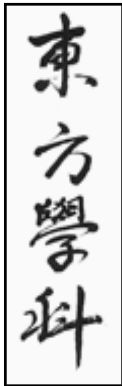




FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES (IAS)
 VISIT US AT ASIAN.FIU.EDU

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NEW FACULTY POSITION CREATED

Matthew Marr will be joining IAS in Fall 2008 filling a new faculty position created in sociology to expand the field of Japanese studies as funded by a grant from the **Japan Foundation**.

Dr. Marr will be specializing in the research and teaching of Japanese society in comparative and global contexts. This will enhance the development of both our interdisciplinary Japanese Studies Program and the focus on studies of East Asia society in the Department of Sociology/Anthropology.

Dr. Marr has a PhD in Sociology from UCLA with a research specialization in Urban Sociology, including the role of homelessness and minorities in relation to

globalization. Marr's dissertation was written on "Better Must Come: Exiting Homelessness in Two Global Cities, Los Angeles and Tokyo." He was also a Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard University's Edwin O. Reischaur Institute of Japanese Studies.

"We are very happy with the increase of our Japanese Studies program and look forward to the future growth that Dr. Marr can bring," said **Steven Heine**, Professor and Director of Asian Studies.

With the creation of this new position, additional courses will be offered to accommodate the increasing demand for courses on contemporary Japanese society and politics that complements the teaching of traditional

language and culture. The result should be a steady flow of upper division and graduate level courses that will facilitate the growth of the Asian Studies certificate, B.A. and M.A. programs.

Richard Tardanico, Chair of the Sociology/Anthropology Department has commented that his faculty and students are enthusiastic about this development.

When asked about coming to FIU, Marr stated, "I am extremely excited to be joining FIU's Institute for Asian Studies and hope to contribute to its growth, specifically by promoting interest in the study of contemporary Japanese society among undergraduate and graduate students."

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM APPROVED

The Institute for Asian Studies and the International Relations Department jointly proposed a dual M.A. in Asian Studies/Ph.D. in International Relations program, which was approved for Fall 2009.

This program encourages students with an interest in Asia to pursue graduate studies at FIU at advanced levels.

The combined degree program enables students to complete the Asian Studies MA as part of their progress towards the International Relations Ph.D.

The proposal was carefully reviewed at the departmental and college levels. A key factor is the tremendous strength in Asian Studies curriculum in the IR department.

The faculty with an East Asian concentration include Tom Breslin (China Foreign Policy), Paul Kowert (Japan/US Relations), and Julie Zeng (Chinese International Political Economy).

The proposal was supported by Dean Ken Furton as part of a trend for creating synergies between disciplines and area studies programs.

EVENTS CALENDAR

STUDENT NEWS

08/11/07-08/12/07

Yasumicon – a Japanese animation convention with movie showings, panels on Japan-related topics and guest speakers, hosted by Anything Goes Anime club, FIU.

09/08/07

Traditional Literature and Worldview – **Keiko Matsui Gibson**, Kanda University for International Studies.

09/10/07

Creative Japanese Literature by Non-Japanese Author Hideo Levy – **Keiko Matsui Gibson**, Kanda University for International Studies.

10/13/07

Pedagogy and Lesson Planning – **Hilary Landorf**, FIU. NCTA Lecture.

10/17/07

JET Program Orientation Meeting – hosted at FIU. Gave advice and information to prospective JET program applicants.

11/02/07

Asian Values in Business – **Steven Heine**, FIU. Part of the Entrepreneurship Brown Bag Lecture Series.

11/10/07

Culture of China and Japan – **Wendy Lo**, IAS Graduate Student, FIU. NCTA Lecture.

12/15/07

Buddhist Art of China and Japan – **Min Mossman**, University of Miami.

01/05/08

Chinese Teacher Development Workshop – Chinese Language Teacher's Association

01/12/08

Medieval Literature & Culture – **Ethan Segal**, Michigan State University. NCTA Lecture.

01/29/08

The Peaceful Development of China and its Relations with the U.S. – **Zhou Wenzhong**, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United States.

02/06/08

The Basics of Daoism – **Livia Kohn**, Former Professor of Religion, Boston University, one of the world's top scholars on Daoism.

02/09/08

Early Modern Period in Japan – **Laura Nenzi**, FIU. NCTA Lecture.

02/25/08-03/08/08

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition – Panel Displays and Guest Lectures by **Yuki Miyamoto**, DePaul University, **Oren Stier**, FIU, and a survivor of the WWII bombings.

02/28/08

Shaken and Rectified: the 1855 Ansei Edo Earthquake – **Greg Smits**, Penn State University.

03/01/08

Southern Japan Seminar – Panels on history, education, entertainment, and culture in Japan [see back page].

03/18/08

Sixth Annual Japan Immersion Day – hosted at FIU for high school students in the Miami-Dade area to learn more about Japan.

03/26/08

Women's Rights and Peace in Japan – **Beate S. Gordon**, member of the constituent group that contributed to the Constitution in Post-WWII Japan.

04/12/08

Chinese Speech Contest – speech and skit contest with different categories for varying levels of ability.

05/03/08

Japanese Speech Contest – speech and skit contest with different categories for varying levels of ability.

Thanks to the following co-sponsoring organizations including IJNES, Center for Entrepreneurship, Institute for Public Policy; the departments of International Relations, Modern Languages, Music; and a variety of community groups including the Japan Foundation, Association of Florida Teachers of Japanese, Consulate-General of Japan in Miami, and Southern Japan Seminar.

We currently have four PhD students who are involved in the Asian Studies program. Their dissertation topics are as follows: **Yukari Ito** (IR) "Militarism, Identity, and Representation: Making sense of Japan's security policies in the 1990s," **Takehiko Kojima** (Political Science) "The Political Construction of a Primordial Identity: The Diffusion of the Nation-State System and the Formation of Japanese Nationalism," **Yumiko Morii** (History) "A Comparative Analysis of Corporate Finance in the United States and Japan from 1880 to 1930," and **Shelley Wick** (IR) "Chinese and Japanese Business Strategies in Latin America."

This year, IAS nominated four students for Excellence Awards through the College of Arts and Sciences. **Sandy Avila** received the Best Graduate Research award, **Jane Marie Russell** received the Best in Teaching/Service award, **Joanna Garcia** received the Best Undergraduate Student award, and **Fiona Ogunkoya** received the Best in Asian Languages award.

Gregg Burrow received both the Freeman Asia Award and the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for Fall 2007 and spent a semester at Kansai Gaidai University in Japan.

Kennisha Gaynor also received the Freeman Asia Award and the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for Spring 2008 and spent a semester at Kansai Gaidai University.

The **Fu Foundation** scholarship program helps fulfill the dream of the late **Professor Charles Wei-hsun Fu** of giving American students an opportunity to be immersed in Asian thought and culture. IAS is proud to announce the 2008-2009 recipients:

Doria Bareket is spending a semester abroad at Ritsumeikan University. **Stephanie Cua** and **Yakelin Wong** are spending a semester abroad at Kansai Gaidai University. **Boris Escalona** participated in a summer study abroad program at Ritsumeikan. **Karyna Do Monte** participated in a summer study program at Jain Vishwa Bharati University in India.

2007-2008 GRADUATES

Congratulations to this year's graduates of Asian Studies academic programs!

This past year six students graduated from the Asian Studies MA program: **Sandy Avila, Ronald Gonzalez, Rim Hajji, Raymond Ng, Audrey Qian, and Erin Weston.**

Also, two students fulfilled the requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Asian Globalization: **Peter Levenda and Michael Vidaurre.**

Veronica Fernandez, Joanna Garcia, Teresa Montgomery, Fiona Ogunkoya, Sophie Orta, Victor Payano, Melanie Richardson, Jose R. Rodriguez, Tamara O'Connell, and Jennifer Schearer completed the Asian Studies BA program.

Students that received a Minor are: **Nezer Boakye, Francis Escobari, Roger Ivens, Olga Morales, Mark Pollack, Yacmany Salvatierra, Jessica Tejon, and Cherryl Tello-Stamm.**

Miguel Velasquez and Hunter Whaley received the Asian Studies Certificate.

Tamara O'Connell, Fiona Ogunkoya, Jennifer Schearer, Miguel Velasquez, and Hunter Whaley received the Chinese Studies certificate.

Veronica Fernandez, Joanna Garcia, Teresa Montgomery, Victor Payano, Diego Reategui, and Jose R. Rodriguez obtained the Japanese Studies certificate.

Joanna Garcia, Nadia Mir, and Cherryl Tello-Stamm also finished the Asian Globalization and Latin America certificate.

We are proud of our alumni's achievements. Examples include:

Veronica Fernandez will be working as an Assistant Language Teacher (ALT) through the **Real Communication Solution** Program in the Kanto region of Japan.

Emily Hutchinson and **Jose R. Rodriguez** were accepted to the **Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET)** Program as ALTs this year.

Rim Hajji accepted a position at the Brookings Institute in Washington D.C.

Audrey Qian is pursuing her PhD in Chinese Linguistics at the University of Illinois.

FACULTY

IAS congratulates **Laura Nenzi**, Assistant Professor of History, on her first book publication titled *Excursions in Identity: Travel and the Intersection of Place, Gender, and Status in Edo Japan* (Hawaii University Press).

Steven Heine has published two books this year: *Zen Skin, Zen Marrow: Will the Real Zen Buddhism Please Stand Up?* and *Zen Ritual: Studies of Zen Buddhist Theory in Practice* (Oxford).

Paul Kowert, Associate Professor of International Relations, was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship and will be working at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan.

Vrushali Patil, Assistant Professor of Sociology/Anthropology, is presenting her paper *New Femininities in Globalization: The Emergence of Gendered Consumer-Subjects in Contemporary Women's Lifestyle Magazines in South Africa and India* in Madrid at the Women's World conference.

We would also like to welcome our T.A.s for the Fall 2008: **Yuh Jhung Hwangg, Aziz Klebleyev, and Wendy Lo.** Other T.Aships will be announced in the coming months.

SPOTLIGHT ON PROFESSOR LI MA



Li Ma (a.k.a. Mali) is the Assistant Director of Chinese Cultural Programs at FIU and an instructor of Chinese Language. For two years, she has taught Chinese language courses at FIU from Chinese I through V and Business Chinese.

Mali was instrumental in developing and implementing a standardized curriculum for the entire Chinese program, helping to provide a smoother transition and better retention rate for all Chinese courses at FIU. Mali's efforts have helped a tremendous growth

in Chinese language enrollment. Her courses emphasize skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking Mandarin Chinese. This skill base enables students to meet the requirements for the Chinese Studies certificate program and also prepare for the HSK standard proficiency exam.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Mali has worked closely with IAS on several grant projects and outreach programs. These programs include a Chinese summer camp program for K-12 students which took place in 2007, two annual speech contests for Miami-Dade and FIU students taking Chinese, and training sessions for teachers of Chinese language in Miami-Dade county.

During the summer of 2008, Mali traveled to China with Dr. Heine to discuss developing study abroad and exchange program opportunities with universities in Shanghai and Hangzhou.

The Southern Japan Seminar and IAS are proud to announce the publication of the twelfth edition of *Japan Studies Review*, an annual peer-reviewed journal, which includes a variety of topics such as tattoos in Japanese culture and identity construction, xenophobic literature of a nineteenth century treaty port, the political implications of an explicitly anti-Chinese graphic novel, and the cultural impact of the U.S. presence in Okinawa and the Ryukyu Islands.

Japan Studies Review welcomes submissions for publication (articles, essays, and book reviews). Send submissions to Steven Heine, Institute for Asian Studies, Florida International University DM 300B, Miami, FL 33199; email: asian@fiu.edu; website: asian-studies.fiu.edu/page.php?c=eg_jsr.

Sponsored by IAS, the Southern Japan Seminar held its Spring 2008 meeting at Florida International University on March 1. The seminar brought together scholars from the southeast United States to discuss current trends in Japanese studies.

The first panel had several presentations on the end of Tokugawa history, including responses of groups from various social statuses to the appearance of comets and natural disasters.

Education and culture was the focus of the second panel, including "sacred pariahs" in atomic bomb literature, Zen and American popular culture, and lexical borrowing through globalization in China and Japan.

The third panel discussed

women's entertainment in Japan, such as the Miss Universe pageant in post-war Japan, the changing images of female idols in contemporary Japan, and new trends in the production of ladies' comics.

In 2007-2008, IAS hosted the first year of the **National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA)**, a nationwide professional development program for K-12 teachers to encourage teaching and learning about Asia. Participants are required to create lesson plans infused with Asian content.

Eighteen participants attended the 2007-2008 NCTA sessions from schools throughout Florida. Registration for the 2008-2009 session has far exceeded expectations, reinforcing the importance of such programs, as Asia becomes an increasingly influential leader in globalization.

IAS was also involved in the **NSF PIRE Project** in partnership with FIU's School of Computing and Information Sciences, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Florida Atlantic University, and IBM Research Worldwide together with a number of international. Participants from around the world worked towards developing methodologies, platforms, and tools for creating Ciberinfrastructure applications.

IAS organized and supervised culture and language orientations for the PIRE participants travelling to Argentina, China, India, Mexico, and Spain. IAS would like to thank the instructors who helped facilitate the workshops: **Laura Massa** for Argentina, **Li Ma** for China, **Kishore Dhavala** for India, **Luis Alvarado** for Mexico, and **Marie Guiribitry** for Spain.

Asian Studies Programs

DEGREE PROGRAMS

MA in Asian Studies

BA in Asian Studies

Minor in Asian Studies

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Graduate Certificate in Asian Studies

Graduate Certificate in
Asian Globalization

Asian Studies Certificate

Asian Globalization &
Latin America Certificate

Chinese Studies Certificate

Japanese Studies Certificate

South & S.E Asia Studies Certificate

Study Abroad

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Art and Education in China

Hospitality/Tourism in China

Summer Intensive Language:
Ritsumeikan Univ. in Kyoto, Japan
Zhejiang Univ. in Hangzhou, China

SEMESTER EXCHANGE

JAPAN:

Ritsumeikan University
Kansai Gaidai University
Kanda University

CHINA:

Beijing Language & Culture Univ.

Student Clubs

ANYTHING GOES ANIME
(JAPANESE ANIMATION CLUB)
www.fiu.edu/~aganime

ASIAN STUDENTS UNION
www.fiu.edu/~asu

SHORINJI KEMPO
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