culture. Like *The Korea Times* English Edition, their archives represent a valuable telling of Sa I Gu from the perspective of Korean American writers and journalists. *KoreAm Journal* ended its print issue in 2015 and relaunched as **KORE Magazine**.

Additional features provide even more ways to frame and understand Sa I Gu, including a gallery of photographs taken by **Hyungwon Kang** from April to May of 1992; a timeline that follows the career of K.W. Lee and the work of *The Korea Times* English Edition against the backdrop of events related to the Korean American community; and multimedia and resource links on Sa I Gu for educational purposes.

The site serves as a companion to a forthcoming book from UCLA AASC Press entitled **Sa-I-Gu: The Los Angeles Civil Unrest through the Lens of Community Journalism**. This publication features some of the voices of reporters, writers, and editors mentored by the Pulitzer Prize-nominated editor and journalist, K.W. Lee, during this tragic, dramatic event in Korean American history.

**LEARN MORE** | Visit Reading Sa I Gu at <https://learn.aasc.ucla.edu/saigu>.



## TRANSLATECOVID

## IMPORTANT PANDEMIC RESOURCE ARCHIVED

When the Center launched the **COVID-19 Multilingual Resource Hub at TranslateCOVID.org** in May 2020, staff hoped to provide our diverse communities with much needed and life-saving information in different languages. A joint effort by the **UCLA Asian American Studies Center, Fielding School of Public Health and Institute of American Cultures**, TranslateCOVID was powered by staff and volunteers who provided critical translations, meticulous vetting of accurate COVID-19 educational material, designing of social media infographics, gathering of hard-to-find resources in multiple languages, and COVID-19 research.

The Center would especially like to express its sincere gratitude and appreciation to TranslateCOVID project coordinator **Sheila Shea** and outreach coordinator **Karin Chan** for their leadership, creativity, and hard work that helped propel the project forward and beyond all expectations.

Given the increase of in-language information about COVID-19 and safety and health precautions, the TranslateCOVID.org website was archived on June 24, 2022. It is still available for use and viewing, but it will no longer be updated. As we still face the challenges of this pandemic today, we hope the relevant information and the lessons learned that are featured in the TranslateCOVID archive will remain of use to our diverse language communities now and into the future.

Here are some highlights of the project:

## TRANSLATECOVID HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 **CONTENT:** OVER 1,300 RESOURCES IN 60 LANGUAGES AGGREGATED AND VETTED FOR THE MULTILINGUAL RESOURCE HUB
- 2 **MESSAGING:** MEETINGS WITH LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOW TO REACH VULNERABLE AAPI POPULATIONS
- 3 **CO-BRANDED MATERIALS:** CRITICAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH CBO'S AND LADPH TO CREATE TRANSLATED FACT SHEETS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH GUIDES
- 4 **TARGETED EMAILS:** STRATEGIC OUTREACH TO CBO'S, HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS, AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS IN ZIP CODES WITH LOW VACCINATION RATES
- 5 **HUB'S MOST VISITED RESOURCES:** VIDEOS, IN-LANGUAGE COVID-19 TESTING INFORMATION, LOCAL COVID-19 RESOURCES, BOOSTER ELIGIBILITY, AND FAQ'S



## 1,300 RESOURCES

Number of resources aggregated and vetted by TranslateCOVID.org, including links to 150+ videos



## 20 FAQ'S AND 10 VIDEOS

Number of in-language FAQs and PSA videos created by our team



## 45 VOLUNTEERS

Number of volunteers who contributed their time, working on various aspects from development to outreach



## 700 REACH

Peak daily number of people reached through our social media channels, especially during COVID-19 surges

## DID YOU KNOW?

Together with the Fielding School of Public Health we created a robust set of FAQs in 20 languages. The most viewed were: Tagalog, Spanish, Armenian, Chinese and Vietnamese.

**Professor Kyeyoung Park** has spent three decades at UCLA addressing questions around social justice, social change, and social movements. She is one of the most prominent and influential scholars on Korean immigration to the U.S. and Korean America. This year she was chosen as **The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo Chair in Korean American Studies**. She succeeds the inaugural chair **Professor Jerry Kang** of UCLA Law, who served in that position from 2010 to 2020.

With a perspective that is both local and transnational in scope, she has published widely in Korean and English and has made significant contributions to Korean American studies through research, scholarship, teaching and community engagement. Her work spans Korean communities in the United States, as well as Latin America, Korean comfort women, and comparative race and ethnic studies in relation to transnationalism and globalization.

Her publications include the award-winning book on Korean immigrant entrepreneurship, titled *The Korean American Dream: Immigrants and Small Business in New York City* (1997) and a recent book on comparative race and multi-racial/ethnic tensions in South Central Los Angeles, titled *LA Rising: Korean Relations with Blacks and Latinos after Civil Unrest* (2019). She is currently working on another book, tentatively titled *From Enmity to Empathy: African American and Korean American Communities since the 1992 Los Angeles Riots*.

Kyeyoung Park received her PhD in Anthropology from the CUNY Graduate Center in 1990. Kyeyoung has a long affiliation with AASC, having served on its Faculty Advisory Committee since she came to UCLA in 1992 as a professor in Asian American Studies and Anthropology. She regularly teaches a course on the Korean American experience for the Asian American Studies Department and courses on comparative race in Anthropology. The search committee shared that “her classes challenge students to think deeply about social inequality and the structural forces that impact our everyday lives, and to engage with others with respect and understanding no matter how divergent their views.”

*The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo Chair in Korean American Studies* was made possible by the generosity of lead donor, **Jae Min Chang**, a UCLA alumnus and chairman, publisher and CEO of *The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo* newspapers, as well as UCLA alumnus **Mike Hong**, chairman and CEO of Dura Coat Products, Inc., and **Do Won Chang**, co-founder and CEO of Forever 21. The Center would like to thank the following search committee members for their time and effort in the selection process: **Professor Min Zhou** (Sociology), **Professor Anna Lau** (Psychology), and **Professor Renee Tajima-Peña** (Asian American Studies).



(Credit: Aaron Salcido)

*It is an honor to be named The Korea Times Endowed Chair in Korean American Studies. I appreciate the support of The Korea Times and Korean American alumni from UCLA, Vice Provost David Yoo, the Asian American Studies Center Director Karen Umemoto, and my colleagues in the Asian American Studies Department and Anthropology Department.*

*This is an amazing opportunity to build on my existing expertise and simultaneously help advance Korean American Studies scholarly research in local, national, transnational, and global contexts.*

*With this unprecedented, prestigious endowed professorship, I hope to inspire students and faculty at UCLA and beyond to ensure the study of Korean American culture, history, and politics may continue to flourish for generations of UCLA students.*

*I am sincerely thankful for the enthusiasm and support this endowed chairship generated in Korea as well as the local Southern California Korean American community, the largest Korean diaspora community outside of Korea.*

## KOREA TIMES ENDOWED CHAIR KYEYOUNG PARK

### NEW APPOINTEE BRINGS RENEWED FOCUS ON KOREAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND KOREAN DISAPORA

## LATEST FROM AAPI NEXUS JOURNAL

Special Issue 19:1-2 “**Models of Change: Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions In Action**” focuses on how Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs) are at the forefront of changing campus climate and culture as the result of COVID-19 related anti-Asian hate, greater attention on racial inequality led by Black Lives Matters, and heightened awareness of social inequality. Led by guest editors **Professor Timothy P. Fong** (California State University, Sacramento), **Professor Dina C. Maramba** (Claremont Graduate University), and **Professor Mike Hoa Nguyen** (New York University), the issue shows AANAPISIs as centers for activism and organizing by a new generation of AAPI students, faculty, and staff as they step up to the call for social justice and institutional change.

This special issue is made possible through generous support from APIA Scholars.



AAPINexus staff and contributors were able to share and present the issue at the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) Conference in Long Beach, as well as the Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) Conference in Denver, Colorado.



**READ** | Access issues of *AAPINexus Journal* and download articles for free at <http://aapinexus.org>.

### SPRING 2022, ISSUE 19:1-2 | TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### Foreword | AANAPISIs, COVID-19, and Asian Pacific Islander American Students

by Julie Ajinkya, APIA Scholars

#### Message from the Editors | From Trauma to Cautious Optimism: AANAPISIs Leading the Way

by Timothy P. Fong, Dina C. Maramba, and Mike Hoa Nguyen

#### COVID-19, Asian American and Native American-Serving Institutions, and Minority-Serving Institutions: Examining Federal Funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act

by Mike Hoa Nguyen, Sophia Laderman, Becket Duncan, Meghan Montelibano-Gorman, and Dina C. Maramba

#### Asian American Native American and Pacific Islander Serving Institutions Empowering Students Civic Engagement toward Social Justice Agendas

by Rikka Venturanza, Hnou H. Lee, and Marietess M. Masulit

#### In the Hands of Students: The Charge of a Minority-Serving Institution Student Council at a Dual-Designated Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution and Hispanic-Serving Institution

by Kristine Jan Cruz Espinoza and Reneé T. Watson

#### Care during COVID-19: A Virtual Asian American and Pacific Islander Photovoice Project

by Julia Huynh, Phuc Duy Nhu To, Cevadne Lee, Thuy Vo Dang, Judy Tzu-Chun Wu, and Sora Park Tanjasiri

#### An Ethic of Care in Student Affairs: Humanizing Relationships and Asserting Cultural Values at an AANAPISI

by Aida Cuenza-Uvas and Demeturie Toso-Lafaele Gogue

#### Where We're Really From: NYC Asian American Students Navigating Identity, Racial Solidarity, and Wellness during a Pandemic

by Marcia M. Liu

#### Healing in Community and Responding with Leadership: Addressing the Pandemic and Anti-Asian Hate through Community Service Learning

by Celeste Francisco, Megan Dela Cruz, Allison Huynh Phuong, Russell Jeung, and Grace J. Yoo

#### Seeding Change from Within: An Exploration of Activism at the Local Level

by Diana Chandara, Ariana Yang, Thong Vang, Kong Her, Peter Limthongviratn, and Bic Ngo

#### Fighting for Our Existence: Talanoas of Survival and Resistance at San Francisco State

by Arlene Daus-Magbual and Levalasi Loi-On

#### Framing a Practice of Asian Americanist Advocacy

by Mae Lee and Khoa Nguyen

#### AANAPISI Campus Challenges and Opportunities: Confronting COVID-19 and Inclusive Social Justice

by Timothy P. Fong and Winnie Hung



## AANAPISIS AT 15 YEARS

National Research Project Explores 15 Years of Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs)

UCLA alum **Mike Hoa Nguyen**, former AASD staff **Kristine Jan Espinoza**, and current PhD student **Demeturie Toso-Lafaele Gogue** share some of their work and findings ahead of their report's release.

Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders (AA&NHPIs) are two of the fastest-growing racial groups in the nation. As a result, more AA&NHPI students are enrolling in colleges and universities across the U.S. and U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands. The U.S. Department of Education also estimates that AA&NHPI postsecondary enrollment will grow by 12% in the next four years. Given this growth, more institutions are becoming eligible for the **Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI)** designation, which allows them to apply for a five-year federal grant to create and enhance programs and services for AA&NHPI student success. Since the AANAPISI designation's establishment by Congress in 2007, colleges and universities have been finding transformative ways to better support their AA&NHPI students with the support of federal support. Notably, while AANAPISIs comprise only 6.1% of the over 4,000 Title IV, degree-granting colleges and universities in the country, they continue to serve and enroll over 40% of all AA&NHPI undergraduates in the nation. Moreover, there has been a dramatic growth in colleges and universities that are eligible to receive AANAPISI funding—an 81% growth over the past four years.

As the AANAPISI program reached its 15-year milestone in 2022, new research centering and further documenting the impactful work happening at eligible and funded AANAPISIs continues to emerge. Most recently, in a research partnership with and funded by **New York University**, the **University of Denver's Faculty Research Fund**, and **APIA Scholars**, UCLA alum **Mike Hoa Nguyen** (PhD, '19, MA '14), now an assistant professor of education at New York University, led a research team—including **Demeturie Toso-Lafaele Gogue**, doctoral student in UCLA's School of Education and Information Studies; **Kristine Jan Cruz Espinoza**, former UCLA Asian American Studies Department Student Affairs Officer and current doctoral student at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and **Patricia A. Nielson**, EdD, from the University of Massachusetts, Boston—to engage with administrators, faculty, and staff at funded AANAPISIs across the U.S. and U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands. **Rikka J. Venturanza**, current doctoral candidate in UCLA's School of Education and Information Studies, is also a contributor to the forthcoming policy report.

The purpose of this AANAPISI study is to explore three broad areas: *Becoming an AANAPISI*, *Serving AA&NHPI students at AANAPISIs*, and *Institutionalizing programs and services funded*



Mike Hoa Nguyen, Kristine Jan Espinoza and Demeturie Toso-Lafaele Gogue at the UC AANAPISI Summit.  
(Courtesy of Kristine Jan Espinoza)

by the AANAPISI grant. Partnering with half of all AANAPISI-funded institutions, their findings highlight how:

1. A primary reason administrators, faculty, and staff pursue AANAPISI funding is to acquire dedicated funding for AA&NHPI students. For some institutions, AANAPISI-funded efforts are often one of the few campus resources dedicated to serving AA&NHPI students.
2. Given that most AANAPISIs are historically and predominately white institutions that experience AA&NHPI undergraduate enrollment growth, it is critical to underscore the intentionality in how AANAPISIs distinctly serve AA&NHPI students.
3. Due to the temporary nature of the federal grant and processes towards institutionalization, securing long-term resources to continue offering AANAPISI programs and services requires utilizing strategies contextual to the institution and campus community.

The research findings inform recommendations for public policy, including demonstrating a need for increased funding investment from federal agencies, adding to the empirical studies available in the What Works Clearinghouse that is focused on promising practices that serve AA&NHPI students, and prioritizing institutions that demonstrate efforts to institutionalize their AANAPISI programs, among other recommendations.

The **AANAPISI Growth and Impact research and policy brief** is available now at the APIA Scholars website by visiting [https://apiascholars.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/AANAPISI\\_GrowthImpactReport\\_2022.pdf](https://apiascholars.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/AANAPISI_GrowthImpactReport_2022.pdf).



The full research report is forthcoming. To learn more about the project, please contact the Principal Investigator, Mike Hoa Nguyen, PhD, at [mike.nguyen@nyu.edu](mailto:mike.nguyen@nyu.edu).

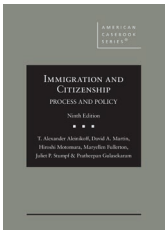


To learn more about the AANAPISI program's 15-Year Milestone, visit <https://apiascholars.org/aanapisi-15/>.



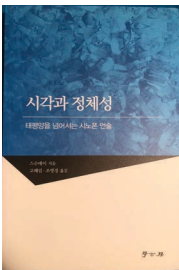
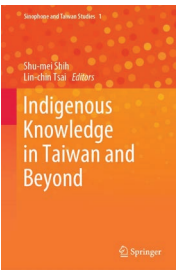
***Archipelago of Resettlement: Vietnamese Refugee Settlers and Decolonization across Guam and Israel-Palestine* by Evyn Lê Espiritu Gandhi**

From April to November 1975, the US military processed over 112,000 Vietnamese refugees on the unincorporated territory of Guam; from 1977 to 1979, the State of Israel granted asylum and citizenship to 366 non-Jewish Vietnamese refugees. Evyn Lê Espiritu Gandhi analyzes these two cases to theorize what she calls the refugee settler condition: the fraught positionality of refugee subjects whose resettlement in a settler colonial state is predicated on the unjust dispossession of an Indigenous population. Considering distinct yet overlapping modalities of refugee and Indigenous displacement, Gandhi offers tools for imagining emergent forms of decolonial solidarity between refugee settlers and Indigenous peoples.



***Immigration and Citizenship: Process and Policy (Ninth Edition)*, Edited by Thomas Alexander Aleinikoff, David A. Martin, Hiroshi Motomura, Maryellen Fullerton, Juliet P. Stumpf, Pratheepan Gulasekaram**

The Ninth Edition of this pathbreaking casebook continues its tradition of comprehensive coverage, with problems and exercises that allow students to hone skills as counselors, litigators, and policy advisors. These virtues have become especially important in light of the many changes to immigration and citizenship law since the Eighth Edition went to press in mid-2016. This Ninth Edition has thoroughly updated coverage of admissions categories, unauthorized migrants, admission procedures, detention, citizenship, removability, refugees and asylum, federal enforcement, and state and local measures.



***Indigenous Knowledge in Taiwan and Beyond*, Edited by Shu-mei Shih, Lin-chin Tsai**

This book situates Taiwan's Indigenous knowledge in comparative contexts across other Indigenous knowledge formations. The content is divided into four distinct but interrelated sections to highlight the importance and diversity of Indigenous knowledge in Taiwan and beyond.

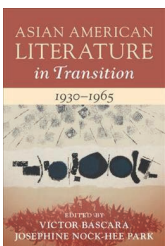
***Visuality and Identity: Sinophone Articulations across the Pacific* (Korean Translation), by Shu-mei Shih**

Shu-mei Shih inaugurates the field of Sinophone studies in this vanguard excursion into sophisticated cultural criticism situated at the intersections of Chinese studies, Asian American studies, diaspora studies, and transnational studies. This book is now available in Korean.



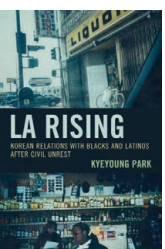
***Departures: An Introduction to Critical Refugee Studies*, Edited by Yen Lê Espiritu, Lan Duong, Ma Vang, Victor Bascara, Khatharya Um, Lila Sharif, and Nigel Hatton.**

*Departures* supports, contextualizes, and advances the field of critical refugee studies by providing a capacious account of its genealogy, methods, and key concepts as well as its premises, priorities, and possibilities. The book outlines the field's main tenets, questions, and concerns and offers new approaches that integrate theoretical rigor and policy considerations with refugees' rich and complicated lived worlds. This resource and guide is for all readers invested in addressing the concerns, perspectives, knowledge production, and global imaginings of refugees.



***Asian American Literature in Transition, 1930-1965*, Edited by Victor Bascara and Josephine Nock-Hee Park**

This volume is devoted to Asian American Literature between 1930 to 1965, a period of immense social, historical, and cultural transformations that continue to shape the conditions of our world. From the Great Depression to the Second World War to the Civil Rights Movement to landmark immigrations reforms, Asian American literature provides unique and insightful perspectives on these historical developments, all while creatively engaging with globally-dispersed decolonization movements.



***LA Rising: Korean Relations with Blacks and Latinos after Civil Unrest*, by Kyeyoung Park**

Kyeyoung Park revisits the Los Angeles unrest of 1992 and the interethnic and racial tensions that emerged. She explores how race, citizenship, class, and culture were axes of inequality in a multi-tiered "racial cartography" that affected how Los Angeles residents thought about and interacted with each other and were emphasized in the processes of social inequality and conflict.

UCLA has the largest and most diverse faculty in Asian American studies who research Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. The **Asian American Studies Center's Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)** brings together over fifty professors from across campus. The FAC advises on major initiatives, reviews strategic plans, provides a forum for exchange among faculty conducting work on AAPI populations, and encourages multidisciplinary collaboration and exchange. One faculty member is nominated to serve as chair of the committee. This past year, we bid "a hui hou" a Native Hawaiian phrase which means "until we meet again" to **Professor Gilbert Gee**, who finished his term at the end of the 2021-2022 academic year, and welcomed **Professor Purnima Mankekar** as she begins her first year as FAC chair.

## GILBERT GEE

Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences  
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

**Professor Gilbert Gee** served as AASC's FAC chair from June 2019 to June 2022. The Center was especially grateful for his leadership during the beginning of the pandemic.

His research focuses on the social determinants of health inequities of racial, ethnic, and immigrant minority populations using a multi-level and life course perspective. A primary line of his research focuses on conceptualizing and measuring racism discrimination, and in understanding how discrimination may be related to illness.

When the Center decided to develop and launch the **COVID-19 Multilingual Resource Hub at TranslateCOVID.org**, Professor Gee served as one of the lead principal investigators and helped guide the project which sought to bring life-saving



information in different languages to diverse communities. He met frequently with fellow PIs and TranslateCOVID staff to ensure that information was vetted and presented recommended health guidelines as accurately as possible.

Professor Gee also served as part of a editorial team for *AAPI Nexus Journal* special issues on "Inflection Point 2020: Coronavirus, Census and Elections for AAPIs" that encouraged contributors to examine the convergence and future implications of the coronavirus pandemic, decennial census, and a presidential election in the same year.

The Center is grateful to Professor Gilbert Gee for his guidance and leadership during his time as FAC chair. Professor Gee was recently appointed as the department chair of Community Health Sciences at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

**Professor Purnima Mankekar** started her tenure as FAC chair this past summer. The Center is excited to have another long-time faculty member serve in this role.

Professor Mankekar brings a wealth of experience to the position. Trained as a cultural anthropologist, Purnima Mankekar has conducted interdisciplinary research on television, film, and digital media, and on publics/public cultures with a focus on the politics of affect.

Her wide and transnational teaching interests include digital and "virtual" anthropology; theories of affect; feminist anthropology and ethnography; postcolonial and women of color feminism; anthropological approaches to sexuality, queer theory, and queer of color critique; and Asian American and South Asian Studies.

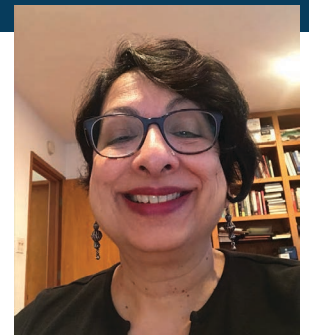
She is the author of *Screening Culture, Viewing Politics* (Duke, 1999) and *Unsettling India: Affect, Temporality, Transnationality* (Duke, 2015). Her co-edited books include

## PURNIMA MANKEKAR

Professor, Departments of Gender Studies; Asian American Studies;  
Film, Television, and Digital Media; and Anthropology

*Caste and Outcast* (co-edited with Gordon Chang and Akhil Gupta; Stanford University Press, 2002) and *Media, Erotics, and Transnational Asia* (co-edited with Louisa Schein; Duke, 2013).

She is currently completing a book on affective labor and the production of futurities in the Business Process Outsourcing industry in Bengaluru, India titled *Future Tense: Affective Labor and Disjunctive Temporalities* (co-authored with Akhil Gupta). Her new ethnographic project is on the sociopolitical implications of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence in India.







**Jennifer Chun** is now the academic chair of the International Development Studies Program through the UCLA International Institute.



**Gina Kim's** VR film, *Tearless*, won the International Visual Sociology Association's 2022 Anticolonialism-Antiracism (ACAR) Award in Visual Activism. The Seoul International Women's Film Festival in Korea held a retrospective of her work, titled "REMEMBERING OBLIVION: Immersive Cinema of Gina Kim" in August 2022. The special section presented her VR works *Tearless* and *Bloodless* along with her newer AR and XR works.



**Vinay Lal** was appointed to the Board of Delegates of Oxford University Press. He was designated "Erudite Scholar" by the Kerala State Government Higher Education Department and delivered lectures on dissent and protest. He also delivered the Gandhi Memorial Lectures at the Phoenix Settlement and Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, and the Distinguished Gandhi Lecture for the University of Delhi and the Second B. R. Ambedkar Lecture at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, on "The Architecture of Protest: The Indian Constitution, Nonviolence, and Activism."



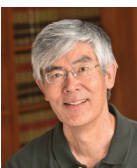
**Evyn Lê Espiritu Gandhi** helped to organize a public history exhibit, *Remembering Saigon: From Vietnam to Guam*, which ran at Tumon Sands Plaza in Guam from July 15 through September 15, 2022.



**Natalie Masuoka** co-led the Mark Q. Sawyer Summer Institute, a program of the political science department and Howard University to bring undergraduate fellows from Howard to UCLA for an immersive academic research program that explores the crucial role of race, ethnicity and politics in society.



**Sean Metzger** received the 2022 Humanities & Cultural Studies: Interdisciplinary/Media Studies Book Award from the Association for Asian American Studies for *The Chinese Atlantic: Seascapes and the Theatricality of Globalization*. He was also selected for the inaugural class of the UCLA Faculty Mentoring Honor Society.



**Hiroshi Motomura** as co-director of UCLA's Center for Immigration Law and Policy spearheaded legal research to support the Opportunity for All campaign, which would allow UCs to hire undocumented workers. "The Try Guys Try Immigrating To America," which features Hiroshi, now has 7.3 million views on YouTube.

- **Professor Purnima Mankekar**, *FAC Chair*  
Gender Studies, Asian American Studies,  
Film, Television, and Digital Media, Anthropology
- **Asst Professor Juliann Anesi**  
Gender Studies, Asian American Studies
- **Assoc Professor Victor Bascara**  
Asian American Studies
- **Professor Roshan Bastani**  
Health Policy and Management
- **Assoc Professor Lucy Burns**  
Asian American Studies
- **Professor Keith Camacho**  
Asian American Studies
- **Assoc Professor Michelle Caswell**  
Information Studies, Asian American Studies
- **Professor Mitchell Chang**  
Asian American Studies, Education
- **Asst Professor Jolie Chea**  
Asian American Studies
- **Assoc Clinical Professor Kenneth Chuang**  
Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences
- **Assoc Professor Jennifer J. Chun**  
Asian American Studies
- **Professor Gilbert Gee**  
Community Health Sciences, Asian American Studies
- **Professor Cindy Fan**  
Asian American Studies, Geography
- **Adjunct Assoc Professor Nancy Harada**  
Medicine
- **Professor Grace Hong**  
Asian American Studies, Gender Studies
- **Professor Jerry Kang**  
Law
- **Asst Professor Brian Keum**  
Social Welfare
- **Professor Gina Kim**  
Film, Television and Digital Media
- **Professor Suk-Young Kim**  
Theater
- **Professor Vinay Lal**  
Asian American Studies, History
- **Professor Anna Lau**  
Asian American Studies, Psychology
- **Asst Professor Evyn Lê Espiritu Gandhi**  
Asian American Studies
- **Assoc Professor Eunice Lee**  
Nursing
- **Professor Rachel Lee**  
English, Gender Studies
- **Professor Jinqi Ling**  
Asian American Studies, English
- **Assoc Professor Natalie Masuoka**  
Political Science, Asian American Studies
- **Professor Valerie Matsumoto**  
Asian American Studies, History

# AASC FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Professor Sean Metzger**  
Theater, Gender Studies
- **Professor Rashmita Mistry**  
Education
- **Professor Hiroshi Motomura**  
Law
- **Professor Vinit Mukhija**  
Asian American Studies, Urban Planning
- **Assoc Professor Thu-Huong Nguyen-Vo**  
Asian American Studies, Asian Languages and Cultures
- **Professor Kyeyoung Park**  
Asian American Studies, Anthropology
- **Asst Professor Sunita Patel**  
Law
- **Professor Ninez Ponce**  
Health Policy and Management
- **Asst Professor Loubna Qutami**  
Asian American Studies
- **Assoc Professor Robert Chao Romero**  
Asian American Studies, Chicana/o and Central American Studies
- **Professor Ananya Roy**  
Urban Planning, Social Welfare, Geography
- **Asst Professor Cindy C. Sangalang**  
Asian American Studies, Social Welfare
- **Professor Margaret Shih**  
Management and Organizations, Psychology
- **Professor Shu-mei Shih**  
Comparative Literature, Asian Languages and Cultures, Asian American Studies
- **Assoc Professor May Sudhinaret**  
Community Health Sciences
- **Professor Renee Tajima-Peña**  
Asian American Studies
- **Professor Robert Teranishi**  
Education
- **Adjunct Assoc Professor Tritia Toyota**  
Asian American Studies, Anthropology
- **Asst Professor Lee Ann S. Wang**  
Asian American Studies, Social Welfare
- **Professor May Wang**  
Community Health Sciences
- **Assoc Clinical Professor Benjamin Woo**  
Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, Asian American Studies
- **Professor Cindy Yee-Bradbury**  
Psychology, Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences
- **Professor Karen Umemoto, ex officio**  
Urban Planning, Asian American Studies
- **Professor David K. Yoo**  
Asian American Studies, History
- **Professor Min Zhou**  
Asian American Studies, Sociology



**Thu-Huong Nguyen-Vo** was honored with the Distinguished Teaching Award from the UCLA Academic Senate.



**Ninez Ponce** is now the Fred W. and Pamela K. Wasserman Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management at UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. She was also featured in the *California is in the Heart* exhibition, curated by the Bulosan Center in partnership with the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) Museum and hosted at the California Museum.



**Shu-mei Shih** is now the Irving and Jean Stone Chair in Humanities at UCLA College of Letters and Science.



**May Sudhinaret** will lead a \$3 million, 5-year-long study focused on the sexual and reproductive health of Asian immigrant women in the United States that was funded by the National Institutes of Health.



**May Wang** was appointed to the external advisory committee for the Los Angeles County Food Equity Roundtable.



**Cindy Yee-Bradbury** was honored by the Society for Psychophysiological Research with the distinguished contributions to psychophysiology award.



**David K. Yoo** is the recipient of the 2022 UCLA James C. Williamson Award for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

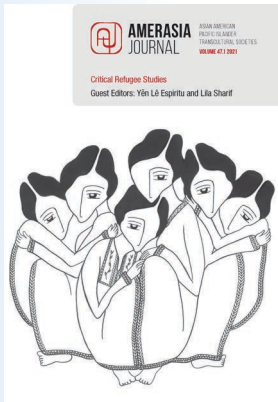


**Min Zhou** was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She was also selected for the inaugural class of UCLA Faculty Mentoring Honor Society and honored for her lifetime achievement with a named research award from the Sociology Department at Rice University.



**READ |** For articles, abstracts, and more information on *Amerasia Journal*, visit <https://bit.ly/amerjonline>.

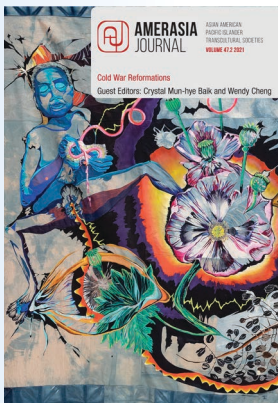
## VOLUME 47 – ISSUES & CONTRIBUTORS



### Issue 47:1 – Critical Refugee Studies

Guest edited by Yen Le Espiritu (UC San Diego) and Lila Sharif (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

Contributors: Amira Noeuv, Cecilia Tsu, Dena Al-Adeeb, Emam Ghanayem, Jennifer Mogannam, Jennifer Tran, Kit Myers, Long T. Bui, Ma Vang, Marimas Hosan Mostiller, Rana Sharif, Son Ca Lam, Tamara Ho, Thao Ha, Thuy Vo Dang, Tu-Uyen Nguyen, Yazan Zahzah



### Issue 47:2 – Cold War Reformations

Guest edited by Crystal Baik (UC Riverside) and Wendy Cheng (Scripps College)

Contributors: Alfred Flores, Christopher Chien, Davorn Sisivath, Emily Hue, Ga Young Chung, Grace M. Cho, iris yirei hu, Ka-eul Yoo, Keva Bui, Kiristina Sailiata, Latipa, Michael Jin, Patricia Nguyen, Phi Hong Su, Rebecca Hogue, Richard Gessert, Viet Le



### Issue 47:3 – Open Issue

Andrew Cheng, Aziz Sohail, Christine Peralta, Courtney Sato, David K. Yoo, Ida Yalzadeh, K. Ian Shin, Keith L. Camacho, Mitsuye Yamada, Nellie Wong, Russell C. Leong

## SAMPLE ARTICLE ABSTRACTS

### *Refugee Community Gardens and the Politics of Self-Help*

**Cecilia M. Tsu**

This article examines the history of community gardens set up for refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos in the 1980s as a window into debates surrounding resettlement, economic inequality, and welfare dependency in the United States. It argues that despite advocates' emphasis on the continuity to the past that gardening has provided for refugees, refugee gardeners identified a vast disjuncture between their rural existence in Southeast Asia and the functions of vegetable growing in the U.S. Through community gardening, refugees nonetheless leveraged their intimate knowledge of nature and the environment to gain a measure of economic empowerment.

### *Objects of Warfare: Infrastructures of Race and Napalm in the Vietnam War*

**Keva X. Bui**

This article examines napalm as an epistemology of U.S. militarism, developing the framework of "objects of warfare" to describe political relations intertwined with racialized personhood and militarized objecthood. The first half traces the racial logics of infrastructural warfare in the Vietnam War, while the second situates the construction of Asian racial form via liberal humanism within cultural representations of napalm in the war's afterlives. By examining the interrelatedness of napalm's physical violence and its political effects, this article suggests objects of warfare offer a framework to trace links between militarized objecthood and the lingering specters of Cold War liberalism and imperialism.

### *Persian/American Exceptionalism: Post-9/11 Strategies of Belonging in the Iranian Diaspora through Cultural Production*

**Ida Yalzadeh**

Since 9/11, Iranian Americans have challenged their racialization as troublesome terrorists through cultural productions that emphasize how they belong in a multicultural America. In this paper, I argue that these Iranian Americans perform "Persian/American exceptionalism," a representational strategy that embraces capitalist conspicuous consumption and touts universalist notions of freedom. In so doing, they attempt to erase post-revolutionary Iran and its association with political Islam from the U.S. imaginary as part of an effort to distance themselves from two major flashpoints in U.S.-Middle Eastern history – the Iran Hostage Crisis and September 11th.



## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF *AMERASIA JOURNAL*

To commemorate the first half-century of *Amerasia Journal*, three former Senior Editors—**Russell C. Leong**, **David K. Yoo**, and **Keith L. Camacho**—contributed their reflections on the journal. Their thoughts, which are excerpted below from issue 47:3, speak to the impact of *Amerasia Journal* on Asian American studies, as well as their own experiences in the field.



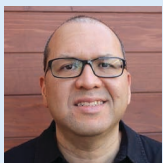
Years later, after taking the job at *Amerasia*, I found that the persons we published and the themes we developed reflected a conscious attempt to integrate history and politics, social activism, and community poetics across national borders. *Amerasia Journal* thus was an activist intellectual project that I, together with Don T. Nakanishi and our editorial board, fervently believed in.

— **Russell C. Leong**



As I reflect upon the legacy of *Amerasia Journal* at 50, a couple of issues stand out. The first is the intertwining of the journal, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, and the interdisciplinary field of Asian American studies. All three were in their infancy during the early 1970s, and over the decades, they have grown up together and mutually influenced one another. *AJ* has both documented and helped shape the center's identity as well as the field. A second element is that while *AJ* is a peer-reviewed, university-based journal, it has never been beholden to the academy in any narrow, exclusive sense. There has always been an openness to stretch boundaries and an intentionality to create spaces for graduate students, independent scholars, and community-based partnerships.

— **David K. Yoo**



What is the future of Asian American studies and Pacific Islander studies at *Amerasia Journal*? It is the next fifty years of solidarities that make the space between Campbell Hall and Rolfe Hall something other than the red bricks of U.S. racial apartheid and settler colonialism. Quite simply, the future is the beautiful, contested, and expansive space between you and me, us and them.

— **Keith L. Camacho**



In March 1971, the Yale Asian American Students Association began a publication that has played a central role in defining the field of Asian American studies, *Amerasia Journal*. **Lowell Chun-Hoon** (the first Editor in Chief) and **Don Nakanishi** (the first Publisher) were both seniors at Yale University at the time. As Chun-Hoon moved to the Asian American Studies Center at the University of California, Los Angeles, in the fall of 1971, *Amerasia Journal* became a bicoastal collaboration for two years before becoming a journal solely under the auspices of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

It's been an incredible honor to be the first non-UCLA affiliated faculty or staff member since the publication arrived at UCLA to serve as Senior Editor of *Amerasia Journal*. I'm enormously grateful for the opportunity and to my predecessors, which include **Karen Umemoto** who served as Interim Editor as we transitioned from the intellectual leadership of Keith Camacho. I remember being introduced to the field of Asian American studies through *Amerasia Journal*, when I was a student activist advocating for tenure-track faculty in ethnic studies at Stanford University in the late 1980s. Under Keith's guidance, the journal has become more centrally engaged in Pacific Islander studies, a mission that I also committed to advancing during my editorial term. We are honored that three of the former Editors of *Amerasia Journal*, Russell C. Leong, David K. Yoo, and Keith L. Camacho, offer reflections on their time leading the journal, their treasured achievements, and their thoughts on the directions of the journal.

— **Judy Tzu-Chun Wu** was the editor of *Amerasia Journal* and is a professor of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Irvine.

## CENTER FOR ETHNOCOMMUNICATIONS

This year EthnoCommunications Director **Professor Renee Tajima-Peña** was honored with several awards and was invited to speak at various events across the country.

Her 1987 Oscar-nominated documentary *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* (co-directed with **Christine Choy**) was restored by the Academy of Motion Arts and Sciences. The restored film premiered at the 2021 New York Film Festival, and an encore broadcast was featured nationwide on PBS's *POV* series in June of 2022. With 2022 marking 40 years since the murder of Vincent Chin, the film was shown at different commemoration events, including the the Vincent Chin 40th Remembrance and Rededication at the Detroit Institute of the Arts in June.

In April, Renee spoke as part of the board plenary "Asian American Studies and the Public Sphere" alongside **Helen Zia**, **Catherine Ceniza Choy** and **Balbir Singh** at the Association for Asian American Studies annual conference.

Renee was honored by the National Conference on Race & Ethnicity in Higher Education as the recipient of the 2022 Suzan Shown Harjo Activist for Systemic Social Justice Award. She also received the University Film & Video Association 2022 George Stoney Award for Outstanding Documentary Work and the Vigilant Love Khayal-Kokoro Artist Activist Award.

Films by Ethno alum and students were also featured at various film festivals. Ethno alum and Film MFA student **Emory Chao Johnson** documentary short "F1-100" won more awards this

past year with the Reel Asian Under 30 Award (Short) at the Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival and the Grand Jury Award Winner Best Documentary Short at the Seattle Asian American Film Festival. **Michelle Thach** premiered her EthnoCommunications-produced film "**Donut Kid**" at the 2022 San Diego Asian Film Festival.

For more on the Center for EthnoCommunications, visit <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/ethno/>.

### STUDENT FILM SPOTLIGHT



"Donut Kid" (9 mins, 2022) | Directed by Michelle Thach  
Donuts are more than a sweet treat: they are a source of livelihood and a means of survival for Ben and his family, Cambodian refugees and owners of San Diego's Freshh Donuts.

### ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Tad Nakamura (center) with his parents Bob Nakamura and Karen Ishizuka.  
(Courtesy of Center for Asian American Media)

Emmy award-winning director **Tadashi "Tad" Nakamura '03** was appointed as the new director of the Frank H. Watase Media Arts Center at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM). His parents, JANM Chief Curator **Karen Ishizuka** and Center for EthnoCommunications founder **Robert "Bob" A. Nakamura**, who are Bruin alumni, created the Frank H. Watase Media Arts Center in 1997. Previous directors **John Esaki** and **Akira Boch** were also UCLA alumni.

As he takes on this new journey, Tad stated, "It's a strong legacy that I'm proud to carry on. I see this opportunity as an organic continuation of my work as a filmmaker over the last twenty years. We have a lot of exciting projects in the works that document both historical and present day Japanese American stories. It's a true privilege to work with the JANM staff and the Little Tokyo community to share these stories with the world!"

Earlier this year, Tad was selected as a Sundance Institute Asian American Fellow. The fellowship offers a 12-month learning experience to advance recipients' professional development in the arts, including a \$20,000 unrestricted grant to support their individual projects. Tad's project is a biopic of his father, entitled "Third Act" that explores Bob's life as "the Godfather of Asian American media" and grapples with his diagnosis of Parkinson's disease.

Tad helped to honor his father's work at a screening by Visual Communications of the remastered version of **HITO HATA: RAISE THE BANNER** (1980, Dirs. Robert A. Nakamura and Duane Kubo) at JANM. There was a post-screening discussion between Bob and Tad about how the community helped make the film, which was the first feature-length film made by and about Asian Pacific Americans.

## REFLECTIONS FROM 2021-2022 IAC-AASC VISITING SCHOLAR JANE HONG



Jane Hong  
(Courtesy of Jane Hong)

### **Model Christians, Model Minorities: Asian Americans, Race, and Politics in the Transformation of U.S. Evangelicalism**

(under contract with Oxford University Press) explores how post-1965 Asian immigrants have transformed U.S. evangelical institutions and politics. Drawing from archival research and over 100 oral history interviews, it charts how Asians and Asian Americans have changed Christian higher education, parachurch groups, church denominations, national evangelical organizations, and faith-based political lobbies. In so doing, the book connects two developments that have reshaped the relationship of race, religion, and partisanship in America over the past fifty years: the rise of the Religious Right and the demographic transformations resulting from the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act.

*I had a fantastic year as a visiting scholar at the Center. I made significant progress on my book project, a history of how post-1965 Asian immigrants changed U.S. evangelical institutions and politics, and was able to share this research with diverse audiences. At the Newberry Library in Chicago, I presented a paper tracing how the 1992 Los Angeles uprising, or Saigu, launched new conversations among Asian American Christians about where they fit in church-based racial reconciliation movements popular in the late 1990s and early 2000s. One outgrowth was the rise of multiethnic churches led by Asian American pastors. I published an op-ed in the Washington Post on this topic to mark the thirtieth anniversary of Saigu in April 2022 and gave talks at commemorative events sponsored by Princeton Theological Seminary, the Korean Consulate in Los Angeles, and Westmont College. In addition to presenting historical background, I shared some reflections as the daughter of Korean immigrants who opened a store in Brooklyn Heights in 1979. Some questions I posed for consideration: What if your family's livelihood was also a site of oppression for others in racial capitalist systems? How are we to reconcile these complicated realities in our lives?*

*For my book's last chapter, I conducted oral history interviews with California-based civil rights activists who mobilized against Korean and Chinese American evangelical campaigns to block same-sex marriage in the early 2000s (leading to Prop 8 in 2008). Other presentations included talks to the Korean Caucus of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship's Asian American Ministries. In addition to my research, I was able to participate in several important projects designed to share Asian American history with broader audiences. Some highlights included organizing an eight-part Asian American history course for a multiethnic church network in the Boston area, speaking in a panel on anti-Asian violence hosted by the Brookings Institution, and drafting the Korean American chapter for UCLA AASC's AAPI Multimedia Textbook.*

Jane Hong is currently an associate professor of history at Occidental College. She is also a 2022-2023 Public Fellow in PRRI's Religion and Renewing Democracy Initiative.

For more information about the various funding opportunities from the Center, visit:  
<https://www.aasc.ucla.edu/scholarships/default.aspx>.





My name is **Samuel Yee**, and I am a junior majoring in Asian American Studies at UCLA. I am very passionate about uplifting the voices and contributions of AANHPI communities, and I hope to become an educator who teaches about the history of my people in this country. To pursue this goal, I wanted to spend my summer playing a more active role in my field of study. Thus, I participated in two virtual projects that enabled me to spread awareness of Asian American issues.

The first project I worked on was the **21st Century Internship**, which connected me with UCLA's Asian American Studies Center. This position paired me up with Marketing Manager **Barbra Ramos**, and we worked together over a ten-week period. For my internship, I helped revamp UCLA's ethnic



studies textbook **Roots: An Asian American Reader**, which was published back in 1971. Our main goal was to digitize this reader so that it can become more accessible to a wider audience, ranging from high schoolers to adults. Some of my tasks included proofreading scans of the reader, tracking and screenshotting images, and researching opportunities to promote the reader.

One of the most rewarding parts of this project was how it confirmed my career aspirations. As someone who plans to apply to graduate school in Asian American Studies, helping reproduce this reader gave me insight to the history of my field and the inner workings of higher education. Whether it was reviewing articles or editing footnotes, I saw what needs to be done to publish a scholarly piece. Another aspect of this internship that I really appreciated was having access to the actual text of the reader, as it offered a firsthand perspective to the attitudes and politics of the time. From research studies on immigration to poetry exploring AANHPI identity, these readings helped me feel connected to Asian American scholars and activists who helped pave the way for ethnic studies today. Even fifty years later, their work is still relevant today, and I am proud that I contributed to its preservation.

The second project I worked on this summer was with the **1990 Institute**, a Bay-Area-based organization that focuses on uplifting the voices of and developing a better understanding of Asian communities in America. As their intern, I helped them produce two teacher workshops: First was "Missing in



## SAMUEL YEE

Undergraduate Student  
Major: Asian American Studies  
21st Century Internship

History - The Asian American Journey," which focused on reorienting the teaching of U.S. history to include the stories of Asian Americans and their role in building America. The second workshop was "The China You Should Know - Past and Present," which examined the importance of recognizing China as a global power. My duties included editing content, providing tech support, and communicating with the speakers of the workshop, who ranged from lawyers to university professors to museum educators. Similar to my work with UCLA's Asian American Studies Center, this project gave the 1990 Institute and I an opportunity to promote Asian and Asian American topics to more mainstream audiences, specifically in the classroom. With teachers from over thirty-four states attending the workshops, we successfully used our platform to reach other parts of the country that might not have as much exposure to these subjects. In many ways, being able to share these ideas and stories with so many people was the most fulfilling part of this internship, as it showed me that people are genuinely interested in supporting our community.

Although my experiences with this internship were very similar to my work with UCLA's Asian American Studies Center, one difference was the level of outreach. While my work with the Roots project mainly involved working with academic material, the teacher workshops emphasized grassroots efforts and building bridges. Up until now, I have spent most of my time learning about my history through textbooks and essays, so it was a nice change of pace to actively engage with people outside the university bubble who hold the same aspirations as me.

Overall, participating in these two internships allowed me to find a balance between the academic and community sides to ethnic studies, which helped me advance my own goals as a scholar and advocate while furthering important work. As I continue to pursue Asian American Studies at UCLA, I hope that I will be able to work with the likes of the Asian American Studies Center and organizations like the 1990 Institute in the near future.



## REFLECTIONS FROM 2021-2022 CHANCELLOR'S POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW ELIZABETH HANNA RUBIO

My year as a UC Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow in the IAC/AASC was one of many transitions. It was a transition from what, by September 2021, had been a year and a half of full remote work, to a new phase in our enduring COVID reality where it seemed we were all awkwardly relearning how to safely be with each other again. It was a transition from life as a UC Irvine graduate student to the liminal space of postdoctoral work. And, relatedly, it was also marked by the difficult task of imagining how to transition my dissertation to a fully fleshed out manuscript. Thanks to the support of my UC Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow mentor **Jennifer Jihye Chun**, I was able to navigate these several changes and to meet the goals I had set for myself at the beginning of the year.

In the Fall, Jennifer and so many others helped guide me through the treacherous waters of the academic job market. My fantastic cohort of IAC UC Chancellor's Postdoc Fellows including **David C. Turner III**, **Daniel Millán**, and **Rodrigo Ranero** created much-needed space for commiseration and mutual support in the face of the ubiquitous uncertainty that inheres to the job hunt. While early-career scholars like **Evyen Lê Espiritu Ghandi** provided vital advice about navigating the job search and developing a book proposal, Jennifer, alongside mentors across the UCs like **Eleana Kim**, **Long Bui**, and **Salvador Zaráte** generously coached me through various iterations of my job talk. I was fortunate to secure a position at UC Santa Barbara's Asian American Studies Department where I will start as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2023 after finishing my current postdoctoral fellowship in Asian American Studies at Princeton University's Effron Center for the Study of America.

While spending the rest of the year conducting the final ethnographic research and developing the book proposal for my manuscript entitled "Dreams Beyond Recognition: Liberalism's False Negotiations and the Search for Alternatives in Korean American Immigrant Justice Work," I had many opportunities to share my work with UCLA colleagues. At the invitation of **Vice Provost David K. Yoo**, I was able to present at the Huntington Library AAPI History Working Group my work on how narratives of purity in contemporary Asian American multiracial coalition discourse obscure the generative incommensurabilities and affective excesses that inhere to efforts to work across racialized difference. In April 2022, **Veronica Terriquez** and the Chicano Studies Research Center (CSRC) organized a panel entitled "Recent Research on LA Social Movements" in which I was able to present my chapter-in-progress examining the limitations of the 501(c)(3) as the dominant form of immigrant justice

movement building. Presenting alongside my postdoctoral cohort-mate **David C. Turner III**, and receiving generative commentary from **Stevie Ruiz**, the 2021-2022 IAC Visiting Research Scholar at the CSRC, I was able to move the chapter in exciting new directions following our discussion. Throughout the year, I also presented my work at academic conferences like the American Anthropological Association and Association for Asian American Studies annual meetings, and in public-facing forums oriented toward activist communities.

The thirtieth anniversary of the 1992 LA Uprising provided an opportunity to revisit these tumultuous events through the lens of our contemporary moment of renewed public discourse about Black urban rebellion, policing and prisons, violence in Asian American communities, and the conditions that necessitate thinking these issues as extensions of one another. With the support of AASC and the UCLA International Institute's Global Racial Justice and the Everyday Politics of Crisis and Hope event series, Jennifer Chun and I had the opportunity to convene **Gaye Theresa Johnson** and **Claire Jean Kim**, two of the foremost thinkers on Black rebellion and Black-Asian conflict and coalition, for a panel discussion we entitled "Remembering 1992 After the 2020 Rebellions." This somber but hopeful discussion outlined the enduring dilemmas that structure activist, scholarly, and popular attempts to understand Black and Asian American relationships to state violence, and to foster the radical possibilities to emerge from sustained rebellion against it.

I ended my year at UCLA reaching the goal I had set for myself at the outset: delivering my book proposal to university presses. Thankfully the proposal has garnered interest and I am working with editors to submit the final manuscript. I am grateful to IAC and the AASC for this unique opportunity to learn and collaborate with others in such a vibrant scholarly community.



Elizabeth Hanna Rubio is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate with the Asian American Studies Program at Princeton University.

# 2022-2023 UCLA ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER AWARDS,

## FACULTY & VISITING SCHOLAR AWARDEES

*Don T. Nakanishi Award for Outstanding Engaged Scholarship in Asian American & Pacific Islander Studies at UCLA for 2021-22*

### ROBERT T. TERANISHI

Professor | Social Science and Comparative Education

*C. Doris and Toshio Hoshida Distinguished Teaching Prize in Asian American Studies at UCLA*

### KELLY FONG

Lecturer | Asian American Studies

*Institute of American Cultures (IAC)/AASC Visiting Scholar*

### DONATELLA GALELLA

Associate Professor | Theatre, Film, and Digital Production, University of California, Riverside  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Getting Away with Yellowface: Affect, Asian Americans, and American Musical Theatre

## ARATANI COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT RESEARCH ENDOWMENT (C.A.R.E.) AWARDEES

### GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

PROJECT: GVJCI Day of Remembrance 2022 - Camp Creativity: Resilience Through Art

### MIDORI FUJIOKA

PROJECT: Japanese Poems, Inscriptions and Messages at Angel Island, 1910-1945

### JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTER

PROJECT: Sustainable Little Tokyo: Senior Academy

### KOREISHA SENIOR CARE & ADVOCACY

PROJECT: Restoring Compassion: Bringing Culturally Sensitive Senior Care Services to the Nikkei Community

### LITTLE TOKYO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PROJECT: Japanese Americans at 800 Traction

### NICHI BEI FOUNDATION

PROJECT: Virtual Films of Remembrance, Feb 20-21, 2021

### UCLA NIKKEI STUDENT UNION

PROJECT: Nikkei Student Union's 36th Annual Cultural Night

### VIGILANT LOVE

PROJECT: Solidarity Arts Fellowship

## GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDEES

*IAC/AASC Graduate Student Research Grants*

### KYLE ABRAHAM

MA Student | Asian American Studies  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Coming, Going, Being

### DEJA GOODWIN

PhD Student | Sociology  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Multiracial Family Socialization [Inter-Ethnic Grant]

### KAYLEY OKAMURA

MA Student | Asian American Studies  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Historical Reimaginings: A Poetic Reckoning

### MIYA SHAFFER

PhD Student | World Arts & Culture  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Theorizing Multiracialism as Interpretive Lens for North American Contemporary Dance [Inter-Ethnic Grant]

### VICTORIA TRAN

PhD Student | Sociology  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Contesting Chinatown: Racial Capitalism and Migration Effects on Neighborhood Development

### SIYUE WANG

PhD Student | Education  
RESEARCH PROJECT: When Model Minority Meets Illegality: Understanding Undocumented Asian and Pacific Islander Student Experiences in Higher Education

### DONGHYOUN WE

PhD Student | Sociology  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Navigating and Negotiating (In)visibility in Los Angeles Ghost Kitchens

### JASON CHIN

PhD Student | Film, Psychology  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Disentangling the effects of discrimination and neighborhood context on racial minorities' identification with people of color, group-based emotions, and consequent civic engagement and collective act [Inter-Ethnic Grant]

*Martha Ogata Grant to Study Domestic Violence & Abuse in APA Communities*

### RAVINDU RANAWAKA

MA Student | Asian American Studies  
PROJECT TITLE: Nocturnal Afterlives: South Asian Trans Rebirth and Temporality in Queer Nightscapes

*Patrick and Lily Okura Research Grant on Asian Pacific American Mental Health*

### GABRIELLE LUPOLA

MA Student | Asian American Studies  
PROJECT TITLE: Memories of Migration: Depicting the Diversity of Modern Chamorro Diasporic Experiences

*George & Sakaye Aratani Graduate Fellowship*

### TAIGE SHI

MFA Student | Film and Television – Directing / Documentary  
PROPOSAL TITLE: Gaku

### YUKINO TORREY

MA Student | Asian American Studies  
PROPOSAL TITLE: A Study of Shin Issei Women's Relationships with the Japanese American Community

*Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Fellowship*

### EUNHEE PARK

PhD Student | Community Health Sciences  
PROPOSAL TITLE: Gendered Racial Microaggressions and Mental Health Among Asian College Students Who Experienced Sexual Violence

*Professor Harry H. L. Kitano Fellowship*

### DONGHYOUN WE

PhD Student | Anthropology – Sociocultural Anthropology  
PROPOSAL TITLE: Navigating and Negotiating (In)visibility in Los Angeles Ghost Kitchen

*Tritia Toyota Graduate Fellowship*

### DA IN ANN CHOI

PhD Student | Gender Studies – Gendered Migration and Precarious Work  
RESEARCH PROJECT: Migration Histories and the Gendered Subjectivity Formation of Restaurant Workers in Koreatown

*Pearl Wang Fellowship*

### WEI SHEN

MFA Student | Film Production / Directing  
PROPOSAL TITLE: To Where the Wind Goes

*George & Sakaye Aratani Internship*

### KAYLEY EMIKO OKAMURA

MA Student | Asian American Studies  
INTERNSHIP: Kaya Press

*21st Century Internship with Asian American Studies Center*

### DAVID CHOI

MA Student | Asian American Studies  
INTERNSHIP: AAPI Multimedia Textbook

*George and Lily Kagawa Award for Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Research Graduate Internship*

### APRIL BAO YANG

MA Student | Asian American Studies and Social Welfare  
INTERNSHIP: Asian Pacific Islander Re-entry & Inclusion through Support & Empowerment

*Hiram Wheeler Edwards Best Paper Scholarship for the Study of World War II Internment Camps & Japanese Americans*

### SAMANTHA KOYAMA

MA Student | Social Welfare  
PAPER TITLE: A Lesson to Never Forget, Already Forgotten?



# GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND INTERNSHIPS

## *Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Best Paper Scholarship*

### JANINE SUN ROGERS

PhD Student Theater and Performance Studies – Asian American and Pacific Islander Performance

PAPER TITLE: Our Little Brown Sister: Militarism and Colonial Desire in Bella Poarch's TikTok Performances

## *Ben & Alice Hirano Best Paper Scholarship*

### CATHERINE HO

MA Student Asian American Studies

PAPER TITLE: The Vietnam War and Refugee Epistemology: A Critical Reflection on Narrativization in Oral Histories

## *Professor Harry H.L. Kitano Best Paper Scholarship*

### SIYUE LENA WANG

PhD Student Education – Race, Ethnicity

PAPER TITLE: Irregular Chinese Migration: A Comparative Analysis in Japan and United States

## *Tsugio & Miyoko Nakanishi Best Paper Scholarship in Asian American Literature & Culture*

### KYLE JAMES ABRAHAM

MA Student Asian American Studies

PAPER TITLE: Recreating Cultural Positions of Pilipino American Experiences

## *Reiko Uyeshima & Family Scholarship*

### EMMA HANSON

MAJOR: Chemical Engineering MINOR: Asian Languages and Cultures – Japanese

ESSAY TITLE: Population Decline Measures

### MIYU TANG

MAJOR: Psychology

ESSAY TITLE: My Intersecting Identities

## *Gold Shield Alumnae of UCLA Internship*

### CHARLENE CUBANGBANG

MAJOR: Political Science MINOR: Public Affairs

INTERNSHIP SITE: California Freedom Summer - Loud for Tomorrow

## *George & Sakaye Aratani Community Internship*

### MIYU YAMAGUCHI TANG

MAJOR: Psychology

INTERNSHIP SITE: Japanese American Community & Cultural Center - Sustainable Little Tokyo

## *21st Century Undergraduate Internship*

### SAMUEL YEE

MAJORS: Asian American Studies and Economics

INTERNSHIP SITE: UCLA Asian American Studies Center

## *George and Lily Kagawa Award for Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Research Internship for Undergraduate Student*

### JASMINE ZHANG

MAJOR: Biochemistry

## *Stanley Kwok Lau & Dora Wong Lau Memorial Internship*

### VI TRUONG

MAJOR: Psychology

MINOR: Asian American Studies

INTERNSHIP SITE: Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

## *Yuen Fong and Lew Oy Toy Family Internship in Chinese American Studies*

### AGNES LIN

MAJORS: Art and Art History

INTERNSHIP SITE: Chinese American Museum

## *Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Best Paper Scholarship*

### ASHLEY TRAN

MAJOR: Anthropology

MINOR: Global Health

PAPER TITLE: United by Difference: A New Understanding of "AAPI Women"

## *Hiram Wheeler Edwards Best Paper Scholarship for the Study of World War II Internment Camps & Japanese Americans*

### RYAN MOON

MAJOR: Human Biology and Society

PAPER TITLE: Review of the Script of Allegiance the Musical

## *Ben & Alice Hirano Best Paper Scholarship*

### NOAH GUILLERMO

MAJOR: Bioengineering

PAPER TITLE: Resilience Through Relationships

## *Professor Harry H.L. Kitano Best Paper Scholarship*

### RAPHAEL GATCHALIAN

MAJOR: Linguistics and Computer Science

MINORS: Digital Humanities and Cognitive Science

PAPER TITLE: Division and Solidarity: The Asian American and Pacific Islander Experience

## *Tsugio & Miyoko Nakanishi Prize in Asian American Literature & Culture*

### MEGAN VU

MAJOR: Human Biology and Society

MINOR: Asian American Studies

PAPER TITLE: Contrasting the Asian American Immigration Experience

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDEES

## *Morgan and Helen Chu Outstanding Scholar Award*

### JESSICA TAM

MAJOR: Biology

### MICHELLE FONG

MAJOR: Microbiology, Immunology, & Molecular Genetics

### NAYA LEE

MAJOR: Political Science

## *Chidori Aiso Memorial Scholarship*

### RYAN MOON

MAJOR: Human Biology and Society

ESSAY TITLE: The Paradox of Being Both Hypersexualized and Desexualized by White America

### EMMA HANSON

MAJOR: Chemical Engineering MINOR: Asian Languages and Cultures – Japanese

ESSAY TITLE: Seishin: The Spirit of Being Japanese

## *Angie Kwon Memorial Scholarship*

### MEGAN VU

MAJOR: Human Biology and Society

MINOR: Asian American Studies

ESSAY TITLE: The Virtues of Community Service

### SEAN SUGAI

MAJORS: Human Biology and Society and Anthropology MINOR: Public Health

ESSAY TITLE: On Researching or Being Researched: The Dual Privilege of Ethnographer and Volunteer

### ASHLEY TRAN

MAJOR: Anthropology

MINOR: Global Health

ESSAY TITLE: A New Perspective on Being Pre-Med Because of Community Service

## *Toshio & Chiyoko Hoshide Scholarship*

### ANNIKA TAMAKI

MAJOR: Nursing

ESSAY TITLE: My Uchinanchu Identity

## *Jane Lin Memorial Scholarship*

### RAPHAEL GATCHALIAN

MAJOR: Linguistics and Computer Science

MINORS: Digital Humanities and Cognitive Science

PAPER TITLE: Reaching Past the Disparities to Achieve My Education Goals

## *Nhat H. Tran, M.D. Scholarship*

### RYAN MOON

MAJOR: Human Biology and Society

PAPER TITLE: Journey of Life

## 2021-2022 C. DORIS AND T. HOSHIDE DISTINGUISHED TEACHING PRIZE IN ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Over the past ten years, **Dr. Kelly Fong** has served as a lecturer for the Asian American Studies Department at UCLA. Dr. Fong is a Bruin alum, Class of 2013, with a doctorate in Archaeology and a graduate concentration in Asian American Studies. She currently serves as the co-project director for the **AAPI Multimedia Textbook** with the Asian American Studies Center. Her research and knowledge of Asian American Studies range from a variety of topics, from historical social movements to Chinese American foodways through community cookbooks. Students and colleagues alike spoke of Dr. Fong's dedication to bridging research with community, as well as the care and attention she gave to her students. Such genuineness even extended to Dr. Fong's experience with remote learning, as she taught many large classes during the pandemic, requiring extraordinary work and dedication.

One of her colleagues stated, "I have always been a big fan of Kelly's teaching philosophy, one that always centers the agency and knowledge of students in any effort to effect critical political and social change."

The late **C. Doris Hoshide**, Class of 1934, of Rockville, MD, established the teaching prize to annually recognize an outstanding professor in Asian American Studies. She and her late husband were longtime supporters of Asian American Studies at UCLA. This is the first year that the prize has been opened to nominations of lecturers and adjunct faculty.



**DID YOU KNOW?** Kelly Fong appeared in episode 2 of *Take Out with Lisa Ling*, a food docuseries on HBO Max, and provided her expertise on Chinese American history and shared her own personal family history.

## 2021-22 DON T. NAKANISHI AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP IN ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER STUDIES



**Dr. Robert Teranishi** is a Professor of Social Science and Comparative Education, the Morgan and Helen Chu Endowed Chair in Asian American Studies, and co-director for the Institute for Immigration, Globalization, and Education at UCLA. He received his PhD in Higher Education and Organizational Change from UCLA. His research focuses on race, ethnicity, and the stratification of college opportunity. His work has proven so influential that he was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the U.S. Department of Education's National Board for Education Services. Students and colleagues applaud his ability to advance policy priorities for AANHPI communities, as Dr. Teranishi expertly connects research to teaching in ways that expand understanding of the subject and inspire further discovery and action.

A colleague noted, "His ability to connect scholarship to federal advocacy brings visibility to AANHPI student experiences and needs and advances key policy conversations that have the potential to impact educational outcomes for AANHPI students at scale."

Through the generosity of UCLA faculty, students, staff, and alumni as well as community leaders, an endowment was established that honors the late **Professor Emeritus Don T. Nakanishi**, who served on the UCLA faculty for thirty-five years and who ably directed the Asian American Studies Center (1990-2010). The Nakanishi Award includes a \$5000 award. The award rotates annually between faculty and students. The graduate and undergraduate student awards will be given during the 2022-2023 academic year.

**DID YOU KNOW?** In March, Robert Teranishi testified before a House of Representatives subcommittee about the Relevance and Contributions of Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs) in the U.S. Higher Education Landscape.

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### KATELYN HANCOCK (1988-2022)

**Katelyn Camile Hancock** passed away on January 29, 2022. Katelyn received her MA in Asian American Studies from UCLA in 2018, with her thesis called “Familiarizing the Stranger: Asian American Adoptees and ‘the American South,’” and was a lecturer at Loyola Marymount University. Born in South Korea and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, Katelyn explored the complexities of migration, race, gender, and belonging in the South with great nuance, turning an unflinching but loving gaze on the place she called home.



### WENDELL PASCUAL (1975-2022)

Artist **Wendell Pascual** passed away on July 6, 2022. As a UCLA undergraduate student in the early 1990s, Wendell was the main organizer of the first “Our Path to Follow: Prose, Poetry & Performance” program that took place on October 20, 1994. This “path” brought together passionate poets, musicians, and artists and led the way for a vibrant cultural scene in the LA community, especially for Pilipinx Americans and the arts. He also worked as a designer with many UCLA entities such as UCLA Live!, the Department of World Arts and Cultures/ Dance, the Academic Advancement Program, and the UCLA Labor Center.



### BENJAMIN “BENJI” CHANG (1976-2022)

**Benjamin “Benji” Chang** passed away on July 20, 2022. He received his PhD in Urban Education from UCLA in 2009 and was an educator by day and a DJ (DJ Ultraman) by night. In 2000, he began teaching primary school at Castelar Elementary School in Los Angeles’s historic Chinatown. He became a fixture in the Chinatown community, founding or facilitating a social justice and arts education collective, a martial arts and lion dance troupe, youth soccer and basketball teams, a youth organizing program, and a college access mentoring program, while he was a graduate student in UCLA’s Education Program. Benji was an associate professor at the University of North Carolina Greensboro in the Department of Teacher Education and Higher Education.



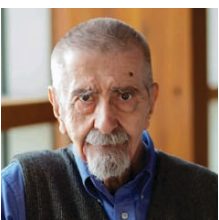
### FRANKLIN ODO (1939-2022)

Asian American Studies pioneer and AASC co-founder **Franklin Odo** passed away on September 8, 2022. He is known for his work building and shaping Asian American studies institutions across the country, from Cal State Long Beach to University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. He also served as the founding director of the Asian Pacific American Center at the Smithsonian Institute for 15 years and brought Asian American history to a global audience. His experience with the Center’s beginnings, including as the curriculum coordinator and as co-editor of *Roots: An Asian American Reader*, is documented in the Collective Memories Project, which can be found at <https://www.aasc.ucla.edu/aasc50/>.



### GILBERT HOM (1950-2022)

Community activist **Gilbert Hom** passed away on October 4, 2022. He attended UCLA for several quarters but cut short his formal education to reject the military industrial complex and devoted his efforts to bringing town and gown together so that his university could be a catalyst for social change. He fought for the establishment of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and, despite not being an alumnus, was a lead donor toward an endowment for Chinese American studies. He was dedicated to preserving Chinese American history and was involved in Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and the Chinese Family History Group.



### ROGER DANIELS (1927-2022)

Historian **Roger Daniels** passed away on December 9, 2022. He received his PhD from UCLA in 1961, and he later taught at UCLA, Wisconsin State University, University of Wyoming, SUNY Fredonia, and University of Cincinnati, where he retired as professor emeritus of history. Over the years, he wrote widely on the history of immigration to the U.S. and Japanese American history, particularly Japanese American incarceration during World War II. In 1967, he and Harry Kitano organized “It Did Happen Here,” a conference at UCLA commemorating the 25th anniversary of Executive Order 9066. He also served as a consultant to the Presidential Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and played a key role behind the scenes in the Redress Movement. The Center hosted him several times, most recently with the Suyama Project. More information about the Suyama Project can be found at: <https://www.suyamaproject.org/>.





## The UCLA Asian American Studies Center was founded in 1969.

We've come a long way since then—from teaching the first Asian American studies courses at UCLA, producing two of the pre-eminent journals in our field, leading the interdepartmental masters, major and minor programs, launching the Asian American Studies Department, supporting the Center for EthnoCommunications, processing important collections, fostering AAPI researchers and scholars, launching digital archives and projects, and so much more. Many people have been with us on this journey—whether as students, faculty, staff, volunteers, organizational partners or community members—and we thank you for all you have done to help us bring Asian American Studies forward.

We invite you to connect with the Center, support our key initiatives, and join us for our slate of special programming and events that examine this current moment and look towards the future of Asian American Studies.



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1/ After the program for *From Number to Name: Back to Life* with members of API Rise and event speakers and organizers at UCLA (UCLA AASC/MT); 2/ Pacific Islands' Student Association (PISA) members posing together. PISA played a key role in securing the creation of the American Indian and Pacific Islander Living Learning Community at one of the UCLA campus residence halls this year (PISA); 3/ Visual Communications Executive Director **Francis Cullado** with filmmakers and alumni **Bob and Tad Nakamura** at the *Hito Hata* post-screening discussion at the Japanese American National Museum (*Visual Communications*); 4/ **Oliver Wang** in conversation with film director **Wayne Wang** at the UCLA Film & Television Archive's *Chan is Missing / Slamdance* program at the Hammer Museum, part of the Directed by Wayne Wang series co-sponsored by AASC (UCLA FTA/Tom Cheney).



5/ UCLA representatives (KC Bui, Robert Teranishi, Anne Dela Cruz, and David K. Yoo) at the UC AANAPISI Summit at UC Irvine (Kristine Jan Espinoza); 6/ **Lisa Uperesa** (top left) after her book talk for *Gridiron Capital* at 580 Cafe with students from Mira Costa College (UCLA AASC); 7/ **Melany De La Cruz-Viesca**, **traci kato-kiriyama**, and **Barbra Ramos** striking a pose at the Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) Conference in Denver, CO (Abe Ferrer); 8/ UCLA alumni **Florante Ibanez**, **Sarah Park Dahlen**, **Abraham Ferrer**, and **Edith Chen** at the AAAS Conference (Abe Ferrer); 9/ **Namrata Poddar** (center) at her book talk for *Borderless* at the Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum with Asian American Studies graduate students and discussion moderators **Layhannara Tep** and **Maya Patel** (UCLA AASC/BR); 10/ **Eryn Lê Espiritu Gandhi** with **Jane Hong** at the book talk for *Eryn's Archipelago of Resettlement* (Valerie Matsumoto); 11/ Discussants **Loubna Qutami**, **Keith Camacho**, and **Thu-Huong Nguyen-Vo** at Eryn's book talk (UCLA International Institute).