

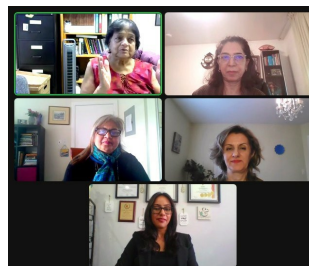
\*Share your news, activities, accomplishments and opportunities with us at [ycar@yorku.ca](mailto:ycar@yorku.ca)\*

# York Centre for Asian Research

## The YCAR Update for 29 November 2023

### Updates from recent YCAR events

We had a huge virtual crowd for our co-presented book launch on Nov. 15. [The Stories Around Us: Mental Health Narratives of South Asian Women](#) featured the book's editor **Rana Khan**, **Namrta Mohan**, psychotherapist, speaker and clinical supervisor, and **Kripa Sekhar**, Executive Director of the South Asian Women's Centre. The event was co-presented by the Office of Women's Health Research Chair in Mental Health (OWHC).



YCAR Screenshot.

Visiting Graduate Associate **Lijo Lal** presented on his fieldwork on the experiences of [Malayalee students in the GTA](#). Lal, a doctoral candidate in Sociology at the University of Kerala, is the recipient of a Mitacs fellowship that funded his visit and research on the adaptation of Malayalee Diaspora in Canada.



YCAR Photograph.

**Kasia Paprocki** (London School of Economics and Political Science) launched the Climate Dystopias in Asia lecture series on 22 November. Her talk focused on the [politics of climate change adaptation in Bangladesh](#).



YCAR Photograph.

The Korean Office for Research and Education (KORE) at YCAR was pleased to host the [Canadian premiere of "Chosen,"](#) with **Joseph Juhn**, the film's director, in attendance. The discussion that followed the screening included award-winning Canadian filmmaker **Min Sook Lee**.



YCAR Photograph.

### Associates' News and Publications

The Association for Consumer Research (ACR) announced YCAR Faculty Associate **Russell Belk** (Schulich School of Business) and **Lena Cavusoglu** (Pacific University) as the recipients of the [2023 ACR Film Award](#). Their film, "Face Value," was selected as the winner out of the pool of films presented at ACR's annual conference. "Face Value" features interviews with 19 individuals with facial differences from five continents, offering insights into their experiences navigating society and cultivating a distinctive sense of self-worth. [The full story is available at this link.](#)

Faculty Associate **Lucia Lo** (Geography), co-editor | [Special Issue: The Intellectual Migration Analytics: Moving between China and North America](#) | *Journal of Ethnic and*

- ["Introduction: The intellectual migration analytics"](#)
- ["Students on the move? Intellectual migration and international student mobility"](#)
- ["Intellectual capital and student mobility,"](#) co-authored with YCAR alumna Guanglong Pang
- ["International students in China: Regional distribution and macro-influencing factors"](#)

Dr Lo's [Intellectual Migration: The China-Canada-US Dynamics](#) project is based at YCAR and funded by a SSHRC Insight Grant.

Graduate Associate [Htet Min Lwin](#) (Humanities), co-author | ["Operation 1027: The End of the Beginning of Myanmar's Spring Revolution"](#) | *The Diplomat*

Faculty Associate [Peter Vandergeest](#) (Geography), co-author | ["Migrant workers in Irish fisheries: exploring the contradictions through the lens of racial capitalism"](#) | *Global Social Challenges Journal* | This article is an output of the YCAR-based [Work at Sea project](#), funded by a SSHRC Insight Grant.

Faculty Associate [Qiang Zha](#) (Education) | ["Reimagining China-US University Relations: A Global 'Ecosystem' Perspective"](#) | *Studies in Higher Education*

Faculty Associate [Qiang Zha](#) (Education) | ["Does International Publishing Still Matter for China's Social Sciences Scholars?"](#) | *International Higher Education*

Faculty Associate [Qiang Zha](#) (Education), co-author | ["Understanding Chinese Universities' Strategic Response to the 'Double First-class' Policy and the Potential Outcome on Higher Education Diversity: An Exploratory Study"](#) | *Studies in Higher Education*

## YCAR and YCAR-supported Events


**Nov 30** | The Eyewitness: The Life and Times of Dr. Clement Williams at the Court of King Mindon in Mandalay, 1861-1879 with Ron Graham | [Burma Past and Present: Religion, Ethnicity and Power event](#) | **Hybrid**

[Virtual Registration](#)


Thursday, 30 November 2023 | 10:00 to Noon EST | Room B57, Eighth Floor, Kaneff Tower, York University & Virtually via Zoom

**The Eyewitness:**  
The Life and Times of Dr. Clement Williams at the Court of King Mindon in Mandalay, 1861-1879

With Ron Graham  
Award-winning author and journalist  
Respondent: Aurore Candier  
Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France



Very little has been written about Clement Williams, despite his role as Britain's political agent in Mandalay (1861-1869), his long friendship with King Mindon, and his career in business until his premature death in 1879.



Drawing heavily on primary sources in the British Library and a range of secondary material, the book aspires to being the first accurate, detailed and contextual biography of Williams to accompany a large selection of his photographs in the Royal Ontario Museum. It is primarily intended for the non-specialist reader who may know almost nothing about nineteenth-century Myanmar and its last great king at a pivotal period of imperial war and economic transformation, though it can also be used as a kind of micro-history or case study for scholars of the period.

This event is part of the **Burma Past and Present: Religion, Ethnicity and Power**, a series of readings and discussion of works in progress. We will be reading and discussing work in progress with the author. Please email [lamato@roa.ca](mailto:lamato@roa.ca) to receive a copy of the reading.

For Zoom attendees: [register at this link](#)

**Dec 1** | Philippine Studies Group Research Celebration | **In person**

[Registration Link](#)

Friday, 01 December 2023 | 13:00 to 15:30  
Room 280N, Second Floor, York Lanes | York University

**Philippine Studies Group Research Celebration**

Please join us to celebrate research on the Philippines and the diasporas taking place at York University and learn about student and faculty research in 2023.



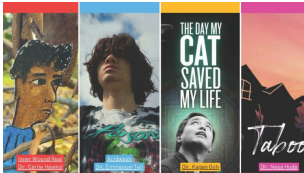
**All are welcome!**

The Philippine Studies Group is grateful for the support for their 2023 activities from the Consulate General of the Philippines in Toronto

Scan to register or click [here](#)  
For more information: [ycar@roa.ca](mailto:ycar@roa.ca)

**Dec 1** | Launch of new Mad Studies publication | Film Screening and Q & A on Racialized Mental Health with directors Nesa Huda, Kagan Goh and Emmanuel Teji | **In person**

[Registration Link](#)



**Launch of new Mad Studies Publication & Film Screening on Racialized Mental Health**  
& Q&A with directors Nesa Huda, Kagan Goh, and Emmanuel Teji

Friday, December 1, 2023, 1:00 - 4:00 pm  
Nes Taylor Cinema, York University  
Room Building, North Side, B1N 107  
Free admission  
Refreshments provided

The **Critical Perspectives on Mental Health** Roberts' Research Cluster invites you to the launch of their second special edition of *Canada Health: Rethinking, Reframing, and Reimagining Madness*, followed by a screening of short films related to racialized mental health and a discussion with the 3 Canadian Directors.

Come join us for an afternoon learning about mad studies research coming out of Canada. The short films being discussed in Canada experienced that we not often discussed and show the multiple of intersecting identities among Canadians. The intention is bring together the film community to engage in a dialogue about mental health and madness among racialized communities in Canada.

Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to RSVP today!

Content warning: the short films explore the themes of suicide, self-harm, mental illness, and social isolation, that some viewers may find distressing.

This event is possible with the support from:  
York Centre for **ROBOTS** (Racialized Organized Bodies of Toronto)

**Dec 14 | Women's Agency in Armed Struggles in Myanmar's Spring Revolution with Aye Lei Tun | [Burma Past and Present: Religion, Ethnicity and Power](#) event | Hybrid**



Thursday, 14 December 2023 | 11:00 to 13:00 EST | Room B57, Eighth Floor, Kawell Tower, York University & Virtually via Zoom

### Women's Agency in Armed Struggles in Myanmar's Spring Revolution

The politics of sex hierarchy in Myanmar has created a narrative that portrays males as protectors of state sovereignty, kinship, and family, while women are relegated to the role of reproduction and preservation of culture and tradition. Within Myanmar's particularly militarized context, dominant discourses that emphasize the necessity of men to defend physical security has resulted in women's subordination in the security sector. It is noteworthy that the 2021 revolution against Myanmar's military dictatorship is also attempting to revolutionize gender norms and the role of women in armed struggles. This study examines to what extent women are viewed as the agents in current armed struggles and whether racial attitudes toward female combatants have changed compared to the previous armed revolutions in Myanmar.

With **Aye Lei Tun**  
McMaster University  
Respondent: Jane Ferguson

Zoom attendees can [register at this link](#)

This event is part of the [Burma Past and Present: Religion, Ethnicity and Power](#) series of readings and discussion of works in progress. We will be reading and discussing work as [previews with the author](#). Please email [bdalton@yorku.ca](mailto:bdalton@yorku.ca) to receive a copy of the reading.

[Registration Link](#)

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

[Registration Link](#)

## 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.

[More Info](#)

### 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)

[More Info](#)

### Funded MA Study Opportunities at the University of Guelph | Deadline: Dec 21

Research funding is available for four students as part of a two-year MA in Sociology or Public Issues in Anthropology (with the option of the collaborative Development Studies program) at the University of Guelph, beginning in Fall 2024, to undertake research on a topic related to:

- [Racialized farmers particularly South Asian farmers in Canada](#)
- [International students' experiences of gender-based violence in Canada](#)



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York Centre for  
Asian Research

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YCAR@YORKU.CA

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