

Lane Hirabayashi Joins Center and Department as Aratani Professor

PROFESSOR LANE RYO HIRABAYASHI has been appointed as the first George and Sakaye Aratani Professor of the Japanese American Internment, Redress, and Community. The endowed chair is the first and only one of its kind in American higher education. It supports the activities of a renowned scholar, specializing in research and teaching about the unjust incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans and Japanese from the Americas during World War II, their subsequent post-war campaign to seek redress and a national apology, as well as in the issues, challenges, and trends of the Japanese American community.

Professor Hirabayashi was selected after an international search conducted by professors, staff, and students of the Asian American Studies Center and Department. Hirabayashi said, "Being appointed as the inaugural recipient of the Aratani Chair is a dream come true for me. Not only will I join a stellar set of colleagues in Asian American Studies at UCLA, but I can contribute to the long tradition of Japanese American Studies and collaborations with community groups that have been undertaken by so many distinguished UCLA faculty, staff, and students over the years."

The endowed chair was established by George and Sakaye Aratani, who have been long-time supporters of the Center. Both are second-generation Japanese Americans, who were interned during World War II and believe strongly that the American public should learn lessons from that unconstitutional tragedy so that it is not repeated. Mr. Aratani is the founder and former CEO of Mikasa and Kenwood electronics. They have also established a graduate fellowship and undergraduate summer internship at the Center, and recently made a commitment to establish a \$1 million endowment to support research and other activities by UCLA faculty, staff, and students that would serve to advance the Japanese American community (see page 4 for related story).

"George and Sakaye Aratani are incredibly special people," said Professor Don Nakanishi, Director of the Asian American Studies Center. "They have not only benefited countless community groups through their generosity, but also supported major scholarly and other educational activities to enhance public understanding of the Japanese American experience, especially the

unjust wartime internment. Their endowed chair, as well as other programs they have established at UCLA, will make it possible for preeminent and committed scholars like Professor Hirabayashi, along with their students, to explore, analyze, share, and apply the Japanese American experience for generations."



Professor Hirabayashi received his PhD in socio-cultural anthropology from UC Berkeley, and has had a distinguished career as a faculty member at San Francisco State University, University of Colorado, Boulder, and UC Riverside. He has received numerous academic awards and grants, including two postdoctoral fellowships at the Center in 1981-1982 and 1996-1997.

Professor Hirabayashi's family is recognized in relation to the wartime incarceration and to the fields of Asian American Studies and Ethnic Studies. His uncle, Gordon, was the principal defendant in one of the major U.S. Supreme Court cases that challenged the government's decision to remove and intern the Japanese Americans (*Hirabayashi v. United States*, 1943). The case also was part of the successful coram nobis efforts of the 1980s, which included the cases of Fred Korematsu and Min Yasui. His father, Dr. James Hirabayashi, was the first Dean of the School of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University, and an original

(Continued on page 2.)

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CrossCurrents, the newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, keeps readers abreast of current Center programs, including academic programs, research projects, publications, faculty activities, student perspectives, relevant university and community issues, as well as programs not sponsored by the Center but in the province of Asian American Studies.

CrossCurrents is published twice yearly (Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter) and distributed in the community by Center staff. It is also mailed free to all subscribers of *Amerasia Journal*.

For information on how to submit articles, announcements, images, and so forth to *CrossCurrents*, contact the editor at brandy22@ucla.edu

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In This Issue . . .

Lane Hirabayashi Joins Department	1
Melany Dela Cruz-Viesca, Asst. Director	3
Aratani \$1 Million Endowment	4
Kitano Endowment Established	4
Endowment for Fil Am Studies	5
Valerie Matsumoto Receives Teaching Prize	6
Oh and Hokoyama, UC Lecturers	6
Keith Camacho Joins Department	6
Grace Hong New Book	6
Margie Kagawa-Singer, Full Professor	7
Shu-mei Shih, Full Professor	7
George Sanchez, IAC Postdoc Fellow	8
Min Zhou Receives Book Award	8
Henry Yu, One of Top Young Historians	8
Don Nakanishi, Co-Chair Nielsen Council	8
Cheung, Lal, EAP Directors	9
Remembering Masumi Hayashi	9
Rolfe Hall Home to Department	9
Yuji Ichioka Book, Tributes	10
Gary Pak Book Talk	11
James Yee Book Talk	11
Public Policy Workshop	12
UC AAPI Initiative Established	12
Filipino Legacy Fund Benefit Dinner	13
Filipino Labor, Organizing, & Cinema Talks	13
Center for the Study of Women Workshops	14
Filipino Studies from Japan Symposium	14
Michael Omi Talk	14
Filipinos in Entertainment Industry Forum	14
Biju Matthew Talk	14
Heart Mountain Draft Resisters Event	15
Asian American Writers Congress	15
MA Class of 2007	16
Subverses 2006	17
Three MA Alums Receive Tenure	18
2006-2007 Center Scholarships, Prizes	18
2006 Department Commencement	19
Tritia Toyota Joins Center, Special Projects	19
Marji Lee Appointed Librarian	19
National Homeownership Study Released	20
Ethnocom Receives Three Grants	20
Celisse Saucedo Joins Staff	20
New Nexus, Amerasia Journal Issues	21
Publications Order Form	23

(Continued from page 1.)

member of the Japanese American Planning Group at the university, which designed the first curriculum in Japanese American Studies.

Along with major contributions to the development of scholarship on Japanese Americans, Professor Hirabayashi has been a leading scholar in Asian American Studies, Latin American Studies, Ethnic Studies, and in the comparative study of Japanese migration in the United States, Mexico, and Latin America. He has authored three books—*Cultural Capital: Mountain Zapotec Migrant Associations in Mexico City* (1993), *Inside an American Concentration Camp: Japanese American Resistance at Poston, Arizona* (1995), and *The Politics of Fieldwork: Research in an American Concentration Camp* (1999)—edited and co-edited five books and one book-length special issue of the *Amerasia Journal*, and published over thirty articles, as well as numerous book reviews. He is currently completing two book manuscripts, one of which is a reconsideration of Japanese American resettlement after their wartime incarceration.

Professor Hirabayashi has had a strong record as teacher, mentor, and curriculum developer. In 1993-1994, he received an "Outstanding Undergraduate Advisor" award at the University of Colorado, Boulder. At UC Riverside, he was entrusted with the primary responsibility of designing and writing a full-length proposal for a new doctoral program in Ethnic Studies.

In expressing the wide enthusiasm for Hirabayashi's appointment, Professor Cindy Fan, the chair of the Department of Asian American Studies said, "The faculty, students and staff of the Department of Asian American Studies are very excited that Professor Hirabayashi—a superstar in Asian American Studies—is joining UCLA. His scholarship is groundbreaking, interdisciplinary, and transnational. His professional vision will not only fulfill the goals of the endowed chair, but also enhance the curriculum and forge important links between Asian American Studies and other departments as well as the larger community of which UCLA is part."

Professor Hirabayashi has served on several editorial boards for leading journals in the field such as *California History*, *Pan-Japan*, *Ethnic Studies*, and *Amerasia Journal*. He is also highly active in organizing and participating in symposia and conferences, and in reviewing manuscripts for major university presses.

Hirabayashi has worked with numerous organizations including the Center for Japanese American Studies, the Asian American Theater Company, the Little Tokyo People's Rights Organization, the Gardena Pioneer Project, East-West Players, the Japanese Community Youth Council, the Japanese American Graduation Committee of Denver, Colorado and, most recently, the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) in Los Angeles. As a consultant for JANM, Professor Hirabayashi has been working on the "Discover Nikkei" website project as well as a curriculum project known as "Enduring Communities," that spans the states of Colorado, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. He has also worked as a consultant with the Riverside Municipal Museum on the preservation of Riverside's historic Harada House.

Professor Hirabayashi's wife, Marilyn Aquizola, will be a lecturer in the department in Winter Quarter 2007, teaching an undergraduate course on Filipino American literature.

Melany Dela Cruz-Viesca Selected as New Assistant Director of Center

MELANY DELA CRUZ-VIESCA is the new Assistant Director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. A graduate of UC San Diego and UCLA, she has been since 2002 the coordinator of the Center's Census Information Center, a joint partnership with the National Coalition of Asian Pacific American Community Development (CAPACD) and the U.S. Census Bureau. She also serves as managing editor of *AAPI Nexus: Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy, Practice, and Community*.

Upon acceptance of her new post, Dela Cruz-Viesca stated: "I am excited and grateful to be named Assistant Director for an institution that has provided me with so much inspiration as a Pinay (Filipina) and a sense of being part of a broader Asian American and Pacific Islander community. As Assistant Director, I will bring my academic training, and professional skills in combination with my community experience to ensure that the Center continues to grow successfully while meeting the needs of students, staff, faculty and the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in Los Angeles and throughout the nation."

She has authored numerous articles on Asian Pacific American demographics, community and economic development, and educational issues, including, "Opportunities for Community-University Partnerships: Implementing a Service-Learning Research Model in Asian American Studies," co-authored with Loh-Sze Leung for *AAPI Nexus* (Volume 1, No. 1, Summer/Fall 2003) and "Swimming with and Against the Tide: Filipino American Demographic Changes," in *The New Face of Asian Pacific America: Numbers, Diversity and Change in the 21st Century* (2003), co-authored with Pauline Agbayani-Siewert. She also provided major technical assistance for *The New Face of Asian Pacific America*, which was co-published by the Asian American Studies Center.

She regularly shares her valuable census research and data findings with a number of institutions throughout the United States, including: the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Committee on Vital & Health Statistics, Subcommittee on Populations, which focused on the role of race and ethnic data in health research in Asian Pacific Islander American communities, and the National Low Income Housing Coalition and Center for Housing Policy/National Housing Conference in Washington D.C. She presented an analysis of Asian and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander small business trends and needs for the U.S. Census Bureau's National Press Conference release of the 2002 Small Business Owner Survey Data.

In addition, Dela Cruz-Viesca served as an instructor of a field-studies and research methods course for the Asian American Studies Department. This course gave students the opportunity to develop "real world" research and learn community needs assessment methods that addressed the urban challenges facing Asian American and Pacific Islander community development organizations in Los Angeles.

As an undergraduate student of Ethnic Studies at UC San Diego, she remembers reading publications by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press: "Books such as the *Roots Reader*, *Moving the Image*, and *Amerasia Journal* were critical to my 'coming into consciousness.' Unlike my mainstream history and



literature textbooks, these books documented how Asian and Pacific Islanders were part of the social movements of the 1960s and 1970s—providing accounts of Asian American activists protesting imperialism, giving voice to Asian perspectives against the war in Vietnam, and participating in the struggles over the I-Hotel and Third World Studies in the Bay Area. These Center publications inspired and taught me the possibilities of how workers, students, and everyday people can unite across racial lines for a more equitable and socially just life."

At UC San Diego, she was actively involved in the student and community social movements to preserve affirmative action programs, the fight for immigrant rights/workers rights, and the struggles to resist anti-youth initiatives. She later went on to get her MA degree in Urban Planning, with a specialization in community and economic development from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Dela Cruz-Viesca has also worked with several community-based organizations that serve the Asian Pacific Islander community in Los Angeles, including the Little Tokyo Service Center, Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA), Guam Communications Network, Thai Community Development Center, Chinatown Service Center, and South Asian Network. She is currently involved with the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON) Housing and Economic Development Committee and the Asian Pacific American Community Research Roundtable.

In addition, she is a member of the Balagtasan Collective, a group of young Filipino activists, artists, and community organizers who use spoken word, hip hop, and visual art to raise awareness about the issues facing Filipinos in the U.S. and the Philippines. She has performed with the Balagtasan Collective at several cultural events and community workshops in the Los Angeles area. She has also served as one of the curators for the Festival of Philippine Arts and Culture Balagtasan Poetry Slam for the past three years.

As the Assistant Director, Dela Cruz-Viesca will be responsible for, among other duties, the internal management of the Center, extramural grants administration, and the coordination of the Center's fellowships and research grants of the Institute of American Cultures. She also will continue to be actively involved in the Center's Census Information Center and other research and public projects.

George and Sakaye Aratani Pledge \$1 Million Community Advancement Research Endowment at the Center



George and Sakaye Aratani.

GEORGE AND SAKAYE ARATANI, who have endowed an academic chair, graduate fellowships, and an undergraduate internship at the Asian American Studies Center, recently pledged \$1 million to establish the George and Sakaye Aratani Community Advancement Research Endowment. The endowment will support community-based research and other activities, in perpetuity, by UCLA faculty, staff and graduate and undergraduate students that will benefit and advance the Japanese American community and strengthen the ties between them and the Japanese American community.

“Through their new gift to the Center, George and Sakaye Aratani have insured a permanent partnership between UCLA and the Japanese American community,” said Professor Don Nakanishi, Center Director. “The endowment will provide opportunities for our faculty, staff, and students to use their expertise, training, and commitment to undertake research, public education, and other activities in collaboration with community groups that will serve to advance the community. It is an extraordinary, and indeed visionary, commitment to UCLA and the community by the Aratanis.

“I also would like to acknowledge the leadership which Dr. Tritia Toyota provided in the establishment of this major new endowment,” said Nakanishi. “She played an indispensable role. She is well aware of the importance of community-based research and partnerships based on her scholarly pursuits, community involvement, and indeed the positive results she has seen from the Tritia Toyota Community Research Endowment she established at the Center.”

An advisory committee composed of UCLA professors who have expertise in Japanese American Studies and a commitment to Japanese American communities will be established to evaluate proposals and make recommendations to the Director of the Center about the use of the endowment.

Professor Harry H.L. Kitano Endowment Established



Lynn Kitano and the late Harry Kitano.

Photograph courtesy of Stan Paul

Hundreds of friends, former students, colleagues, and admirers of the late Professor Harry H.L. Kitano from across the country have generously donated to establish an endowment in his name to support UCLA undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in Asian American Studies. The endowment will be administered by the Center, and annually will support a graduate research fellowship, along with undergraduate and graduate academic prizes.

Professor Kitano, a world renowned race relations expert and a pioneering social scientist in the field of Asian American Studies, was a professor at UCLA from 1958 to 1995 in the Departments of Social Welfare and Sociology. He also served as Director of the Asian American Studies Center, and was an active member of the Center’s Faculty Advisory Committee.

Professor Dennis Ogawa of the American Studies Department of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, who received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from UCLA and worked on numerous research projects with Professor Kitano for many years, spearheaded the endowment campaign, along with Lynn and Christine Kitano, the wife and daughter of Professor Kitano. Center director Don Nakanishi also assisted.

“I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Dennis, Lynn, and Christine for their leadership and commitment in establishing this important endowment in Harry’s name,” said Professor Nakanishi. “He was dedicated throughout his UCLA career to building the strongest possible institutional foundation for Asian American Studies research, teaching, and professional service and practice at the university. This endowment will guarantee that Professor Kitano will be associated with the continued growth of Asian American Studies at UCLA, in perpetuity.”

Enrique Delacruz, Sr. and Eleazar Abarquez Endowment for Filipino American Studies Established

Long-time Center supporters and community leaders, Professor Enrique Delacruz and Prosy Abarquez-Delacruz, have established an endowment in the names of their fathers to support research on Filipinos and Filipino Americans. The endowment will support (1) the archival preservation of the Filipino American experience in the United States, particularly progressive community building and (2) the Filipino American Library Collection at UCLA.

Here, Prosy Abarquez-Delacruz shares some poignant and intimate background information about the establishment of this endowment.

Why did we name the endowment after our fathers (not to negate our mothers—Felisa Buado Delacruz and Asuncion Castro Abarquez, who both worked as committed educators—as we honor them highly and appreciate their strong support and love for our fathers)? Our fathers were not only survivors of World War II, but both were amazing as their legacies were about being more humane to others, socially gregarious, and enormous in their “generosity of spirit.” They never preached hate toward the Japanese, but rather, reminded us that these were soldiers in the Imperial Army who loathed what they did but had to do as dutiful soldiers.



Enrique Delacruz, Sr.

Enrique’s father, Atty. Enrique Delacruz, Sr., survived the Bataan Death March, walked over 200 miles, day and night, counting all the unburied dead along his path. He negotiated with his captors and appealed to their human needs to eat, offering himself and his team of soldiers to cook for them, as he claimed that they, the Japanese soldiers, would need strength to do their tasks. He and his team of soldiers were spared as a result. He went on to attend law school, each day walking miles and miles. He became a country lawyer, and sometimes his fees were paid in the form of chicken eggs, chickens, pigs, and even milking cows, which my husband Enrique learned to milk as the eldest in the family.

It was not until Enrique, Sr. was in his eighties that we learned of his painful story. Our son, Carlo, made a video about his grandfather as part of his AP history coursework in high school. Because of Carlo’s assignment, we all learned valuable lessons from Enrique, Sr.’s history.



Eleazar Abarquez.

We did not learn about my father’s story until after he passed away in 2000. At the time of his passing, I encouraged my mother to write down the love story between her and my father in order to assuage her grief. In her writings, she opened up about how my father, Eleazar Aquino Abarquez, was orphaned as a result of his parents, Maximo Abarquez and Josefa Aquino Abarquez, being assassinated by the Japanese Imperial Army. He also lost three brothers—Angel, Constancio, and Norberto—who were all soldiers killed by the Japanese. After the tragic losses of his family, my father persevered through law school, after which he served as a government employee, enforcing the labor codes of the Republic of the Philippines.

Our fathers stood for more humanity and justice, and both were generous to family, friends, and strangers alike. During Christmas, we had many nuns and poor folk in our house, as my father handed out presents to everyone. He and my mother saved up for the entire year in order to be able to do this. When he died, he was called “Christmas,” as he epitomized that spirit to everyone—neighbor, friend, family and stranger.

My sister, Sion Ferrer, writes, “Daddy had the generosity of spirit for everyone. He especially helped to find employment for the marginalized members of our society. . .He lived very simply in his ways so that he was able to have money in his savings to help out his brothers and sisters in the Philippines.” It is that generosity of spirit embodied by our fathers, Enrique Delacruz, Sr. and Eleazar Abarquez, that inspires us to establish this important endowment.

Valerie Matsumoto First Recipient of AAS Distinguished Teaching Prize

Chiyoko Doris (UCLA alumna, 1934) and the late Toshio Hoshide, of Rockville, Maryland, have established an endowment at the Center to recognize outstanding teaching in Asian American Studies among the faculty of the Center's Faculty Advisory Committee and the department. Doris Hoshide was one of the founders of the Chi Alpha Delta sorority, the oldest Asian American sorority in the nation, and taught elementary school in a concentration camp during World War II. She and her late husband, Toshio, worked for the federal government in Washington, DC after the war, and were active in Asian American affairs in the region. They have been strong supporters of Asian American Studies at UCLA, and have also endowed two undergraduate scholarships.

2006 is the first year in which the Chiyoko Doris and Toshio Hoshide Distinguished Teaching Prize has been awarded, and nominations from students and faculty were evaluated by a committee composed of students, Center staff, and faculty. Professor Valerie Matsumoto is the first recipient of the prize.

Professor Matsumoto received her BA from Arizona State University and her PhD in U.S. History from Stanford University. She holds a split appointment between the departments of Asian American Studies and History, and has served as Associate Director of the Center and Vice Chair of the Department of Asian American Studies. Professor Matsumoto has been a committed and popular instructor throughout her nearly twenty-year UCLA career. She serves as chair or member of a large number of undergraduate honors thesis, MA thesis, and PhD dissertation committees, and has mentored many of the rising new stars in the field of Asian American historical studies.

Angela Oh and J.D. Hokoyama Selected As UC Regents Professor and Lecturer

Nationally renowned civil rights attorney Angela Oh was appointed as a UC Regents Professor with the Asian American Studies Department in Fall 2005. A UCLA alumna, she taught two undergraduate classes on race relations and leadership development during her quarter-long teaching appointment. Oh is the author of *Open: One Woman's Journey* (UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press, 2002).

J.D. Hokoyama, the president and executive director of the Los Angeles-based Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP), was appointed as a UC Regents Lecturer in the Departments of Asian American Studies and Urban Planning. He taught a two-week workshop on leadership in the Asian American community.

Professor Keith Camacho Joins AAS Department

Dr. Keith Camacho has been appointed as an Assistant Professor in the department, effective July 1, 2006. Professor Camacho, who was an Assistant Professor at the University of Guam, received his PhD in History and his MA in Pacific Islands Studies from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He received his BA from the University of Guam. Before joining the UCLA faculty, he will spend six months as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand.

Professor Camacho's scholarship and teaching interests cover important research topics within Pacific Islander Studies such as colonialism and decolonization, militarism, migration, and tourism. He uses research methods



ranging from those used in history, cultural studies and ethnography to postcolonial criticism. His dissertation at the University of Hawaii at Manoa was entitled "Cultures of Commemoration: The Politics of War, Memory, and History in the Mariana Islands." At UCLA, he will teach undergraduate and graduate courses in Pacific Islander Studies, research methods, and other topics.

Grace Hong Releases New Book

Grace Hong, an Assistant Professor in Asian American Studies and Women's Studies at UCLA, just released her new book, *The Ruptures of American Capital: Women of Color Feminism and the Culture of Immigrant Labor* (University of Minnesota Press, 2006). More information about the book can be found at http://www.upress.umn.edu/Books/H/hong_ruptures.html.

Professor Hong received her BA in English and MA in Asian American Studies from UCLA, and her PhD in Literature from UC San Diego. She teaches courses on women of color feminism; gender, race, and work in the global economy; gender and sexuality in Asian American culture, and feminist approaches to American literature and culture.



Marjorie Kagawa-Singer Promoted to Full Professor

Dr. Marjorie Kagawa-Singer, PhD, MN, RN, has been promoted to Full Professor in the Department of Asian American Studies of the UCLA College of Letters and Science and the Department of Community Health Sciences of the UCLA School of Public Health. Professor Kagawa-Singer has developed a national and international reputation through her work in oncology for over thirty years. Her research focuses on the disparities in physical and mental health-care outcomes of ethnic minority populations, primarily Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with chronic illnesses such as cancer. Her present research investigates the influence of ethnicity on health care decisions, access, and utilization of care. She seeks to develop standards of cultural competence in health care practice and policy to improve the health status of all ethnic groups who suffer a disproportionate burden of disease.



Professor Kagawa-Singer is the Director of the Concurrent MA Degree Program in Community Health Sciences and Asian American Studies and the Principal Investigator at the UCLA Minority Training Program for Cancer Control Research. She is also the Co-Director of the UCLA EXPORT Center for Education, Research and Strategic Communication on Minority Health Disparities. She serves on multiple local, state, and national committees involved with issues of ethnicity and health care.

Kagawa-Singer's current cancer-related research includes intervention studies to promote mammography in eleven different Asian American and Pacific Islander groups: Hmong, Thai, Cambodian, Native Hawaiian, Samoan, Filipino, Vietnamese, Laotian, Chamorro, Guamanian, and Chinese women in six sites across the U.S. Also underway is a study of the quality of life of elderly women following breast cancer, and a study to develop a spirituality scale for elderly people with chronic conditions. She participates as co-PI on several other studies related to her expertise in cross cultural health.

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Professor Kagawa-Singer has a Master's degree in nursing from the UCLA School of Nursing, and Master's and PhD degrees in Anthropology from UCLA. She serves on multiple local, state and national committees involved with issues of ethnicity and health care, and has published, lectured, and taught extensively on issues in cross cultural health-care, cancer, pain, grief and bereavement, end-of-life decision making, and quality of life. She also serves as consultant to the American Cancer Society and other community groups that are working to bring cancer education and services to under-served populations.

Shu-mei Shih Promoted to Full Professor

Professor Shu-mei Shih, who has appointments in UCLA's Departments of Comparative Literature, Asian Languages and Cultures, and Asian American Studies, has been promoted to Full Professor. She has been an active member of the Asian American Studies Center's Faculty Advisory Committee for many years. She is also the co-director of UCLA's Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in the Humanities under the title "Cultures in Transnational Perspective," which promotes comparative studies of minority cultures in transnational contexts.

Professor Shih is a scholar of comparative literature with expertise and interest in Chinese, Sinophone, and Asian American literatures. Her research focus also includes transnational feminism, minority discourse, modernism, (post)humanism, and (post)colonialism. Her first book was a comprehensive study



of Chinese literary modernism from the early twentieth century that integrated theoretical, historical, and textual approaches. The book, *The Lure of the Modern: Writing Modernism in Semicolonial China, 1917-1937* (University of California Press, 2001), also engaged deeply with theories of colonialism and postcolonialism.

Her forthcoming book, *Visuality and Identity: Sinophone Articulations Across the Pacific* (University of California Press, 2007), theorizes and substantiates the new category of the Sinophone as the culture and literature of peoples speaking and writing different Chinese languages outside China, especially Taiwan, pre-1997 Hong Kong, Southeast Asia, and Chinese America. She edited a special issue of *Postcolonial Studies* on the topic of "Globalization and Taiwan's (In)significance"; co-edited (with Françoise Lionnet) *Minor Transnationalism* (Duke 2005); and also co-edited (with Ying-ying Chien) a special issue of *Chung-Wai Literary Monthly* on the topic of "Third World and Transnational Feminism." She publishes widely in all the major humanistic scholarly journals in the U.S., writes regularly for journals and anthologies in Taiwan, Hong Kong, and China, and her work has been translated into Japanese, Chinese, and French.

Her current work includes two editing projects, one for PMLA (Publication of Modern Language Association) entitled *Comparative Racialization* (forthcoming in 2008) and the other a co-edited collection of essays dealing with the question of "theory" entitled *Creolization of Theory*. Otherwise, she is trying to invent a new term for a new monograph called "Trialectics" with which she hopes to move cross-cultural, comparative, and transnational studies beyond dialectical models.

George Sanchez 2005-2006 IAC Postdoc Fellow

George Sanchez, Associate Professor in the USC History Department and Program in American Studies and Ethnicity, was an Institute for American Cultures (IAC) postdoctoral fellow with the Center in 2005-2006. His project, “. . . And They Were All Sent Away’: The Meaning of Japanese American Internment for the Non-Japanese of Boyle Heights,” examined the Mexican, Japanese, Jewish, and African American residential settlement in the multi-ethnic Boyle Heights neighborhood of East Los Angeles. His study is unlike prior studies of East Los Angeles in that it employs a multi-ethnic approach and is not circumscribed by theoretical issues pertaining to Mexican American community activism. His project combines historiography, oral history, interviews, political economy, and urban planning, and draws from detailed empirical research.

As part of his postdoc residency, Professor Sanchez taught a graduate seminar on “Race in Los Angeles,” during the Spring 2006 quarter. The course concentrated on racial dynamics in Los Angeles and surrounding Southern California communities.

Professor Sanchez is the author of *Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles, 1900-1945* (Oxford University Press, 1993).



Henry Yu Named One of Top Young Historians

Professor Henry Yu—of the Asian American Studies and History departments at UCLA, and the History department at the University of British Columbia—has been recognized as one of the top young historians by the History News Network. Professor Yu currently serves on the Board of Managing Editors of the *American Quarterly*, as well as on the Editorial Board of *Amerasia Journal*. He is on the Council of the American Historical Association—Pacific Coast Branch for 2006-2009. For more information about Professor Yu, visit <http://hnn.us/roundup/entries/21671.html>.



Min Zhou Receives Book Award

Professor Min Zhou, who holds a split appointment between UCLA’s Departments of Asian American Studies and Sociology, has been awarded the Outstanding Book Award from the Asia and Asian America Section of the American Sociological Association for *Asian American Youth: Culture, Identity, and Ethnicity* (co-edited with Jennifer Lee, Routledge 2004).



The book includes articles not only by Professor Zhou, but also other UCLA faculty (Professor Valerie Matsumoto of Asian American Studies and History) and current and former graduate and undergraduate students in Asian American Studies and other fields at UCLA (Dr. Arleen de Vera, Victoria Namkung, Lakandiwa de Leon, Mark Ng, Nancy Wang Yuen, and Rebecca Kim).

Professor Zhou has also been elected as the Chair of the Asia and Asian America Section of the American Sociological Association.

Nakanishi Co-Chair of Nielsen Council

Center director Don Nakanishi has been elected as co-chair of the national Asian Pacific American Advisory Council to Nielsen Media Research. The other co-chair is Jimmy D. Lee of Chicago and Washington, DC, who is the Executive Director of The White House Initiative for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

The Advisory Council was “established to provide a forum for direct communication between Nielsen Media research and leaders of the Asian Pacific American community. The Council affords APA community leaders with an opportunity to share their views on how Nielsen can more effectively reach Asian Pacific Americans.”

The other Council members are: Tomas Consunji, ABS-CBN International, Burlingame, CA; John Thai Dinh, Little Saigon Television, Santa Ana, CA; Alice Lee, LA 18-KSCI Television, Los Angeles, CA; Karen Narasaki, Asian American Justice Center, Washington, DC; Michael Sherman, KTSF Television, Brisbane, CA; Nita Song, IW Group, Los Angeles, CA; Anil Srivatsa, ImagineAsian TV, New York, NY; Doua Thor, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, Washington, DC; and Jerry Wong, US Census Bureau, Van Nuys, CA.

Professors King-Kok Cheung and Vinay Lal Selected as EAP Directors

Two Asian American Studies professors have been selected as Directors for Education Abroad Programs (EAP) for the University of California in China and India in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, respectively. Both King-Kok Cheung and Vinay Lal have been active members of the Center's Faculty Advisory Committee, as well as the Department of Asian American Studies.

Professor Cheung, who holds a split appointment in English and Asian American Studies, will be the Director of the University of California Study Center in Beijing, China (January 2008-December 2009). The Center is located in Peking University, but courses for UC students will be taught at both Peking University and Beijing Normal University. Professor Cheung will also teach in the Department of English at Beijing Foreign Studies University during the Fall 2007, before her appointment as UC Center Director. Professor Cheung plans to promote Asian American Studies in general and Chinese American literary studies in particular in China.

She also wants to facilitate scholarly exchange between UC faculty and students and Chinese faculty and students. She plans to propose a required course on American Studies jointly taught by a UC faculty member and a faculty member from Beida.



Professor Vinay Lal, who holds an appointment in History with an official affiliation with the Department of Asian American Studies, will be directing the EAP program in India, presently housed in the University of Delhi as well as the University of Hyderabad. He hopes to make the program more attractive to UC students at a time when India is rapidly being transformed, and perhaps have it extended to other universities, as well as to use his extended time in India to undertake field research.



Remembering Center Visiting Scholar, Masumi Hayashi

Cleveland State University photography professor Masumi Hayashi, age 60, was shot to death near her apartment on August 17, 2006. Professor Hayashi was a visiting scholar in the Asian American Studies Center during academic year 2005-2006. Center director Don Nakanishi states, "She was an exceptionally creative and socially conscious artist, and a wonderful person. As a token of her appreciation for being a visiting scholar with us, she gave the Center one of her panoramic collages of a wartime concentration camp, which will be placed in one of the conference rooms at the Center. Her death is an extremely tragic loss." Her panoramic collages, some of them as large as six feet, have been featured at the Japanese American National Museum and LACMA, among other museums worldwide.

Professor Hayashi was raised in Watts. She received her BA and MFA from Florida State University, after which she became part of the Cleveland State University faculty in 1982.

During her stint as visiting scholar at the Center, Professor Hayashi visited elderly Japanese Americans interned during World War II.

Visit <http://www.masumimuseum.com/index.html> to see samples of the late Professor Hayashi's work.



"Tule Lake Relocation Camp," the panoramic collage Professor Hayashi donated to the Center.

Rolfe Hall Home to AAS Department

The UCLA Department of Asian American Studies will call Rolfe Hall home beginning in Fall 2006. The department will occupy sixteen offices on the second and third floors of Rolfe, and include administrative offices, offices for all faculty with full AAS appointments, spaces for students and TAs, a meeting room, and temporary offices for instructors and other uses. This physical move is a milestone for the department, providing significantly more space than in previous years. Most importantly, this marks the first time the department has its own offices available for faculty. Finally, having a space in a building adjacent to the Center, located in Campbell Hall, will also facilitate continued partnership between the two units and joint activities designed to achieve common goals and visions.

The Late Yuji Ichioka Honored, New Book Published

The posthumous publication of *Before Internment: Essays in Prewar Japanese American History* (Stanford University Press, 2006), by the late Professor Yuji Ichioka, inspired several celebratory events and remembrances. Professor Ichioka was a pioneer in developing the fields of Japanese American and Asian American Studies through his historical writings, teaching, archival collecting, and social activism. This new book is a collection of essays focusing on Japanese Americans during the interwar years. It explores such issues as the *Nisei* (American-born generation) relationship toward Japan, Japanese American attitudes toward Japan's prewar expansionism in Asia, and the meaning of "loyalty" in a racist society—all controversial but central issues in Japanese American history. Ichioka draws from original sources in Japanese and English to offer an unrivaled picture of Japanese Americans in these years.

The first event to celebrate the new publication, held on April 22, 2006 at the Senshin Buddhist Temple in Los Angeles and sponsored by the Center, was entitled "A Community Celebration of Yuji Ichioka: His New Book and His Legacy." This special community tribute also commemorated the renaming of the UCLA Japanese American Research Project (JARP) Collection in recognition of Ichioka's leadership in making it the largest and most significant archive on Japanese Americans in the nation.

The tribute commenced with a welcome by Center Associate Director, Robert Nakamura. The day proceeded with various panels, the JARP renaming ceremony, and a book signing.

The first panel was entitled "Unburying the Past: Archiving Asian American History." It was moderated by Center Librarian Marjorie Lee and included panelists Aiko Herzig, Enrique Delacruz, Him Mark Lai, and David Yoo.

The second panel discussed Ichioka's new book and was moderated by UCLA History and Asian American Studies Professor Valerie Matsumoto. Panelists included Gordon Chang (co-editor of *Before Internment*), Eiichiro Azuma (co-editor of *Before Internment*), Stanford University Press editor Muriel Bell, Emma Gee (Ichioka's wife), and Alexander Saxton.

The final panel, entitled "Living History as Present and Past: Forum on the Legacy of Yuji Ichioka's Writings, Actions and Ideas," was moderated by UCLA History and Asian American Studies Professor Henry Yu. Jose Calderon, Yen Espiritu, Lane Hirabayashi, Ketu Katrak, Reverend Mas Kodani, Nobuko Miyamoto, and Ling-chi Wang participated in the forum.

Photographs courtesy of Valerie Matsumoto



Valerie Matsumoto, David Yoo, Eiichiro Azuma, Gordon Chang, Emma Gee, and Henry Yu.



Celisse Saucedo, Irene Soriano, Emma Gee, June Kuramoto, and Don Nakanishi.



Suellen Cheng, Alex Saxton, Lesley Kawaguchi, and Valerie Matsumoto.

Three months later, another tribute was met with success in Tokyo, Japan. On July 16, 2006, scholars, friends, family, colleagues, and students celebrated the release of the new book at the University of Tokyo. Approximately 100 people attended the event, including major scholars on immigration studies in Japan, UCLA alumni, graduate students in American Studies from universities in Japan, Asian American Studies Master's program alums such as Yukiko Tsuji, Brian Niiya, Karen Umamoto, Yasuko Kawarasaki, and Ryan Yokota, and previous postdocs and scholars at the Center such as Professor Mizuho Murayama, Tsuda College president Masako Iino, and writer Yumiko Murakami. MA alum and book co-editor Eiichiro Azuma gave an important talk on how Ichioka's book will influence Japanese American historical research.

Tritia Toyota and Emma Gee also attended the event. Toyota talked about the relevancy of Ichioka's work to current research on transnationalism and immigration studies, while Emma Gee offered insights on the impact of Ichioka's writings in Japan.

The event was a collaboration between the Center and the University of Tokyo's Center for Pacific and Asian Studies, directed by Professor Masako Notoji, an alumna of the UCLA Master's program in Asian American Studies. The forum was also co-sponsored by the Imin-kenkyukai, a professional research association dedicated to immigration studies, with which Ichioka worked and greatly influenced through his scholarship, the assistance he offered its members when they did research at UCLA's JARP Collection, and during the one year he was a Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo. The UCLA Japan Alumni Association co-sponsored the reception following the forum.

As a result of this successful collaborative event, the Center has strengthened its ties to the University of Tokyo, and in doing so, has ensured the continued legacy of Ichioka's academic and activist vision and mission.

Photographs courtesy of CPAS, University of Tokyo



Don Nakanishi and Masako Notoji.



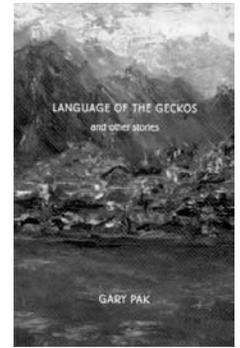
A full audience at the Tokyo tribute.



The poster for the Tokyo tribute.

Author Gary Pak Gives Talk on Writing

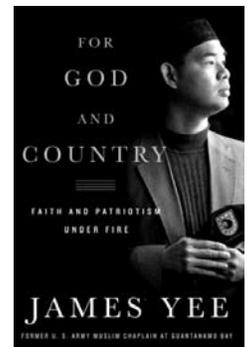
September 30, 2005—Author and professor Gary Pak visited the Center and Department, giving a talk entitled "Living with Spirits, Writing as Activism." Pak spoke on his experience as an Asian Hawaiian writer and read from his latest collection of short stories, *Language of the Geckos and Other Stories*.



He is the Director of Creative Writing and Associate Professor of English at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. In addition to the collection from which he read, he has authored and edited four other books: *The Watcher of Waipuna and Other Stories*, *A Ricepaper Airplane*, *Yobo: Korean American Writing in Hawai'i* (ed.), and *Children of a Fireland*. He is at work on a novel based on his grandmother's life as a picture bride on a Hawaiian plantation, a book of personal essays on contemporary Korean culture, and a video project on the oral histories of second-generation Korean Americans in Hawai'i.

Chaplain James Yusuf Yee Book Talk

October 20, 2005—Chaplain James Yusuf Yee, author of *For God and Country: Faith and Patriotism Under Fire*, gave a compelling book talk in Kerchoff Art Gallery. He spoke on how he became a victim of the U.S. government's post-9/11 "war on terror," and about his journey of faith and service from false accusations to complete exoneration.



James Yee is a third-generation Chinese American and a 1990 graduate of West Point. In 2001, Captain Yee was commissioned to be a Muslim chaplain in the U.S. Army. After the tragic attacks on 9/11, Yee helped to educate fellow soldiers about Islam. Later, he was assigned to serve at Guantanamo where detainees from Iraq and Afghanistan were being held. Then, the U.S. government wrongfully accused him of spying and aiding the Taliban and Al Qaeda. Yee spent seventy-six days in solitary confinement and was threatened with the death penalty before being exonerated.

For more info about Chaplain Yee, visit <http://www.justiceforyee.com/>. The event was sponsored by Asian Pacific Coalition, Muslim Student Association, and the Asian American Studies Center.

Center Organizes Policy Workshop

October 15, 2005—The Center, together with UC Office of the President, UCLA Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies, UCLA Department of Public Policy, and the Asian American/Ethnic Studies Departments and Programs at UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Riverside, UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara, and UC Santa Cruz, held an interactive workshop entitled “Strengthening the AAPI Policy Infrastructure: Community-Based Research, Teaching, and Advocacy.”

Since Spring 2005, faculty members from Asian American Studies programs at seven UC campuses, leaders from community-based organizations, and elected officials have come together to launch the UC AAPI Policy Initiative, a multi-campus proposal that seeks to have a positive impact on public policies that will affect the nearly five million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in California. The initiative is both a response to the visibly growing and changing population of Asian American and Pacific Islander faculty and students in higher educational institutions and an effort to anticipate and address specific issues confronting the rapidly growing AAPI communities in the state through innovative community-based research, undergraduate and graduate teaching, professional service and advocacy. By doing so, the initiative seeks to strengthen the present and future public policy infrastructure of California’s AAPI population. (See related story, this page.)

The collaborative event was a highly interactive exploration of significant public policy issues, trends and accomplishments of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in the past and present, as well as innovative community-based approaches to undergraduate teaching and graduate training in AAPI public policy. Panelists made brief presentations and then engaged in extensive dialogue with attendees. The participants and activities included:

“Political historical contexts, lessons, and examples of AAPI policy activities and trends”

John Park, UC Santa Barbara (moderator); Lane Hirabayashi, UC Riverside; Dana Takagi, UC Santa Cruz; Jerry Kang, UCLA

“Teaching AAPI policy within a community-based framework at the undergraduate and graduate levels”

Don Nakanishi, UCLA (moderator); Linda Vo, UC Irvine; Mary Anne Foo, Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance; Marjorie Kagawa-Singer, UCLA; Lois Takahashi, UCLA

“Contemporary AAPI policy advocacy research and legislation”

Yen Espiritu, UC San Diego (moderator); Bill Ong Hing, UC Davis; Luna Yasui, Chinese for Affirmative Action/Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality; Lisa Park, UC San Diego

UC AAPI Initiative Established

The UC AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) Initiative is a proposed UC multi-campus research program (MRP) that would bring together UC researchers and community organizations to promote and coordinate activities focusing on the policy concerns of AAPI communities. Given the many policy challenges facing the state and its people, a crucial goal of the UC AAPI Initiative is a more fully informed public discussion around AAPI issues, which is grounded in empirical research.

The group fosters policy-relevant research on AAPI issues in four ways: (1) by establishing mechanisms to promote an effective exchange of ideas among policy-oriented faculty; (2) by promoting the training of graduate and undergraduate students in the field of AAPI policy studies; (3) by securing and granting funds to support or seed priority research; and (4) by serving as a clearinghouse for disseminating publications, so as to increase awareness of AAPI concerns among elected officials, public agencies, private-sector organizations, philanthropic foundations, and the general public.

Oiyan Anita Poon is a graduate assistant to the UC AAPI Initiative. She was recently awarded a grant by the California Policy Research Center of the UC Office of the President for 2006-2007 to conduct an inventory of UC faculty research expertise on AAPI issues and to identify emerging policy issues for AAPI communities in California. Originally from Massachusetts, Poon earned a Bachelor’s



degree at Boston College and a Master’s in Education at the University of Georgia. She served as the first Director of Asian Pacific American Student Affairs at George Mason University and as the first Student Affairs Officer in Asian American Studies at UC Davis. She is currently a PhD student in the subdivision of Race & Ethnic Studies in the Division of Social Sciences and Comparative Education at UCLA’s Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, with a graduate concentration in Asian American Studies. Her research interests include Asian Americans and the racial politics of education, education equality and school integration policy, and immigrant parent involvement in schooling.

A Night to Remember: Filipino Legacy Fund Benefit Dinner

On February 25, 2006, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center held a benefit dinner entitled, "*Isang Gabing Maalaala: A Night to Remember.*" The intimate dinner was hosted at the beautiful home of Denney and Dr. Laarni Domantay. The evening was filled with magnificent sounds by the Philippines' most acclaimed classical and jazz-pop pianist, Joselito Pascual, and a talented string quartet led by alumni Nonoy Alsaybar, with Ernie Gonzales, Erwin Gonzales, and Eileen Gonzales. An extraordinary dinner followed, which featured the delicious cuisine of world renowned Chef Marcello and Hilda Mauro of Marcello's Original Tiramisu, and the scrumptious dessert of Carmen Salindong and Josephine Santos, owners of La Maison du Pain.

Photograph courtesy of Enrique Delacruz



Hosts Dr. Laarni and Denney Domantay.

The dinner created a path to establishing an endowment which will support Filipino American and Filipino Studies at UCLA. This endowment would provide scholarships and fellowships to students, support to preserve rare Filipino special collections and archives, and funding for programs focused on Filipino-orientated research, teaching, community and student leadership.

Photograph courtesy of Enrique Delacruz



Dr. Manuel Sison, Dr. Noli Zosa, Mrs. Nena Zosa, Bishop Oscar Solis, Cindy Sison, Prosy Abarquez-Delacruz, Esq., Professor Ninez Ponce, Professor Don Nakanishi, Rose Ibanez.

The event was organized by the Filipino Legacy Fund steering committee: co-chairs Prosy Abarquez-Delacruz and Cindy Sison; alumni/community supporters Danilo Torres, Randy Bautista, Lina Paredes, Enrique Delacruz, Dennis Arguelles; and Center staff Melany Dela Cruz-Viesca and Meg Thornton. Special recognition also goes to Bishop Oscar Solis for blessing our efforts, and to Director Don Nakanishi, Professor Ninez Ponce, and alumna Lina Paredes for reminding us about the importance of supporting the Filipino Legacy Fund. Also many thanks to Rose Abarquez-Alcantara, Sion Abarquez-Ferrer, Racheld Abarquez-Del Rosario and Nimfa Abarquez-Bemis, sisters of Prosy, whose help and support were key to the success of the dinner.

The generosity, talents, and blessings of all who volunteered their valuable time, resources, and support made the event a resounding success and truly a night to remember. The Filipino Legacy Fund promises to be an exciting campaign. Please contribute to this effort by visiting our Filipino Legacy Fund webpage at <https://giving.ucla.edu/Standard/NetDonate.asp?SiteNum=24>.

Center Holds Talks on Filipino Labor, Organizing, and Cinema

Along with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Center offered two talks on Filipino issues.

February 8, 2006—Guest speaker, Kuusela Hilo of Habi Arts, presented "U.S. Filipino Organizing and Contemporary Workers' Struggles in the Philippines." Habi Arts is an LA-based organization that seeks to promote political and artistic empowerment to inspire and mobilize people for progressive social change. In addition to the talk, there was a screening of *Sa Ngalan Ng Tubo (In the Name of Sugar/Profit)*, a film by Tudla Media Collective. This film portrays the events that led to the violent loss of seven striking workers and union leader in Tarlac, Philippines.

February 22, 2006—Professor Roland B. Tolentino, of the University of the Philippines Film Institute, presented "Globalized Domestic Work and Female Representation in Contemporary Women's Films in the Philippines."

This lecture mapped out the context of labor export in the Philippines, then analyzed globalized domestic work that places the overseas Filipina domestic worker as a central figure in national development. Professor Tolentino then discussed the subgenre in film on the overseas contract worker and located its development within female and feminist filmmaking in the Philippines.

CSW Workshops Feature AAS Faculty

March 6 and 9, 2006—The UCLA Center for the Study of Women hosted a workshop and a roundtable which featured two Asian American Studies Department faculty members, Rachel Lee and Lucy Burns. On March 6, Professors Lisa Lowe (UC San Diego), Lisa Yoneyama (UC San Diego), and Maylei Blackwell (UCLA) presented their research in a workshop entitled "Epistemologies of Globalization." On March 9, Professors Maylei Blackwell (Chavez Center, UCLA), Lucy Mae San Pablo Burns (World Arts and Cultures, UCLA), Yogita Goyal (English, UCLA), Maureen Mahon (Anthropology, UCLA), and Caroline Streeter (English, UCLA) discussed the transnational turn in feminist studies in relation to both their own work and to the history of U.S. multicultural feminist knowledge production, in a roundtable entitled "Transnational Feminism: Women of Color Feminism by Another Name." The roundtable was chaired by Professor Rachel Lee of the English and Asian American Studies at UCLA.

Filipino Studies from Japan Symposium

April 11, 2006—As part of the Center For Southeast Asian Studies Spring 2006 Colloquium Series, the Center co-hosted an event entitled "Filipino Studies from Japan: Translations, Marriages, Politics: A Symposium." Three scholars participated in the symposium.

Professor Yoshiko Nagano, of the Faculty of Human Sciences, Kanagawa University, Yokohama, presented "Translation as Transcultural Intellectual Battlefield: My Experience in Two Translation Projects on Philippine Historiography."

Professor Nobue Suzuki, from the Department of International Studies, Nagasaki Wesleyan University, offered "Filipina-Japanese Marriages in an 'American' Context."

Professor Satoshi Nakano, from the Graduate School of Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University, presented "Politics of Mourning in the Postwar Philippines-Japan Relations."

The event was also co-sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies and the Department of History, and organized by Professor Michael Salman of the Center's Faculty Advisory Committee.

Michael Omi Discusses Racial Profiling

April 20, 2006—Michael Omi, Associate Professor and Chair of Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley, visited the Center, thanks to the UCLA Department of Sociology and the Ross Lecture Series, along with the Race and Ethnicity Working Group, Chicano Studies Research Center, Asian American Studies Department, Asian American Studies Center, Bunche Center for African American Studies, and the UCLA Law School Critical Race Studies Concentration. The talk was entitled "The Dilemmas of Colorblindness: Racial Privacy, Racial Profiling & Genetics." Professor Omi is author of *Racial Formation in the United States: From the 1960s to the 1990s* (Routledge).

Center Hosts Entertainment Industry Career Forum

April 13, 2006—The Center, along with the Filipino American Library, held a free forum entitled "Filipino American Executives in Mainstream Hollywood: Entertainment Industry Career Forum." The forum, which attracted a large audience, attempted to answer such questions as: "What does it take for an Asian American to break into mainstream Hollywood?" "Is being an Asian American an asset or a liability?" "What do these executives do and how did they get there?" Filipino American entertainment executives participated in the forum.

Dean Devlin is the Producer/Co-Writer of *Independence Day*, *Stargate*, and *Godzilla*. His feature films have grossed over one billion dollars worldwide.

Chris Sanagustin is the Senior Vice President, Current Programming for The WB Network. She oversees several of the network's most successful shows, including *Smallville*, *Reba*, and the highly anticipated Rebecca Romijn series, *Pepper Dennis*.

Rowena Arguelles is an agent with Creative Artists Agency (CAA). In 2002, she was included in the *The Hollywood Reporter's* "Next Generation" list of thirty-five entertainment industry executives under the age of thirty-five.

Ron Sato is Vice President, Corporate Communications for Sony Pictures Television International (SPTI). He works with SPTI's regional offices worldwide to oversee publicity for the division's distribution and local language television production businesses, as well as SPTI's over forty television networks outside the U.S.

Fritz Friedman is Senior Vice President, Worldwide Publicity for Sony Pictures Home Entertainment (SPHE). He supervises the worldwide corporate communications and product publicity activities for SPHE, and the publicity for Sony Pictures Digital Studios and Sony Pictures Releasing.

For more information about the Filipino American Library, visit <http://www.filipinoamericanlibrary.org/>.

Biju Mathew Talk on Taxi Organizing

May 16, 2006—The Center and the Colloquium on South Asian History and Cultural Studies presented a talk by Professor Biju Mathew, entitled "The Borders of Globalization: Migrant Labor and Taxi Organizing in New York City." Biju Mathew is Associate Professor of Business and Information Systems, Rider University, and among the most prominent progressive South Asian activists in the United States. He is Co-founder and Organizer of the New York Taxi Workers Alliance; Co-Producer/Host of Global Movements/Urban Struggles, on WBAI (NYC); Board Member, Brecht Forum; Co-Founder, Forum of Indian Leftists (FOIL); and Member, Campaign to Stop Funding Hate and the Coalition Against Genocide (CAG). He is also the author of *Taxi!: Cabs and Capitalism in New York City* (New Press, 2005).

Heart Mountain Draft Resisters Event

by Mary Uyematsu Kao

On May 2, 2006, a staged reading of "A Divided Community," written by Momo Yashima and Frank Chin, was presented to the UCLA community. A six-member panel consisted of three Heart Mountain draft resisters—Frank Emi, Mits Koshiyama, and Yosh Kuromiya; Paul Tsuneishi, a Military Intelligence Service (MIS) World War II veteran; and Momo Yashima and Mike Hagiwara of East West Players. The panel's presentation recounted the historical events leading up to the incarceration of Japanese Americans into internment camps, and what happened at the Heart Mountain internment camp.

Eighty-five young Nisei (second-generation Japanese American) men decided to resist their orders to report for military duty, until their civil rights were restored at Heart Mountain, Wyoming in 1944. Frank Emi was one of the leaders who organized the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee. It was the largest organized resistance to the internment of Japanese Americans, leading to the largest trial of draft resistance in U.S. history. The government prosecuted them as criminals, and they served two- to four-year prison terms. The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) ostracized the draft resisters as traitors and actively squashed acknowledging their contribution to Japanese American history. It was only in July 2000 that the JACL voted to apologize to the Heart Mountain draft resisters.

Photograph by Mary Uyematsu Kao



Paul Tsuneishi, Frank Emi, Yosh Kuromiya, and Mits Koshiyama.

The panel was warmly welcomed by students and members of the larger community with a standing ovation, followed by an emotional question-and-answer session. One Sansei (third-generation) woman's father had been too ashamed all of his life of talking about his incarceration at Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary for being a "no-no boy." This particular prison was where many of the draft resisters served

their prison terms. Frank Emi asked for the woman's father's name and recognized it immediately, bringing great comfort to the woman, who is only now learning more about her father's history after his passing a few years ago. There were other very emotional responses from students, who were touched by learning about this history. The evening was complete with a tirade from Frank Chin, who scolded the audience and said they owed their civil rights to the draft resisters.

The event was co-sponsored by the Center, UCLA Graduate Students Association, UCLA Department of History, UCLA Asian American Graduate Student Association, Asian American Association of Alhambra School District, National Coalition for Redress and Reparations, UCLA Department of Asian American Studies, Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California, UCLA Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies and the César E. Chavez Center for Interdisciplinary Instruction, *Amerasia Journal*, UCLA American Indian Studies Center, Nikkei Student Union, UCLA Center for Ethnocommunications, and UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center.

For an informative history of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and the treatment of the draft resisters by the JACL and MIS, see "Reconciliation Coming Slowly for Draft Resisters" by Martha Nakagawa (*Pacific Citizen*, March 5-12, 1999, http://www.resisters.com/news/PC_Nakagawa.htm).

Asian American Writers Congress

May 13, 2006—The Center, in a partnership with the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, held a free event, "The First Asian American Writers Congress," in the UCLA James West Alumni Center. Noted Asian and Pacific American authors, publishers and community leaders gathered to set the groundwork for the 2007 Asian Pacific American Book Festival in Los Angeles and to establish networks among APA writers, both emerging and published.

The keynote address was delivered by Shawn Wong, professor at the University of Washington and author of *American Knees*. The event proceeded with a panel entitled "Gate Keepers: Publishers, Editors, and Agents Tell You How to Get Inside the Door," and included Taryn Fagerness, agent; Patricia Wakida, editor; Dana Goldberg, executive editor; Philip Lee; and Naomi Hirahara, author.

Following the panel was a discussion on the status of Asian Pacific Americans and writing, moderated by memoirist David Mas Masumoto and included Cecilia Manguerra Brainard, Russell Leong, Alison De La Cruz, Sunyoung Lee, King-Kok Cheung, Ketu Katrak, and Curtis Choy.

MA Class of 2007—From the Valley and Beyond

From China, Florida, Northridge and beyond, the MA in Asian American Studies Class of 2007 comes to the program with their knowledge and experiences in the classroom and the community.

JEAN-PAUL DEGUZMAN is, in his words, “like, totally a native of the San Fernando Valley.” He earned a BA in Asian American Studies and a minor in history from California State University, Northridge. As an undergraduate, in addition to volunteering with the San Gabriel Mission Pilipino Community, he worked with the CSUN Asian American Studies Student Association and the CSUN Vietnamese Student Association.

He worked on a documentary for the “Telling Our Stories: Japanese Americans in the San Fernando Valley Oral History Project,” and presented on the project at Pacoima’s Japanese American Community Center and the 2005 Tri-District Conference of the Japanese American Citizen’s League. It was that mix of community and campus activism, working with so many dedicated individuals, that motivated him to follow the path of Asian American Studies. He

joined the MA program at the encouragement of his CSUN mentors, who also got their AAS training at UCLA, such as: Derek E. Mateo, Steven Masami Ropp, Gina Masequesmay, Allan Aquino, and Teresa Williams-Leon. For his thesis, he will explore the politicization and transformative resistance of Filipina American high school students in Catholic schools in an attempt to contribute to Critical Race Theory and Critical Feminist Theory. He states, “After completing my MA, I would like to pursue a PhD in history and one day return to CSUN’s Asian American Studies Department to teach—and especially learn from—the working-class students who do so much with so few resources.”

GENA S. HAMAMOTO is from Orange County, and she received her BA from UC Irvine in Asian American Studies. Following that, she lived amongst the rice fields of rural Japan, teaching English as a participant in the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme. After a short stint working in higher education, she decided to return to school. She plans to make a film about Okinawan American veterans who served in World War II for her thesis project. After completing her MA, she hopes to finally read a trashy novel out at Santa Monica beach, where she lives.

THERESA DE LEON JARANILLA grew up in Winter Park, Florida, living in a Filipino household always filled with relatives and

their stories. She attended the University of Florida where she majored in English and Sociology. During that time, Asian American Studies for her (except for the one literature course she took) existed outside of the classroom and almost completely in a student community continually inspired and guided by Asian American artists, activists, and leaders who visited the UF campus. After graduation, Theresa joined the MA program in search of the place where Asian American Studies in the classroom and community connect. Theresa plans to complete a thesis about Asian American Studies

and Filipino American Studies in public K-12 schools in the U.S. She would like all students to have access to curricula and programs that accurately reflect the experiences and history of people of the color. She hopes to contribute to the elimination of the question, “Why didn’t I learn this sooner?” as it relates to the youth and ethnic studies. Upon graduation, Theresa hopes to find herself in a classroom teaching,

learning, and storytelling alongside young students.

HYE-YOUNG KWON immigrated to Los Angeles when she was fourteen from Seoul, Korea. She graduated from California Polytechnic University at Pomona, and majored in social science and minored in Asian American Studies. She states, “My reasons for joining UCLA MA program are manifold yet share a common theme: I want to be the voice of Asian immigrants who are often perceived as ‘incompetent’ due to language barriers.” Before joining the program, she received training through a paralegal studies program at UCLA and worked as a full-time legal community advocate at Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC). She says, “Recognizing the various oppressions that immigrants face, I resolved to further educate myself in the field of Asian American Studies to improve the social well-being of working-class immigrants like myself.” Her thesis project will attempt to demystify the Model Minority myth through examining the impact of class variability and immigration status on Korean American student’s academic achievement. Comparing high-achieving Korean American students at Torrance District with those who dropped out of or failed at high schools in Koreatown, the study will examine how class differences influence their ability to navigate school resources and to resist persistent racism. Her research will illuminate the ways in which Korean youth, who are living at



MA Class of 2007: Bottom Row—Hyeyoung Kwon, Prof. Don Nakanishi, PJ Nadal; Top Row—JP deGuzman, Theresa Jaranilla, Hui Wang, Christine Lee, Thomas Szymanek, Gena Hamamoto, Mark Villegas.

the intersection of racism, xenophobia, and class distinction, effectively construct and negotiate their reality. Upon completing the MA program, Hyeyoung wants to pursue a PhD in sociology to research appropriate methodologies to assist working-class Asian immigrant parents about the education system in the U.S. and improve ESL programs.

CHRISTINE NAJUNG LEE was born and raised in Garden Grove, located in northern Orange County. She affectionately refers to her hometown as "half white suburbia, half Asian ghetto." As an undergraduate at UCLA, she discovered Asian American Studies and met her current hero and mentor, K.W. Lee. After graduating with a BA in English and Asian American Studies, Christine took a year off to travel, sleep, apply to graduate school, and freelance for an early Korean American oral history project. As a joint student in Asian American Studies and Social Welfare, she is engaged in a thesis project entitled "Children of Saigu," a multiracial anthology of first-person narratives by those remembering the Los Angeles Riots as children. She has been involved in progressive, grassroots Korean American organizations in L.A.'s Koreatown, having had the privilege of playing poongmul (Korean drums) with one at this year's immigration rallies. After earning her MA, Christine hopes to work at a community-based organization and continue freelancing.

PAUL-JULIAN NADAL, "PJ," was born in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, Philippines and immigrated to the United States at the age of ten. He received his BA in English Literature and American Ethnic Studies at the University of Washington and also attended the University of the Philippines, Diliman. His general research interests include Asian American literature, cultural and literary theory, and Filipino Studies. On his decision to join the MA program, he states, "Because my view is that Asian American critical practice must take seriously the historical conditions and socio-political parameters that inform and bind literary texts, I believe that the program's breadth of scholarship and distinguished strength in Asian American literary studies make possible, and indeed, nurture this necessary interdisciplinarity." As an Institute of American Cultures (IAC) Pre-doctoral Fellow, PJ will explore contemporary Asian American literature, specifically Filipino American writing, examining the relationships between sexuality, nationalism, and globalization. PJ plans to pursue a PhD to continue his work in Asian American literature.

THOMAS SZYMANEK (Wen Senbo) was born in Wałbrzych, Poland and immigrated to Chicago with his family at the age of seven. He received a BA in International Studies, a BS in Anthropology, and minors in Asian / Asian American Studies and Asian Languages & Literature at Loyola University. In addition to his studies at Loyola, Thomas completed a Certificate of Language & Culture from Renmin (People's) University of China. His mentor and advisor, Dr. Yvonne Lau, inspired him to become an advocate for the Asian American community. In addition to his studies, throughout high school and college, Thomas worked and volunteered at various API immigrant and refugee community-based organizations in the Chicagoland area for over ten years,

including places such as Chinese American Service League, Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, Asian Social Network and most recently Chinese Mutual Aid Association. Thomas joined the MA program in hopes of learning new ways of being an activist for the greater Asian American community and giving back to those that have assisted him throughout the years. His thesis, tentatively entitled, "Asian Pacific Islander Organizations Helping to Educate Every Child: A Case Study of Uptown, Chicago," seeks to address how a public policy, such as No Child Left Behind, influences and challenges child educational programs at community based organizations. After graduation, Thomas plans to continue to do community work on both national and international levels, focusing on educational and immigration issues, empower youth by teaching Asian American Studies and join his partner. According to Thomas, "If everything goes to plan, I hope to establish my own transnational non-governmental organization, serving the needs of the Asian and Asian American communities."

MARK VILLEGAS grew up in Japan, Long Beach, California, and Jacksonville, Florida. He graduated with degrees in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Florida. He decided to join the MA program because of the Center's resources and reputation. Many people influenced his decision to be involved with Asian American Studies, in particular MA program alumnus Jeff Chang. His research interests include Filipinos in the U.S. Navy, labor organizing, and hip hop cultural production. His thesis will explore the racial and ethnic construction of post-1965, second-generation Filipino Americans through hip hop culture. After earning his MA degree, Mark hopes to teach at the community college and university levels.

As a Fulbright graduate student from China, HUI WANG is committed to increasing understanding between Chinese and Americans. She is interested in the Asian American Studies Program not only because it allows her to examine the struggles and success of Asian Americans but also because not many scholars pursue Asian American Studies in China. Before studying in the U.S., she was working at China Foreign Affairs University as an assistant professor. Hui would like to become a professor of Asian American Studies literature, helping to develop the field in China.

AASGSA Presents Subverses 2006

May 30, 2006—In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the Asian American Studies Graduate Student Association and the Pacific Islander Student Association presented "Subverses 2006: Portraits: Pacific Islander / American Art and Performance," held in the Cooperage in Ackerman Student Union. The evening proceeded with performances by Samoan American Dan Taulapapa McMullin and New Zealand artist Shigeyuki Kihara; a screening of the student film *Justice for Kamehameha Schools* and other short films by Rosanna Raymond and Keala Kelly; and a showcase of visual art by Jewel Castro.

Three MA Alums Receive Tenure

Three alumni who received their MA degrees in Asian American Studies, as well as their PhDs in their respective fields, from UCLA were granted tenure.

Dr. Augusto Espiritu—who received his BA, MA (Asian American Studies) and PhD (History), all from UCLA—was recently promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in the History Department at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He also actively participates in the Asian American Studies Program at the university. His book, *Five Faces of Exile: The Nation and Filipino American Intellectuals* (Stanford University Press, 2005), examines responses to colonial, national, and racial challenges through the experiences and rhetoric of transpacific Filipino writers, who were among the pioneers of Filipino migration to the United States. His articles and essays have appeared in *Amerasia Journal*, *Diaspora*, and *Radical History Review*, as well as in the collections, *After the Imperial Turn* (ed. A. Burton) and *Multiculturalism in the United States* (ed. J. Buenker and L. Ratner). Professor Espiritu is currently working on a paper on Filipino American protest politics during the era of the Marcos dictatorship.

Dr. Scott Kurashige, who received his MA (Asian American Studies) and PhD (History) from UCLA and his BA from University of Pennsylvania, has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Michigan. Professor Kurashige is a member of the faculties of the Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies Program in American Culture and the Department of History. Professor Kurashige specializes in Asian American history, U.S. urban history, Los Angeles, Detroit, comparative race and ethnicity, African American history, social movements. His forthcoming book, which will be published in September 2007 by Princeton University Press, examines the intersecting histories of Black and Japanese Americans in twentieth-century Los Angeles. He has published a number of articles in journals such as *Journal of American History*, *Amerasia Journal*, and *Journal of Asian American Studies*. In 2003, Professor Kurashige received the University of Michigan's Regents Award for Distinguished Public Service for his important and innovative community-based teaching and research in revitalizing Detroit.

Dr. James Kyung-Jin Lee, who received his MA (Asian American Studies) and PhD (English) from UCLA and his BA from the University of Pennsylvania, has been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Asian American Studies at UC Santa Barbara. Before coming to UCSB, he served as Assistant Professor of English and Associate Director of the Center for Asian American Studies at the University of Texas

at Austin. Professor Lee is the author of *Urban Triage: Race and the Fictions of Multiculturalism* (University of Minnesota Press, 2004). He has published articles in *Novel: A Forum on Fiction*, *Literary Studies East and West*, *A Companion to the Regional Literatures of America*, *The Cambridge Companion to Modern American Culture*, *African American Writers*, and *Asian American Poets: A Bio-Bibliographical Sourcebook*. Professor Lee is on the editorial board of the *Heath Anthology of American Literature* (Houghton Mifflin), and is currently serving as an associate editor for *American Quarterly*. He was a former book review editor for *Amerasia Journal*. He was also a University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellow from 2000-2002.

2006-2007 Center Fellowship, Prize, & Scholarship Awardees

ACADEMIC PRIZES FOR UNDERGRADUATES

- Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Prize (\$500)
Sharlene Lee
- Tsugio & Miyoko Nakanishi Prize in AA Literature & Culture (\$500)
Sharlene Lee
- Wei-Lim Lee Memorial Prize (\$500)
Trisha Lim
- Ben & Alice Hirano Prize in Asian American History (\$500)
Trisha Lim
- Royal Morales Prize in Pilipino American Studies (\$500)
Sauntrie Abellera

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS, INTERNSHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS

- Morgan & Helen Chu Outstanding Scholar Award (\$2,000)
Eileen Shu, Vishal Sanjay Parikh
- Angie Kwon Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000 each)
Beulah Jo, Donna Vo, Jonathan Tran
- 21st Century Undergraduate Scholarships (\$2,500 each)
Tam Tran, Amy Zhou, Jason Osajima
- Union Bank Scholarship (\$2,500)
Naeri Yang
- Toshio & Chiyoko Hoshide Scholarship (\$2,500)
Dana Inouye-Heatherton
- Reiko Uyeshima & Family Scholarship (\$2,500)
Julia Fukuizumi
- George and Sakaye Aratani Community Internship (\$3,000)
Craig Ishii

ACADEMIC PRIZES FOR GRADUATES

- Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Prize (\$500)
Julie Park
- Philip Vera Cruz Memorial Prize (\$250)
Mark Villegas
- Ben & Alice Hirano Prize in Asian American History (\$500)
Jean-Paul deGuzman
- Tsugio & Miyoko Nakanishi Prize in AA Literature & Culture (\$500)
Paul-Julian Nadal

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

- Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Fellowship (\$2,500 each)
Lily Song, Jean-Paul deGuzman
- Tritia Toyota Community Research Fellowship (\$2,000 each)
Christine Lee, In Ju Cho
- 21st Century Graduate Fellowships (\$2,500 each)
Hye-young Kwon, John Tan, Oiyen Poon, Benjamin Chang
- Union Bank Fellowship (\$2,500)
Yang Xiong
- George and Sakaye Aratani Fellowship (\$3,000 each)
Gena Hamamoto, Kio Tong-Ishikawa

Department Commencement Highlights

June 18, 2006—The UCLA Department of Asian American Studies, held in Schoenberg Hall, celebrated the graduation of approximately forty-five undergraduate and Master's students in Asian American Studies. The host of the event was Dr. Tritia Toyota, and the keynote speaker was Warren Furutani, of the Los Angeles School Board. Professor Cindy Fan gave the Department Chair's address, and Center Director Don Nakanishi presented Professor Valerie Matsumoto with the Hoshide Distinguished Teaching Award. Professor Jinqi Ling was presented the first graduate students' faculty appreciation award. Congratulations to all the graduates, and good luck!



New alumni celebrate receiving their Asian American Studies BA degrees.



Tritia Toyota, Cindy Fan, Don Nakanishi, keynote speaker Warren Furutani, and Russell Leong congratulate the graduates.



MA graduates and classmates: Mary Kao, Kio Tong-Ishikawa, Michael Gonzales, Kehaulani Natsuko Vaughn, Rukshana Singh, Jennifer Madamba, Tram Le, and John Tan.

Dr. Tritia Toyota Joins Center for Research and Special Projects

Distinguished pioneering journalist and television news anchor, Dr. Tritia Toyota, has joined the staff of the Asian American Studies Center. Active for many years as a UCLA alumni leader (MA in Journalism and PhD in Anthropology), she will undertake research and special projects for the Center.

A highly respected community leader and news media professional, Toyota co-founded both the national Asian American Journalists Association and the Asian Pacific Alumni of UCLA. She has also hosted and moderated countless educational and charitable events in the Southern California region and the UCLA campus, including many for the Center.

Toyota's research centers on the political and cultural dimensions of immigrants and racial groups in the United States. She has done extensive field research on the transformative political and social experiences of post-1965 Chinese American immigrants including issues of both domestic and transnational politics.

Dr. Toyota lectures in the Departments of Anthropology and Asian American Studies. She will continue to teach her popular undergraduate class on race, politics, transnationalism and the media for the Asian American Studies department.

Photographs by Mary Uyematsu Kao



Tritia Toyota and Marji Lee at the 2006 Department Commencement.

Photograph by Mary Uyematsu Kao

Marjorie Lee of Center Library and Reading Room Appointed Librarian

Marjorie Lee, coordinator of the Asian American Studies Center Reading Room, was appointed Librarian in September 2005. This is a great honor and accomplishment for Marji, who is also an alumna of the Asian American Studies Master's program. For more information on the Reading Room, visit <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/library/default.htm>.

Center Releases National Study on Asian American Homeownership

In keeping with the hot real estate market, Asian American homeownership has increased in many cities, but significant barriers to homeownership among certain Asian populations still exist, according to a new national study by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and the Asian Real Estate Association of America.

The study, "A New Path to Homeownership for Asian American Home Buyers," found that from 1990 to 2000, Asian American homeownership rates increased in nineteen top metropolitan areas in the nation, most notably Minneapolis-St. Paul, Boston, and Fresno, California.

Sixty percent of Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders owned their own home in 2004, an increase from 53 percent in 2000, the study noted. However, Asian American homeownership rates lag behind the 2004 rates for the national population, with 69 percent, and non-Hispanic whites, 76 percent.

A large part of the growth is a result of immigrants from Asia who arrived in the United States prior to 1975, the study concluded. These Asian immigrants now are able either to own more than one home, move up to a larger and more expensive home, or both.

"Asian Americans are often perceived as enjoying a high degree of economic and educational success," said Melany Dela Cruz-Viesca, the study's author and assistant director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. "Most of the data reported indicate that Asian Americans lumped together have amongst the highest household income and homeownership rates in the country. However, other data show that significant segments of the Asian American community continue to face social, economic, and cultural barriers and fail to realize the dream of homeownership."

The Asian American homeownership rate decreased in the metropolitan areas of Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Diego, San Francisco, and Washington, DC, from 1990 to 2000, the study found.

Significant disparities also exist among Asian groups in metropolitan areas. In the Philadelphia area, for instance, the homeownership rate is more than 60 percent for Filipinos, Laotians and Vietnamese, but it is 33 percent for Thais and 26 percent for Bangladeshi.

Barriers to homeownership among newly arrived Asian immigrants include language and cultural barriers, a complicated home-buying process, and a lack of affordable housing, the study reported.

The study concludes with recommendations for real estate and mortgage industry professionals, housing policy-makers, and housing advocates, signaling that they cannot afford to ignore these rapidly changing trends and must address the diverse needs of the Asian American consumer market.

The national study can be downloaded for free at <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/>

EthnoCom Receives Three Grants

EthnoCommunications received three grants to expand its mission. In conjunction with its community partner, the Downtown Community Media Center, a \$75,000 grant was awarded from the Nathan Cummings Foundation to begin major video documentation of the early Asian American Movement. *Arts of Activism* will document and archive the cultural legacy of the Asian American Movement (1968-1978). The Nathan Cummings grant supports Phase I which will create an archive of video interviews with twenty artist-activists of different generations, ethnicities and mediums over a one-year period. The digital archive will be deposited at the Asian American Studies Center. Phase II will produce multimedia products in the form of web access, DVDs, publications and films to communicate the information to the public in accessible and engaging ways.

Two new grants were awarded for EthnoCommunications' new documentary, *Pilgrimage*, which chronicles the story of how the Manzanar Pilgrimage transformed an abandoned WWII American concentration camp into a symbol of solidarity for people of all ages, ethnicities and races in post-9/11 America. The \$20,000 grant from California Civil Liberties Public Education Program and \$23,800 grant from the UCLA Center for Community Partnerships will be used to develop a *Pilgrimage* educational DVD and, in partnership with Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, create a teaching guide and develop workshops for schools and organizations. The Los Angeles premiere of *Pilgrimage* will be held at the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy on November 11, 2006. Premieres at UCLA and in San Francisco, Seattle and New York are also being planned.



Celisse Saucedo Joins Department as Administrative Assistant

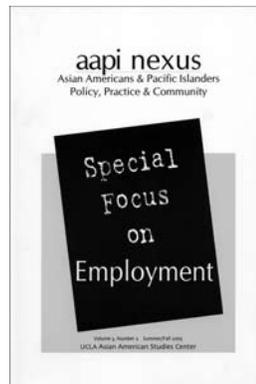
A new face can be found at the Department: Celisse Saucedo, whose motto is, "Live each day to the fullest!" Celisse was born in Montebello, California, and grew up in Palmdale. She attended Antelope Valley College and California State University, Northridge. Her duties include assisting faculty and students with inquiries and managing the Department. She states, "I enjoy working here at the Asian American Studies Department. I have met some of the best people." Celisse's goals include obtaining a bachelor's degree in business administration, opening an automotive business, and buying a Chevy Silverado. In her spare time, Celisse collects frog trinkets and plans events.



Photograph by Mary Uyematsu Kao

New Issues of AAPI Nexus

AAPI Nexus 3:2 (2005) examines racial discrimination in employment against Asian Americans, workers' rights, and economic parity in the global labor market. Guest Editor, Deborah Woo, and Senior Editor, Paul Ong, aim for this issue on AAPI work and employment (the first of two) to "produce the knowledge that will help generate new policies and practices to better serve the cause of greater workforce equity and social justice."



Researcher Paula Chakravartty looks at the impact of highly skilled South Asian nationals who comprise the majority of foreign-born workers in the IT (information technology) industry and their impact on American workers. In another article, Siri Thanasombat, the program manager at the Discrimination Research Center, and John Trasvina, the current Western Regional Director of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, focus on the aftershocks of the terrorist attacks of 9/11 on Arab and South Asian Indian nationals and American citizens. The authors document the effects of the attacks on the temporary employment industry, which the authors predict to be the fifth fastest-growing industry through 2012.

Karin Mak, a New Voices Fellow at Sweatshop Watch, and Grace Meng, a former Liman Fellow at the Asian Law Caucus and current law practitioner who focuses on immigration law in New York, in their practitioner's essay, outline ideas for improving programs that focus on workplace development. They propose renovations that are geared specifically toward immigrants. In particular, Mak and Meng are concerned about Chinese garment workers in California who are displaced by the global policy of lifting quotas on garment imports.

Other articles deal directly with employment discrimination against Asian Americans and Asian immigrants and propose ways to aid them. The second practitioner's essay, by Stuart J. Ishimaru, searches for reasons why Asian Americans file comparatively fewer employment discrimination charges than do other minority groups and calls for more research that explores the sociological factors in Asian Americans' perceptions and experiences of discrimination.

Don Mar questions whether AAPIs have achieved economic parity with non-Hispanic whites in the labor market, by analyzing information about labor market participation, employment in management positions, self-employment, earnings and gender differences.

Julian Chun-Chung Chow, Kathy Lemon Osterling, and Qingwen Xu, argue that for Asian immigrants and refugees, there is a problematic mismatch between their country of origin and the U.S., in terms of welfare-to-work programs. The authors call for the renovation of such programs with special consideration of the API population's needs.

AAPI Nexus 4:1 (2006) examines whether there is a "glass ceiling" affecting Asian American professionals. Health issues also are addressed.

"A major challenge facing Asian and Pacific Americans in the labor market is whether or not they can translate their educational gains into managerial positions, particularly positions at the very top of the public and private sector," comments Senior Editor Paul Ong. "The existing research, including the research published by *AAPI Nexus*, indicates that the 'glass ceiling' is a complex phenomenon with subtle nuances."

Vu H. Pham, Lauren Emiko Hokoyama and J.D. Hokoyama argue that there is an absence of Asian Pacific American leaders in the private, public and nonprofit sectors, and that this underrepresentation is not due to a lack of skill or interest. Instead, AAPIs are invisible because they lack role models and mentors and because they are not perceived as "leadership material."

In "Are Native-Born Asian Americans Less Likely to Be Managers? Further Evidence on the Glass-Ceiling Hypothesis," Arthur Sakamoto, Hyeyoung Woo and Keng-Loong Yap find that native-born Asian Americans are at least as likely as whites to be managers in the private sector.

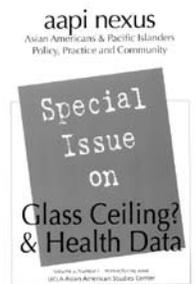
In "Asian Pacific American Senior Executives in the Federal Government," Jeremy Wu and Carson Eoyang show how Asian Pacific Americans have fared with respect to the glass ceiling and focus on representation at the highest career levels in the federal government. They draw upon two major reports from the Government Accountability Office.

The articles focusing on health find that there is a critical need for accurate and timely information in the health field.

In "Glancing Back, Looking Forward: Some Comments on Health Research in Asian American Communities," David Takeuchi and Seunghye Hong argue for a policy focus to guide the type of data that should be collected, including information on historical and contextual factors affecting health issues.

In "Singhs, Watanabes, Parks and Nguyens: A Comparison of Surname-list Samples to Probability Samples Using the California Health Interview Survey, 2001," Ninez Ponce and Melissa Gatchell describe one method of increasing the sample size used by the state survey. This large-scale effort is conducted in five Asian languages and supplements its random-digit-dialing sample with an over sample based on Asian surnames listed in telephone directories.

In "Measuring State-Level Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Disparities: The Case of Illinois," Lauren S. Tao, Jini Han and Ami Shah highlight the potentials and limitations of state-level government statistics. The findings for Illinois, which has the nation's sixth-largest Asian American/Pacific Islander population, are applicable for those working on health issues in states outside California and Hawaii.



Recent Publications from *Amerasia Journal*

Amerasia Journal 31:2 (2005) commemorates the thirtieth anniversary of the "Fall of Saigon" and "exodus from Vietnam." The issue is guest edited by Yen Le Espiritu, Professor of Ethnic Studies at UC San Diego, and Thu-Huong Nguyen-Vo, Assistant Professor at UCLA who teaches globalization, Vietnamese Studies, and Asian American Studies.



Professor Espiritu states, "On the 30th anniversary of the 'Fall of Saigon,' the United States indeed seems to have 'won' the Vietnam War. Ten years after normalization of relations with Vietnam, the United States has emerged as Vietnam's top trading partner, and the two countries are moving to increase security ties through military-to-military contacts and intelligence co-operation." Within this New World order, "Vietnam appears to be well on its way to become yet another satellite regime of the United States."

Yet, according to the editors, the voices and bodies of Vietnamese people, before and after the war, "have not been accorded the same humanity and dignity given to American bodies." The purpose of *Amerasia Journal's* special issue is to present the voices, the figures, the expression, and the ideologies of Vietnamese people in the United States from an alternative perspective: one of remembering the past and re-examining the present. Vietnamese refugees in the United States during the past thirty years have been seen for the most part as: "successful, assimilated, and anti-communist." According to the editors, this positive view that selectively links economic success, democracy, and freedom of U.S. Vietnamese is today being used as a rationalization to justify continued U.S. military intervention in other parts of the world "in the service of defending and bestowing freedom."

How should Vietnamese and other Asian Americans respond to their being used as the "model minority" in relation to America's "terrorist enemies" today? This special issue provides analyses of various Vietnamese American perspectives on the past and the present. Fifteen scholars, writers, and activists contribute essays that examine Vietnamese American communities today—including local organizations and local politics, Vietnamese American film, literature, and art. Among the featured writers are: Lan Duong, Viet Le, Isabelle Thuy Pelaud, Fiona I.B. Ngo, Thuy Vo Dang, Loan Dao, Thu Minh Pham, and Brandy Lien Worrall-Yu.

A special forum discusses Vietnam and the U.S. in relation to the current Middle East crisis and Iraq. Scholars John D. Blanco, George Dutton, Denise Ferreira Da Silva, Khatharya Um, and Lisa Yoneyama contribute to this forum.

Amerasia Journal 31:3 (2005), "Deporting Our Souls and Defending Our Immigrants," is a special issue on crime in Asian America that gathers together the perspectives of scholars, researchers and ex-prisoners.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, many Asian Americans—including Southeast Asians and South Asians—have become especially vulnerable to criminalization and have been legally, politically, economically or culturally ostracized and discriminated against.

Bill Ong Hing, professor of law and Asian American Studies at the University of California, Davis, and the author of *Defining America Through Immigration Policy*, states that this issue "gives us a picture of the level of criminal activity in many Asian American communities, the lack of re-entry programs across the country, the voices of offenders that provide troubling insight into why some individuals have turned to crime, and how racial-political forces have plotted to criminalize many Asian Americans."

Hing investigates how alleged criminality and criminal acts can lead to the unfair deportation of Asian Americans who have grown up in the United States. Young Cambodian and Vietnamese youth who had survived the trauma of the war in Southeast Asia are especially vulnerable to falling into lives of petty crime and possible deportation on criminal grounds. Many Asian American families, according to Hing, "confront poverty, school issues, role reversal, family disruption, and culture clash."

Louise Cainkar and Sunaina Maira discuss how after the 9/11 attacks, Arab and Muslim communities are being targeted and criminalized by the media, the state and the courts.

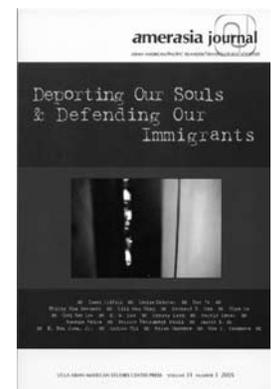
Thao N. Le and Isami Arifuku recommend how data on Asian and Pacific Islander youth should be analyzed.

Angela E. Oh and Karen Umemoto examine re-entry issues of Asians and Pacific Islanders.

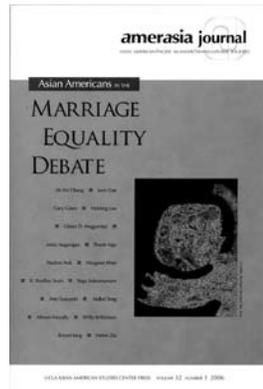
Michelle Tseching Fei and Gerald P. Lopez look at Asian and Pacific Islander re-entry issues in New York.

Together with the above essays, Richard Kim's first in-depth interview of Chol Soo Lee and K.W. Lee explores the case of Chol Soo Lee in the 1970s and 1980s. Chol Soo Lee's case became a rallying point for both immigrant and American-born Asian Americans who identified with the immigrant youth's conviction on false grounds and subsequent death row sentence. K.W. Lee first met Chol Soo Lee in 1977. In addition to this interview, Chol Soo Lee shares "A Silent Plea," a poem written in prison.

Other articles, memoirs and essays include writing by Duc Ta, Mia F. Yamamoto, Andrew Thi and playwright Philip Kan Gotanda. Writers on war and incarceration in this issue also include E. San Juan Jr., Ramsay Liem and Setsuko Matsunaga Nishi.



Amerasia Journal 32:1 (2006), "Asian Americans and the Marriage Equality Debate," brings together the views of Asian Americans on the same-sex marriage debate. Co-editors Amy Sueyoshi and Russell C. Leong state: "By speaking out on marriage equality for same-sex partners, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have been historically subjugated and silenced lend their unique insights and voices to this important struggle of the first decade of the 21st century."



Data from U.S. Census 2000 have been gathered and analyzed in a first-ever report by Gary Gates, Holning Lau, and R. Bradley Sears. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders comprise 3 percent of individuals in same-sex couples.

Bryant Yang traces the legal and religious ways in which "opponents of gay marriage also characterize same-sex marriages as unions against nature and God." Allison Varzally looks at how enforcement of the miscegenation color line for Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, and South Asians from the 1930s to the 1960s reflects rationales against same-sex marriage today.

Mabel Teng, the first Asian American assessor-recorder in San Francisco, supervised thousands of gay marriages. Teng comments that: "As a first-generation Chinese American brought up with traditional family values. . . I had expected a fierce debate on gay marriage in the Asian community. . . It was a choice between standing up for the essential rights of individuals or political expediency."

Helen Zia, in "Where the Queer Zone Meets the Asian Zone," states that there are many attempts both within and outside the Asian Pacific Islander community "to render us invisible and nonexistent."

Glenn D. Magpantay views the same-sex debate in terms of legal protections and benefits for gay Asian families. He says: "There are more than a thousand federal statutory benefits in which a recipient must be legally married."

Mala Nagarajan and Vega Subramaniam state: "It is critical that whenever we, as queer AAPIs, promote marriage equality for same-sex couples, we must in the same breath promote national health coverage, fair and non-racist immigration policies, safe schools, equitable education, employment and housing practices, and sound sexual education and health."

Margaret Rhee, who analyzes Korean American attitudes in the largely Christian Korean American community, says: "Generational and religious conflicts on the definition of marriage complicate attitudes toward same-sex marriage."

Thanh Ngo writes: "So why did we get married? . . . What drove us to wake up early on a Saturday morning and wait in line for four hours was the simple reason that we want our government to stop treating us as second-class citizens."

Other contributors within this issue include: Jih-Fei Cheng, Pauline Park, Willy Wilkinson, and Jessi Gan.

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