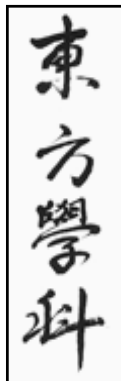


ASIAN STUDIESSchool of International and Public Affairs | *College of Arts and Sciences*
VISIT US AT ASIAN.FIU.EDU**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

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**ASIAN STUDIES****DR. STEVEN HEINE**
DIRECTOR**ASUKA MASHAV**
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
LANGUAGE PROGRAMS**DR. LAURA NENZI**
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
AREA STUDIES**DR. OREN STIER**
GRADUATE DIRECTOR**DR. MATTHEW MARR**
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**DR. ERIC MESSERSMITH**
ASIAN STUDIES LECTURER**LI MA**
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ASIAN@FIU.EDU**NEW HOME FOR ASIAN STUDIES**

Based on a dynamic reorganization of international studies programs at FIU, Asian Studies is now housed in the new School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), along with several interdisciplinary or cross-cultural units with a focus on area studies and world affairs, including the African and African Diaspora Studies Program, the Gordon Institute for Public Policy, and the Latin American and Caribbean Center.

SIPA is a central division of the College of Arts and Sciences and was officially launched this past spring of 2009. Its primary aim is to fulfill the mission of Florida International University to create mutual understanding among the Americas and throughout the world by using an excellence in

teaching, innovative academic programs, and cutting-edge research to face the global challenges of the 21st century. SIPA is an affiliated member of APSIA (Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs) and is in the process of developing a professional M.A. degree on Global Affairs with tracks in globalization and economics, national and human security, and social identities.

Asian Studies Director **Steven Heine** has been appointed the Associate Director of SIPA and helps coordinate the various area studies programs. The Director of SIPA, **John F. Stack, Jr.** strongly supports the Asian Studies program and has commented: "I am quite pleased with Asian Studies' progress in the B.A.

and M.A. programs and I look forward to their future growth as well as the proliferation of other interdisciplinary programs by cultivating these multicultural and interdisciplinary approaches under SIPA."

SIPA also houses the departments of Politics and International Relations, Global and Sociocultural Studies, Public Administration, and Criminal Justice. The groundbreaking ceremony for the new SIPA building now being constructed was held on December 18, 2008. The Japanese Consul General Watanabe attended the event as a special guest.

For more information about SIPA, and its ongoing list of events, please visit the website <http://international.fiu.edu>.

NEW DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED

Asian Studies and the International Relations Department are proud to offer a new joint degree program, with an M.A. in Asian Studies and a Ph.D. in International Relations.

This course of study encourages students with highly specialized interest in Asia to pursue graduate studies at FIU at more advanced levels. The program will equip students with the discipline of International

Relations as well as an area studies expertise in Asia to help them stay competitive in seeking careers with an international focus in today's global, cultural, and commercial environment.

The combined M.A./Ph.D. program is attractive in enabling students to complete the two degrees more quickly than would be the case if these were pursued sequentially. It also serves to formalize their

training in Asia-related international affairs.

Faculty teaching in International Relations with an East Asian concentration include **Tom Breslin** (Chinese Foreign Policy), **Paul Kowert** (Japan-US Relations), **Eric Messersmith** (Politics of Japan), and **Julie Zeng** (Chinese International Political Economy). In spring 2010, Zeng will offer a new course on the political economy of China.

EVENTS CALENDAR

FACULTY NEWS

08/01/08-08/03/08

Yasumicon – 6th annual Japanese animation convention with movie showings, panels on Japan-related topics and guest speakers, hosted by Anything Goes Anime club, FIU.

10/17/08

JET Recruitment Session – hosted at FIU. Advice and information session for prospective JET program applicants.

10/17/08

JETAA Job Fair – hosted at FIU. Sponsored by the Consul General of Japan (CGJ).

11/06/08

Japanese Film Screening and Food Tasting – The CGJ played the film “Udon” at the Cosford Cinema followed by an Udon tasting.

12/11/08

Kaiju Matsuri “Monster Festival” – hosted by the CGJ at Miami Beach. James Levy’s collection of vintage vinyl Kaiju figures.

12/11/08

Kickboxing Geishas: How Modern Japanese Women Are Changing Their Nation – **Veronica Chambers**, Morikami Museum.

12/15/08

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

01/16/09

Forum in the School of Music – **Evan Ziporyn**.

01/17/09

The Piano Teacher – **Janic Y.K. Lee**, A Books and Books event.

01/17/09

Concert Performance – **Evan Ziporyn**, The New Music Miami ISCM Festival Series.

01/23/09

Chinese Religion – **Livia Kohn**, Lecture, former Professor of Religion,

Boston University, one of the world’s top scholars on Daoism.

02/14/09

Women and Southeast Asia – **Sandra Avila**, Lecture.

03/13/09

Cultural Relations Between Japan and Jamaica – **Marvin Sterling**, Guest Speaker.

03/14/09

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

03/28/09

Japanese Speech Contest – speech, skit, and *Manga* contests with different levels for stages of fluency and ability.

04/03/09

Open Discussion Forum – **Aviva Menasche** and **Wendy Lo**, on Japanese gender roles and identity.

04/03/09-04/04/09

Orientalismos – **David William Foster**, symposium on Asian influence on Spanish and Spanish-American literature and film.

04/05/09

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

5/11/09-5/16/09

Japan Culture Week – hosted by CGJ and Alliance Francaise de Miami.

Thanks to the following co-sponsoring organizations including CRI, LACC, the departments of GSS and Music; and a variety of community groups including the Association of Florida Teachers of Japanese, Chinese Language Teachers’ Association, Consul General of Japan in Miami, Japan Foundation, Morikami Museum, and Southern Japan Seminar. Also be sure to check out the Events Calendar on our website for upcoming events like the Asian Movie Club and the Chinese Club Movie Nights!

Steven Heine, Director of Asian Studies, has published: *Bargainin’ For Salvation: Bob Dylan, A Zen Master?* (Continuum) and is completing an edited book on *Zen Masters* (Oxford).

Matthew Marr in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies gave a conference presentation entitled “*Economic Restructuring, Homelessness, and Policy Interventions in Two Global Metropolises - Los Angeles and Tokyo.*”

Eric Messersmith, Lecturer in Asian Studies, conducted research on the art of tea in Kyoto.

Laura Nenzi in the Department of History completed her research project on early modern Japan for the National Endowment of Humanities.

Julie Zeng in Politics and International Relations continues to work on her book manuscript, “*Smashing the Iron Rice Bowl: The Restructuring of State-Owned Enterprises in China.*” She was awarded the 2008 FIU Faculty Research Fellowship.

This year’s TAs are **Yuanyuan Fang**, from Beijing, and **Jennifer Garcia**, who has studied in Japan, and our new adjunct: **Min Mossman**, will be teaching the Intro. to East Asia.

ASIAN LANGUAGE
SPEECH CONTESTS

Many FIU students participated in all levels of proficiency in the annual speech contests for Japanese and Chinese hosted at FIU in the spring semester for students from schools in South Florida. These major events cap off a year of intensive language studies and cultural activities.

The Japanese language speech contest included over 100 students from six schools and featured skits along with *Manga* contests. Prizes for the winners were donated from Komatsu Latin America and JTB Travel, and the judges included the President of JTB (Sony).

The Chinese language speech contest was hosted by FIU’s Chinese instructor, Ma Li, and students Derek Bullen and Ligia Posada. Winners from FIU included: Leandro Mazufri (1st place), Sky Choi (2nd place), Angelica Nararrete (3rd place), and Iliyaas Mallard (3rd place).

2008-2009 GRADUATES & STUDENT NEWS

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

Graduate

This past year six students graduated from the Asian Studies MA program: Theresa De Prat, Aziz Klebleyev, Wendy Lo, Jane Marie Russell, Pete Solomon, and Rochel Sooklal.

Also, Karyna Do Monte received a Graduate Certificate in Asian Globalization and Sharma Dammar, Upananda Dedunupitiye, Joanna Garcia, Lourdes Gutierrez, Megan Kopistecki and Mark Pollack completed the Graduate Certificate in Asian Studies.

We currently have two Ph.D. 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," and **Shelley Wick** (IR) "Chinese and Japanese Business Strategies in Latin America."

Undergraduate

Yanery Andreu, Krizia Bandy, Luis Fors, Jennifer Garcia, Rachael Hugh, Angelica Jimenez, Sallie McKibben, James Medina, Amed Ortega, Marcos Regalado, Julia Simons, Khela Stanley, Ryan Tracy, Antonio Vega, and Terrence Young graduated from the Asian Studies BA program. Zachary Murray and Marie Romeu completed second majors in Asian Studies.

Students that received a Minor are: Ricardo Barea, Andrew Cohen, David Colon, Kerstin Espinoza, Shaohuan Huang, Brian Hunting, Michael Jean, Alejandro Martin, Eduardo Navarro, Rebecca Pazos, Daniella Pineros, Joshua

Rivera, Melissa Soucy, Christina Torres, and Thong Tran.

Eduardo Navarro and Henry Tobar, received the Asian Studies Certificate.

Dennis Aranzazu, Alexander Broche, George Calvo, Shaohuan Huang, Sallie McKibben, Stephan Mothe Hinsberger, Jason Noble, Juliette Noches, Julia Simons, and Khela Stanley received the Chinese Studies certificate.

Yanery Andreu, Krizia Bandy, Niels Espinoza, Luis Fors, Jennifer Garcia, Rachael Hugh, Brian Huning, Angelica Jimenez, James Medina, Zach Murray, Amed Ortega, Marcos Regalado, Joshua Rivera, Manon Van Keeken, Antonio Vega, and Terrence Young obtained the Japanese Studies Certificate.

Yanery Andrea and Jennifer Garcia finished the Asian Globalization and Latin America Certificate.

Rachael Hugh, who graduated with our B.A. and Japanese Language Certificate has been accepted into Interac as an Assistant Language Teacher (ALT) and will be working in northern Japan.

Awards and Scholarships

This year, four Asian Studies students received Excellence Awards from the College of Arts and Sciences. **Aziz Klebleyev** received the Best Graduate Research award, **Wendy Lo** received the Best in Teaching/Service award, **Sallie McKibben** received the Best Undergraduate Student award, and **Krizia Bandy** received the Best in Asian Languages award.

Jennifer Garcia received the Gilman International Scholarship for Spring 2009 and spent a semester at Kansai Gaidai Univ. in Japan. **Grace Taylor**

received the Freeman Asia Award, also for Spring 2009 and spent a semester at Kansai Gaidai Univ.

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. Asian Studies is excited to announce the 2008-2009 recipients:

Lacey Haslam is spending two semesters abroad at Kansai Gaidai Univ., **Harriet Marin** participated in a summer study abroad program at Zhejiang Univ. in Hangzhou, China, **Thomas J. Rayson** is spending a year studying at Ritsumeikan Univ., **Yesenia Reyerros** is studying abroad in Bangkok, Thailand, and **Nathan Schorb** is studying for two semesters at Kanda Univ., Japan.

Alumni

Wendy Lo obtained a job as coordinator of lectures, workshops and classes for the Education Department of the Morikami Museum.

Isidro de Prat was accepted into the JET Programme as a Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) and will be working in Wakayama, Japan.

Veljko Dujin, who graduated with a double major in Asian Studies and Art History, is working in a full-time position at the Morikami Museum and was admitted last fall in the Asian Studies M.A. Program.

Aziz Klebleyev, who graduates with his M.A. in Asian Studies Summer 2009, is pursuing his Ph.D. in International Relations here at FIU.

SPOTLIGHT ON PROFESSOR NAKO KOMURA

Naoko Komura has been a full-time instructor of Japanese language for two years.

From the start, Komura Sensei has been beloved and respected by her students, who enjoy her exuberant and effective teaching methods and cheerful disposition. She has taught Japanese levels I through V and, most recently, the Conversation and Composition class.

In collaboration with her senior colleague, Asuka Mashav, Komura Sensei's efforts have helped contrib-

ute to the steady growth of Japanese language enrollment and course offerings. Her courses emphasize skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking Japanese. This skill base enables students to meet the requirements for the Japanese Studies Certificate program and also prepare for the standardized Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT).

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Komura Sensei is the faculty advisor for the growing Japan Club, which features a dynamic series of events for students planning to study or work abroad. She is the program director of our popular Summer Intensive Language and Culture program held for six weeks at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto. Komura Sensei has also been very much involved in organizing the annual speech contests for Miami-Dade county and FIU students sponsored by the Association of Florida Teachers of Japanese and the Japanese Consulate in Miami.



ASIAN STUDIES RESEARCH / SERVICE

The **Southern Japan Seminar** and Asian Studies are pleased to announce the publication of the thirteenth volume of the *Japan Studies Review*, an annual peer-reviewed journal. This year's articles cover a broad range of topics, including: the detachment of youth characters depicted in literature and song; the use of hands in healing practices of Japanese religious cults in Brazil; the role of *Ganguro* in Japanese popular culture and identity conflicts; the spread of New Religions such as Soka Gakkai in East Asia, the shortcomings of pre-WWII democracy in Japan analyzed through class relations; ladies' comics in relation to Japanese society; a Confucian-style approach to disaster relief for late Tokugawa-era poverty; and the study of the "sacred pariahs" in atomic bomb literature discussed in terms of alterity, sexuality, and salvation. In addition, there is a section of reviews of recent scholarly works. Recent and archived copies of the *Japan Studies Review* are available in PDF format on the Asian Studies website. http://asian.fiu.edu/page.php?c=eg_jsr_01

Sponsored annually by the FIU Asian Studies Program, the Southern Japan Seminar held its Spring 2009 meeting in Miami on March 14. The seminar brings together scholars from the southeast United States and other regions to discuss current trends in Japanese studies. The Seminar featured two keynote speakers, **Marvin**

Sterling and **Jacqueline Stone**. Other visiting speakers included **John Tucker**, **Jan Bardsley**, **Kinko Ito**, **Yuki Watanabe**, **Inger Bodey**, **Laura Miller**, and **Kenneth Holloway**.

The first panel had several presentations on the role of sacred space in Japan, including case studies of two contrasting Tokyo neighborhoods; how Japanese Buddhism has conceived of the nation as an example of cosmic space; and cultural representations of the 47 Ronin at Sengakuji temple in southeast Tokyo.

Gender, play, and popular culture in Japan today was the focus of the second panel, including presentations on Maiko pop, sexuality in ladies' comics, the "masculine" in pop culture, and about the reception of Jane Austen in Japan.

In addition, the second year of the **National Consortium for Teaching about Asia** (NCTA), a nationwide professional development program for K-12 teachers to encourage pedagogy and learning about Asia, was hosted by FIU Asian Studies and included twenty-two enthusiastic participants from schools throughout South Florida. The teachers are required to design lesson plans that are infused with Asian content. Some interesting topics that were created this year include: *Hip-Hop, Art, and Exchange in the Floating World*, *Skating Shanghai*, and the *Globalization of Robotics in Medicine*.

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN CLUB

The Japan Club of FIU is dedicated to the advancement of U.S./Japanese relations via educational seminars, hands-on cultural experiences, guest lecturers, and the whims of its members. Above all, we wish to promote a fun and memorable experience that pairs those who have been to Japan with those still wishing to travel and study abroad. Our club is open to every FIU student, whether they are actively pursuing a degree in Asian Studies or have a passing interest for Japan.

Varied activities have included movie nights, *onigiri*-making, traditional arts and crafts, discussions on surviving and thriving in Japan, and collaborations with other culturally based clubs here at FIU. For Fall 2009, we are planning a *bento* (Japanese lunchbox)-making class, a laugh-filled night of watching bizarre and humorous Japanese TV shows, a costume party in collaboration with the Anything Goes Anime Club, a visit to Boca Raton's Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens, and an end-of-the-year celebration. Suggestions for events are welcome, and for more information, please contact the current Japan Club president, James Rodgers, at japanclubfiu@gmail.com.

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

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.

Upcoming Events

10/08/09 - East Asian Perspectives

10/15/09 - 20 Years After 1989

11/12/09 - Secrets of Esoteric Tibetan Yoga

11/17/09 - The Faith and Practice of the Hare Krsna Movement

Student Clubs

ANYTHING GOES ANIME
(JAPANESE ANIMATION CLUB)

www.fiu.edu/~aganime

ASIAN STUDENTS UNION

www.fiu.edu/~asu

SHORINJI KEMPO

www.fiu.edu/~shorinji

JAPAN CLUB

japanclubfiu@gmail.com

CHINESE CLUB

fiuchinese@gmail.com