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\*Share your news, activities, accomplishments and opportunities with us at ycar@yorku.ca\*

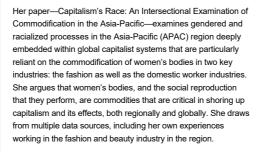
# York Centre for Asian Research

## The YCAR Update for 10 January 2024

## **YCAR News**

Joddi Alden recipient of Excellence in Philippine Studies/ Filipinx Diaspora Studies Writing and Research-creation Award

Her intersectional examination of commodification in the Asia-Pacific earned Joddi Alden an Excellence in Philippine Studies/Filipinx Diaspora Studies writing and research-creation award. Alden, a YCAR Graduate Associate and doctoral student in Sociology, is a recipient in the PhD papers category.



The Philippine Studies Group (PSG) invited course directors and teaching assistants to nominate exceptional student papers and research-creation outputs. Alden is the third 2023 award recipient; all of the winning papers will be published in a special New Voices in Asian Research series later this term.

Learn more about the PSG at this link.

#### Winter lecture series focuses on knowledge in historical societies in East Asia

Knowledge Production in East Asia is a lecture and seminar series organized by the Critical China Studies group at YCAR. Initiated in 2014, it invites leading international scholars to share their work on the content, reception, and material production of various registers of knowledge in historical societies in East Asia.

After a hiatus, the series is resuming in 2024 with two inperson lectures. The first is a <u>launch of Pulitzer Prizewinning author lan Johnson's new book, Sparks: China's Underground Historians and their Battle for the Future on February 7. Christine Y. L. Luk of Tsinghua University in Beijing will speak on the transnational history of science at the second series event on March 21.</u>

The series has featured lectures by Cynthia Brokaw (Brown University) on woodblock publishing in seventeenth to twentieth century China (2014); Peter Zarrow (University of Connecticut) on civics textbooks in early-twentieth-century China (2014); Yi-li Wu (University of Michigan) on a seventeenth-century gynecology text in China and Korea (2015); Yuming He (University of California, Davis) on humans, animals and global geography in early modern China; and Pierre-Étienne Will (Collège de France) on legal casebooks in Qing dynasty China (2018).

The series is organized by Joan Judge (History), supported by the York Centre for Asian Research and the Jackson Humanities Institute at the University of Toronto.





Graduate Associate Mengzhu Fu organized a well-attended hybrid international symposium in November that brought Māori and Asian activists and scholars from Aotearoa New Zealand with Tkaronto-based activists and scholars to address challenges and praxis of solidarity building. Speakers included: Sina Brown-Davis, Dr Arama Rata, Tāwhana Chadwick, Kirsty Fong, and Dr Mahdis Azarmandi. Decolonial Anti-fascism Symposium: Lessons from Māori and Asian organizing in Aotearoa New Zealand was supported by several internal and community organization in both countries.

Photograph provided by M. Fu

YCAR was pleased to co-present the screening and publication launch organized by Graduate Associate Cindy Jiang (Critical Disaiblity Studies) on December 1. The Critical Perspectives on Mental Health Research Cluster at the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies launched their second special edition of Canada Watch: Rethinking, Reframing, and Reimagining Madness, followed by a screening of short films related to racialized mental health and a discussion with the three Canadian directors: Nesa Huda, Kagan Goh and Emmanuel Teji.

"There was overwhelming positive feedback on how this event was so different in terms of how we discuss mental health in the academy, especially among racialized populations," said Jiang.



Cindy Jiang photograph

The Philippine Studies Group

celebrated research on Philippines and the Diaspora on December 1. Students and faculty reported on their research and accomplishments the past year. Members of the Consulate of the Philippines in Toronto, including the Consul General, were special guests. Attendees were also treated to a new dance choreography that PSG funding supported through its Community-Engaged Research Grants. The PSG's 2023 activities were made possible with support from the Philippine Consulate General in Toronto.





YCAR Photograph

 $\textbf{Gardeners of Stories}, \mathsf{led} \; \mathsf{by} \; \mathsf{YCAR}$ Graduate Associate Arpita Bajpeyi, Vridhhi Chaudhry and Meera Kanageswaran, organized Paalam: A Reimagining South Asian Dance Salon Series in November 2023. The series, with works by international and Toronto-based artists, features art that explores stories we don't typically encounter in South Asian dance: experiences of life on tea plantations. queerness, postpartum depression and much more. A virtual roundtable on November 12 included Dhanarajh Rasiah (Sri Lanka), Ranjini Nair (India/UK), and Sangram Mukhopadhyay (India) who reimagined how bharatanatyam, kuchipudi, and whacking/waacking can represent our





experiences. The group's second, very successful dance salon was held on November 18 and included work-inprogress dance performances from Ann Ariyadasa, Ramya Raghavan, and Niroshehaa Ragunathan with Marilyn Yogayrajah. YCAR was pleased to copresent the series.



Y. Garcia photographs

## **Associates' News and Publications**

Congratulations to our Faculty of Environment and Urban Change (EUC) Graduate Associates who received Ontario and Tri-Council graduate awards in this academic year.

- Esmond Lee (Geography, PhD) received an OGS-Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology for his research on tactical spatial vocabularies of racialized suburbs in Toronto
- Geneviève Minville (Geography, PhD) received a SSHRC Fellowship for her research on a feminist political ecology of climate justice in fishing communities of the Philippines
- <u>Nikki Pagaling</u> (Geography, MA) received a SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship for her research on labour market segmentation among Filipina women in the Greater Toronto Area

Hana Shams Ahmed (Social Anthropology) | "Where do the Jumma Indigenous Communities of Bangladesh Stand as the Country's General Elections Approach?" | Shuddhashar | This op-ed was developed with support from the OpEd Project. The American Anthropological Association selected Ahmed to participate in the "Write to Change the World" Workshop, organized by the OpEd Project in 2023.

Raju Das (EUC) | "Marxism and revisionism in the world today" | Capital & Class

Kasim A. Tirmizey (Equity Studies) | "The geometry of (anti)imperialism in food regime analysis" | Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space

Qiang Zha, co-author | "The Institutionalization of Adopting University Ranking Outcomes as Policy and Strategic Tools in China since the 1980s" | Policy Reviews in Higher Education

Qiang Zha, co-author | Liberal Arts Education in the Universities of Greater China: Historical Legacy, Current Models, and Future Prospects | Centre for Global Higher Education Working Paper Series, University of Oxford

Qiang Zha | "Newly Founded Local Universities: 'Land-grant Colleges' on Chinese Soil?" | Handbook on Local Governance in China: Structures, Variations, and Innovations, edited by Ceren Ergenc and David S.G. Goodman

## YCAR and YCAR-supported Events

Jan 9–20 | When the Sun is Above the Horizon: Stories from Asian Diaspora Exhibition run:

- 09–20 January 2024 at Trinity Square Video (401 Richmond St. W #121)
- Opening Reception: 11 January 2024, 18:00 to 20:00 EST



Jan 12 | Memorial for Megan Whitney, YCAR Graduate Associate and doctoral student in Geography | Hybrid

 13:30 to 15:30 EST, Room 305, Senior Common Room, Founders College









Jan 18 | YCAR Graduate Associate Meet & Greet | In person

More Info



Jan 18, 26 | Art Creates Change—Two Events with Ali Kazimi | Artist Talk & Reception, Screening and Seminar

More Info



Jan 19 | Studying Canadian Universities: The Case of International Students from Asia | Virtual

Registration Link



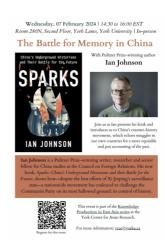
Feb 1 | Hong Kong Nostalgia: Narrating Childhood and Collective Memories in Graphic Memoirs with Kin Wai Chu, Ghent University | YCAR Hong Kong Studies Group Lecture Series event | Hybrid

More Info

**Feb 7** | The Battle for Memory in China with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Ian Johnson | **In person** 

- 14:30 to 16:00 EST
- Room 280N, Second Floor, York Lanes, York University

Registration Link



**Feb 14** | York University Annual Chinese Culture Day 2024 | **In person** 

More Info



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Mar 19 | Privileges and Social Justice: The COVID 19 Art Project with Koral Dasgupta (author and founder of www.tellmeyourstory.biz) | Virtual

More Info

Mar 21 | Arthur de Carle Sowerby in Republican-era Shanghai: Bridging the global and the local via evolutionism, 1922–1954 with Christine Y. L. Luk (Tsinghua University) | In person

More Info

Thursday, 21 March 2024 | 14:30 to 16:00 EST Room 280N, Second Floor, York Lanes, York University Un-person Arthur de Carle Sowerby in Republican-era Shanghai: Bridging the Global and the Local via Evolutionism, 1922–1954

With Christine Y. L. Luk Tsinghua University



In this talk, Protessor Lak discuses Arthur de Carle Sowerby's (3885–1994) life and work in warmer Shanghai, in which the local conditions of war and nationalism shaped Sowerby's interpretation of the natural world and the associated forms of evolutionism. She argues that evolutionism served as a missing link that bridged Sowerby's earlier naturalist career in collecting biological specimens and his emerging political awareness of China's place in the world. Connecting the global and the local via evolution, the study aims at globalizing the toudy of biology as well as the history of Bernhelmens-China

This event is part of the <u>Knowledge Production in East Asia series</u> at the York

Centre for Asian Research.

## **York and Community Events**

Jan 13 | The Singing Public in Hong Kong: Choirs, Civil Realm, Colonial Governance and Beyond with YCAR Research associate Magdelena Ho-yan Tang | In person

More Info

Jan 23 | Julius Poncelet Manapul's Sila/Siya/Ako | Curatorial Tour and Artist Talk, curated by Marissa Largo | In person



## **YCAR Event Video**

The video for this YCAR event is now available:

India's Solidarity Economics: An Indian
Feminist Understanding of ROSCAs.
Self Help Groups, and the
Kudumbashree System in Kerala with
Christabell P. J., Department of
Economics, University of Kerala, held on
26 October 2023.



## **Opportunities**

### YCAR Professional Development Fund | Deadline: Jan. 29

YCAR's Professional Development Fund subsidizes relevant experiences for its Graduate Associates to present their scholarly or creative work. Amounts awarded will range from \$50 to \$500 with the expectation that they will be used in conjunction with other awards. The next deadline is Monday, 29 January 2023 by 16:00 EST for activities taking place six months before and six months after the deadline.



### Graduate awards offered by the York Centre for Asian Research

YCAR is accepting applications for awards for students whose research relates to Asia or Asian diasporas. Awards to support research, fieldwork travel and language training have a deadline of Monday, 05 February 2024 at 16:00 EST

Albert C.W. Chan Foundation Award for Research in East or Southeast Asia (One

- award, value: \$1,000)
- David Wurfel Award for Philippine Studies (One award, value: \$1,500)—open to undergraduates
- Dr Sangdeok Woo and Mrs. Kwisoon Lim Woo Memorial Graduate Award (One award, value: \$12,500)
- N. Sivalingam Award in Tamil Studies (One award, value: \$2,000)
- The Nirvan Bhavan Graduate Fellowship for Research on India and the Indian Diaspora (One award, value: \$6,500)
- Penny and John Van Esterik Award or Graduate Research on Southeast Asia (One award, value: \$2,000)
- Vivienne Poy Asian Research Award (Number of awards and value: Based on applications submitted)
- Vivienne Poy Hakka Graduate Research Award (One award, value: \$5,000)
- YCAR Language Award (Number of awards and value: Based on applications submitted)
- Young-Rahn Woo Memorial Graduate Award (One award, value: \$12,500)



#### Opportunity | Digital Tamil Studies Collections

The University of Toronto Scarborough Library's Digital Tamil Studies Collections was created in recognition of the profound significance of preserving Tamil heritage, and was made possible thanks to forged partnerships with numerous Tamil academic and activist organizations. Click below to visit the collections



# Opportunity | Assistant/ Associate Professor, Gender and Development Studies, Asian Institute of Technology | Deadline: Feb 28

The Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) is hiring an assistant/ associate professor in Gender and Development Studies. AIT is an international, non-profit post-graduate institution, promoting technological change and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region through higher learning focusing on critical global issues through research, outreach and capacity development. It serves over 2,300 students from Asia and beyond. Its teaching faculty, staff, researchers, and students are composed of more than 40 different nationalities and diverse ethnic backgrounds forms a unique international community in the institute's residential campus situated 42 kilometers north of Bangkok. Gender and Development Studies Program offers an exciting opportunity in working closely with government and NGOs in the region and engaging in grounded research and outreach activities.

The position requirements are: PhD, with a specialization in a relevant Social Science field such as Gender/Women's Studies, Development Studies, Sociology, Anthropology, Environment and Society studies, Communication, Economics, Political Science or International Relations. Applicants with teaching, research and/or practical experience in gender and development studies, with specialization in any of the following or related areas: migration/ displacement, environment, politics, technology, globalization or social justice are encouraged to apply.



## Opportunity | John H. McArthur Research Fellowship 2024–2025 | Deadline: Feb 4

The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APF Canada) invites applications for the John H. McArthur Research Fellowship for 2024–2025. The Fellowship seeks to empower two exceptional mid-career scholars with a deep commitment to policy-relevant research and interest in shaping the future of Canada's engagement with the Indo-Pacific region, with a special emphasis on South and Southeast Asia. Priority will be given to policy-relevant, innovative, and impactful research topics (including ideas for translating insights into policy action). The Fellowship is limited to Canadian citizens and Permanent Residents. The two successful candidates will be awarded a grant of \$C25,000 for the 12-month period, from April 2024 to March 2025. They will work closely with APF Canada's Vice-President, Research & Strategy, in a non-resident capacity. The application deadline is Sunday, 04 February 2024. For more information, visit this link or email yuko.uchida@asiapacific.ca.



# Opportunity | Gosling-Lim Postdoctoral Fellowship in Southeast Asian Studies for SEA nationals | Deadline: Feb 1

This fellowship is focused on capability-building in Southeast Asian Studies among scholars who are Southeast Asian nationals based in Southeast Asia and at Southeast Asian institutions. Its goal is to enable such scholars to concentrate on publishing their dissertation research, and/or embark on new post-dissertation research, without the distraction of having to teach, consult, or shoulder administrative burdens, and with the opportunity to expand their scholarly networks and expertise. The intent is that fellowship recipients will develop their careers in Southeast Asia, helping to advance the field of Southeast Asian Studies within the region.

The fellowship provides US \$52,000 of funding for postdoctoral research and writing, to be expended over eight to 12 months while the recipient is in residence or otherwise based at an academic institution, in Southeast Asia or abroad, other than their home institution and the institution at which their doctorate was obtained. The fellowship may be used in any discipline and for any country of Southeast Asia (i.e., Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam). For more information, visit this link.

More Info

## **Calls**

## Call for Papers | Trans-Asia Graduate Student Conference 2024 | Deadline: Jan 25

The Trans-Asia Graduate Student Association is pleased to announce the Tenth Annual Trans-Asia Graduate Student Conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, encompassing Asia-related research. Participants will have the opportunity to present their work, receive constructive feedback from peers and senior researchers, and gain insights into the latest developments in interdisciplinary Asia-related research. The conference will be held on 19-20 April 2024 and will be primarily in-person (with the option of online participation).

This year's theme, "Bridging Glocal Asias," encourages conversations about connections and interconnections, balance and imbalance, micro and macro tendencies and perspectives across and within regions of Asia. "Glocal," a fusion of "global" and "local," seeks to delve into the potential intersections between the global and local spheres. It encapsulates the complex interconnectedness and recognition that characterize the interplay between global and local dimensions, seeking a re-examination of the "trans-" from the perspective of the "periphery" across time and space.

Students from all institutions within the United States and abroad are required to fill out the online application form by 25 January 2024. Conference registration is free. For more information, visit this link.

# Call for Papers | Harvard–Yale Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference 2024 | Deadline: Jan 30

The Harvard–Yale Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference 2024, on 29–30 March 2024, and will feature panels, workshops and a keynote lecture by Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing, Professor of Anthropology at University of California, Santa Cruz.

Drawing upon the research strengths of Harvard and Yale affiliates conducting research in the region, this conference aims to support graduate students at all stages of their academic careers, be it early dissertation research, fieldwork research, dissertation writing, and monograph development. The key goal of this conference is to afford researchers the space to present their research and receive in-depth feedback.

We accept submissions from master's, pre-dissertation, dissertation-writing, and recently graduated students. We regrettably cannot accept abstracts from full-time faculty—part-time faculty who are current graduate students are welcome to submit.

We especially encourage students at Southeast Asian universities; as well as graduate students working on less-represented polities, identity groups, religious traditions, and cultures in Southeast Asia to apply.

The Conference will be hosted in Hybrid modality. Funding for participant travel will be offered based on need. We generally offer travel honoraria based on region; East Coast: \$150, Midwest: \$250, West Coast: \$400, Southeast Asia/Other Regions: \$600-800. Exceptional cases will be considered.

Abstracts will be accepted until 30 January 2024, and accepted participants will be notified by 15 February 2024. Workshop presenters will be expected to submit their papers within 8,000 words by 15 March 2024.

Click this link for more information

Abstracts can be submitted at this link

## Call for Papers | 2024 International Interdisciplinary Conference on Myanmar's Borderlands | Deadline: Jan 31

Chulalongkorn University's Asia Research Center for Migration and Faculty of Political Science, and the Inya Institute (Yangon) invite scholars and students to submit original research papers covering any of the topics related to Myanmar's borderlands, both historically and contemporary, and spanning any area of Myanmar borders with China, Laos, Thailand, Bangladesh, and India. We also welcome thematic panels, roundtables, book and movie presentations.

The keynote will be delivered by Chayan Vaddhanaphuti, Director of the Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development (RCSD) and Director of the Center for Ethnic Studies and Development (CESD), Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University.

The deadline for proposals submission extended to 31 <u>January 2024</u>. The full CFP is

available here. Proposal Submission Form is available here.

## Call for Papers | Protest under Duress: Activism amid Democratic Backsliding in Asia | Deadline: Feb 5

In recent years, the world has become less democratic. This trend is evident through significant shifts, including a reduction in the number and quality of democracies, such that even individuals living within democratic systems face new constraints on the breadth of democratic freedoms they enjoy. This regression follows the "third wave" of democratic expansion, which started in the 1970s and gained steam, especially after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in the 1980s and 1990s. During this era, robust civil societies emerged, nurturing movements advocating for causes such as gender equality, economic redistribution, environmental conservation, minority rights, and governmental transparency. Activist groups within civil society now bear the brunt of the consequences of the retreat of democracy. Protest persists in many sites, but often via innovative modes or platforms, among narrowed subsets of citizens, with different targets, or drawing on new alliances—even as states continue to hone new strategies for surveillance and repression.

We aim collaboratively to explore how activists protest under duress as democratic protections weaken, with special attention to Asia as a key site of both rights-oriented mobilization and democratic erosion. We will do so through a workshop and a journal special issue delving into a set of key questions that animate our inquiry. We welcome proposals for articles addressing one or more of these questions, focusing on one or more East or Southeast Asian countries. Specifically, we aim for pieces that contribute to theoretical innovation by examining the evolution of one or several specific groups as they adapt to changing conditions for activism over time. All articles should draw on original research and analysis not published elsewhere.

Click here for full details.

#### Call for Participants | Seeking South Asian Practitioners for Research

Are you a Social Work practitioner with past or present experience in domestic violence shelters? Do you have experience working with South Asian women fleeing from domestic violence? If yes, this research may be for you! My research looks to explore the voices of South Asian practitioner's experiences of the perpetuation of marginalization within domestic violence shelters. Those selected will participate in a 1-hour interview. As an appreciation for your efforts, you will receive a \$15 gift card of your choosing.

For more information regarding this study or to participate, please email researcher Harpreet Plaha at hplaha@yorku.ca. This research has received ethics approval from the Research Ethics Committee, School of Social Work, York University.









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# York Centre for Asian Research

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