

OASIS

Newsletter of the Asian Pacific American Studies Program

Fall 2004

“Black nationalism, or the quest for freedom, or the Black experience is not just for Black people.”

Okechukwu Iheduru, Director,
African and African American Studies

“Building stronger partnerships with tribes and doing community based research.”

Eddie F. Brown, Director
American Indian Studies

APAS Welcomes New Directors to African and African American Studies and to American Indian Studies

APAS welcomes Professor Okechukwu Iheduru, the new Director of African and African American Studies (AAAS) at Arizona State University. Dr. Iheduru comes to us from James Madison College at Michigan State University where he taught for 11 years. His expertise is in the area of international relations with a specialization in Africa. His research and teaching interests focus on the role of the State in the development of an entrepreneurial capitalist class in South Africa and the new African diaspora which complements well with the expansion of the program, recently renamed as AAAS.

In implementing President Crow's vision for increased research, excellence in teaching, and projects within the local community, Dr. Iheduru plans to increase the participation of students and faculty members from other disciplines and further develop the national and international profile of AAAS. Dr. Iheduru noted that “Black nationalism, or the quest for freedom, or the Black experience is not just for Black people. The Harlem Renaissance and its impact on the role of arts and literature in infusing consciousness, Negritude, [and] Pan-Africanism ... are no longer just for Black people looking inward. We need to take advantage of making a huge claim of what we have contributed.”

His plans include the development of three regional concentrations: African, African American and Caribbean/ AfroLatin American. The program will also offer four thematic concentrations: historical studies, governance and economics, gender and health, and cultural and literary studies. These foci complement the new initiatives in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. AAAS will continue to reach out to the community, international students, and students of color as well as recruit from the broader student body. This new scope of the program reflects not only its diasporic and global dimensions, but also the current mission of the New American University.

APAS also welcomes Professor Eddie F. Brown, the new Director of American Indian Studies at ASU. Formerly



Director's Corner

Mary Romero

As many of you know, Professor Nakayama is taking a well-deserved sabbatical at Temple University this year. In anticipation of his sabbatical, Professor Anne Schneider, the former dean of the College of Public Programs, asked me to serve as interim director of APAS. Having served on two APAS faculty searches in the past, I look forward to working with the program again this year.

However, my term as interim director is not exactly what any of us would have imagined. Not long after I agreed to work with APAS during the 2004-05 academic year, APAS was notified that the program was transferring from the College of Public Programs to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS). Consequently, much of this year will be spent learning about the College, reorganizing the curriculum and program structure to comply with CLAS, and refocusing the APAS to participate in several of the new CLAS initiatives.

This year, APAS plans to participate in both the Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) and the Institute for Humanities Research. Currently, Professor Wei Li and I are the APAS representatives to ISSR, and we also serve on the steering committee for the Trinational Center, another new CLAS initiative. Additionally, ASU will develop a North American Center for the Study of Labor Mobility, Policy and Economic Development (Center) in collaboration with partners in Mexico and Canada. This center will work with the School of Global Studies, the Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) and the Office of Pan American Initiatives (OPI). In light of these new interdisciplinary centers, Professor Li's research on Asian migration to Canada will be an excellent contribution to these endeavors.

APAS also plans to launch the development of an APAS collection at ASU's Hayden Library. Professor John Rosa and I met with Curator/Archivist Christine Marin to discuss collecting an archive of Asian American and Pacific Islander materials at ASU. We will be working with faculty and community organi-

zations over the next year to begin soliciting materials that will be cataloged and made available to researchers studying the Asian Pacific American experience in the Southwest.

Finally, APAS would like to announce that Dr. Wei Li was promoted to Associate Professor this last Spring 2004. Congratulations Wei!

Continued from previous page.

Associate Dean at Washington University in St. Louis, he directed the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. Professor Brown forms part of President Michael Crow's efforts to gather scholars of American Indian culture who are interested in becoming more involved with tribes and in strengthening communities.

Professor Brown's family ties to Arizona played a part in his decision to accept the position as director of American Indian Studies at ASU. He is an Arizona native, the youngest of eight children, and the first in his family to attend college. His mother was a Tohono O'odham and he is a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

His on-going research interest on Arizona tribes also made relocating to Arizona attractive. He has conducted the only longitudinal study that investigates the impact of the 1996 welfare reforms on American Indian families and children.

Brown plans to strengthen American Indian Studies at ASU for both Indian and non-Indian students. He envisions broadening scholarly projects related to American Indian issues across disciplines by building stronger partnerships with tribes and doing community-based research. "I still think there is a frontier out there in the development of curriculum, [by] strengthening courses and doing research." Professor Brown emphasizes research that is based on collaboration and participation aimed at empowering American Indians.



Assistant Professor Melinda de Jesús

Publications

- "Of Monsters and Mothers: Filipina American Identity and Maternal Legacies in Lynda J. Barry's *One Hundred Demons*." *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism* 5:1 (Fall 2004), 1-26.
- "R.A.W: Raunchy Asian Women' and Resistance to Queer Studies in the Asian Pacific American Studies Classroom." *Radical Teacher* 70 (Fall 2004), 26-31.
- "Liminality and Mestiza Consciousness in Lynda Barry's *One Hundred Demons*." *MELUS Journal* 29:1 (Spring 2004), 219-252.

News

Dr. Melinda de Jesús, editor of the forthcoming anthology, *Pinay Power: Peminist Critical Theory, Theorizing the Filipina/American Experience* (Routledge, February 2005) has been invited by the Filipina Women's Network (ffwn.org) to coordinate a panel entitled "What is Pinay Power? How can we develop it to better ourselves and our communities?" for the 2004 Filipina Women's Network Summit in San Ramon, CA on October 23, 2004. Panelists will discuss the cultural, political, and spiritual aspects of Filipina/American identity, leadership and power. More info available at: www.ffwn.org/FilipinaSummit2004.htm.

In July, Dr. de Jesús attended the seminar of the Visible Knowledge Project, Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship, Georgetown University. There she continued her research in teaching and learning about multiculturalism, interdisciplinary studies and new media pedagogy entitled "Multivalent Uses of Technology and 'The Third Space' of Learning and Reflection."

Melinda de Jesús and Karen Leong (an APAS Affiliate faculty), who are the founders/coordinators of the annual Women of Color Conference, announce that this Spring 2005, the conference will be hosted for the first time by Ethnic Studies/Women's Studies colleagues at Northern Arizona University.



Assistant Professor John Rosa

Dr. John Rosa was quoted by the *Honolulu Advertiser* (January 11, 2004) about the infamous Massie Case, two criminal trials in Hawai'i in 1931-32 that involved the alleged rape of Thalia Massie, the wife of a Navy officer, and the subsequent murder of Native Hawaiian, Joseph Kahahawai, one of the men accused of assaulting Mrs. Massie. "This story continues to be told over and over again," said Rosa. The case was the subject of a play entitled "Massie/Kahahawai" in Honolulu this January and February by Kumu Kahua Theatre.

The Massie Case is the subject of two forthcoming books, one by Dr. Rosa [*Local Story: The Massie Case and the Politics of Local Identity in Hawai'i* (University of Hawai'i Press)] and one by David Stannard, a professor of American Studies at the University of Hawai'i. Both Rosa and Stannard are contributing to a PBS documentary about the case produced by Mark Zwonitzer of Hidden Hill Productions for the American Experience series.

Presentations and Service Activities

"Arizona Aloha Festival: The Making of a Pacific Islander Community in Phoenix." Association for Asian American Studies, Boston, MA, March 2004.

Panelist on Pacific Islanders in AZ for ASU Asian/Asian Pacific American Student Coalition Conference, April 2004.

Discussant on boundaries in APA Studies at the Asian Pacific American History Collective (APAHC), Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., April 2004.

Co-chair, Asian American and Pacific Islander Scholarship Fund, ASU Foundation, 2004-05.



Associate Professor Wei Li

Publications

- "Globally Connected and Locally Embedded Financial Institutions: Analyzing the ethnic Chinese banking sector," (Wei Li and Gary Dymski) in Eric Fong ed., *Chinese Ethnic Economy: Global and Local Perspectives*, Philadelphia, PA: Temple University Press. (In press).
- "Asian American Women Breast Cancer Awareness Day" Wei Li, Alex Oberle, Wei Zeng, and Kelly Hsu, Asian Pacific American Studies Program, ASU, Working Report (2004)
- "Financial Globalization and Cross-Border Co-Movements of Money and Population: Foreign Bank Offices in Los Angeles." (Gary Dymski and Wei Li) *Environment & Planning A* 36(2): 213-240 (2004).
- "Asia in Los Angeles: Ethnic Chinese Banking in the Age of Globalization," (Maria W. L. Chee, Gary Dymski and Wei Li) in T. Gomez and M. Hsiao eds. *De-essentializing Capitalism: Chinese Enterprise, Transnationalism and Identity*, pp. 203-231. London: Routledge. (2004).

Presentations

- "Chinese Immigration in USA and Italy: impacts of economic contribution and consequences of building social identities" (Wei Li and Pierpaolo Mudu) Paper presented at the 9th Metropolis Conference, Geneva, 2004.
- "Racialized Assimilation: Identity transformation and community integration among immigrants" Paper presented at the Race/Ethnicity and Place conference, Washington, DC, 2004.
- "Globally Connected and Locally Embedded Financial Institutions: Analyzing the ethnic Chinese banking sector" (Wei Li and Gary Dymski), paper presented at the Research Conference on the Chinese entrepreneurship in the Pacific Rim, Hong Kong, 2004.



Teaching Associate Ping Yang

Ping Yang started her first year at ASU this semester and joins APAS as a new teaching associate. She received her Bachelor's degree in English language and culture and a Master's degree in sociolinguistics at Xi'an International Studies University, China in 2001.

In 2004, she received a second Master's degree in intercultural communication at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. She is currently a doctoral student in ASU's Hugh Downs School of Human Communication.

Her research interest focuses on communication styles adopted by Asian Americans with emphasis on race, gender studies, and intercultural communication curriculum development.

This November, Ping will present on a panel, "Mentoring among Co-Cultures in the United States: Women's Experiences in the Academy," at the National Communication Association in Chicago.

Ping enjoys translating and interpreting different languages, and has done simultaneous interpretation for many international conferences since 1996. In 2002, she was awarded a distinction for simultaneous interpretation training in Belgium, sponsored by the European Union. She also enjoys providing services for Asian American communities across the country.



Teaching Associate Yingying Chen

Yingying Chen, another new teaching associate in APAS, came from China. She graduated from Nanjing University with a Master's degree in Law in 2003 (majoring in jurisprudence), and then became a doctoral student at the National Institute of Law, China.

Since Fall 2004, she has been a doctoral student in the School of Justice and Social Inquiry here at ASU. Her academic interests focus on the study of law and society, with emphasis on research in combining the modern legal system with traditional local customs. She examines China's legal traditions and their cultural roots, and how they may help promote China's transformation from a Confucian society to that of a "Rule of Law." She also explores how the experiences of Asian countries may benefit from legal constructions practiced in other parts of the world.

Yingying is currently assisting Professor Wei Li in the Introduction to Asian Pacific American Studies class (APA 200).



Teaching Associate Alberto Perez Pereiro

Alberto is in his first year at the ASU Department of Anthropology and is also a teaching associate at APAS.

Although born in Spain, Alberto grew up in the Bronx and went on to receive his undergraduate degree in French and German languages from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. He originally expected to move to Europe in order to begin a career in translation, but a few weeks before graduation, he was offered a position by Gakken Publishing, a Japanese Company, and moved to Tokyo. He spent four and a half years teaching English, Spanish, Japanese to English translation and political science at various private and government institutions in the Tokyo area.

In addition to Japanese, Alberto undertook the study of Ainu, the traditional language of Japan's aboriginal minority and conducted research into aspects of language preservation and teaching in this community. As a result he decided to return to Georgetown to receive an MAT in Bilingual Education and learn more about the educational politics of linguistic minorities. His Master's research paper dealt with the development of bilingual education programs in the Inuit communities of Arctic Quebec.

Currently, Alberto is working towards a doctorate in anthropology. His dissertation will address the linguistic and educational practices of the Khmer minority living in the Mekong Delta provinces of Viet Nam, where he spent several summers studying Khmer and Vietnamese. His other research interests include identity politics in Cambodia, Viet Nam and Southeast Asia in general and, most recently, the situation of Southeast Asian immigrants to the United States.

Fall 2004 Events



Poster advertising Pacific Islander Education Fair.

2004 Arizona Pacific Islander Education Fair

The Native Hawaiian Education Council will host an education fair on October 27 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at the Heritage Square Lath House in Downtown Phoenix. Information will be provided for Pacific Islander youth, adults, elders, and families regarding education opportunities. The event is co-sponsored by the ASU Asian Pacific American Studies Program and Everest College in Phoenix.

“charlotte sometimes”

Director Eric Byler will be screening his new film, “charlotte sometimes,” which is inspired by Shawn Wong’s Asian American novel, *American-Knees*. The screening will be hosted by APAS and the Asian/Asian Pacific American Student Coalition. It is tentatively scheduled for October 26 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Student Services Building Amphitheatre. Check our website for updates.

Hailed by Roger Ebert as a breakthrough for Asian American filmmakers, “charlotte sometimes” is a “mysterious and erotic” romance exploring the kinds of love for which there are no names or clear arrangements.

Michael Idemoto stars as a reclusive auto mechanic captivated by an enigmatic drifter (Jacqueline Kim). Eugenia Yuan co-stars as Michael’s tenant and best friend who, despite her live in boyfriend (Matt Westmore), may

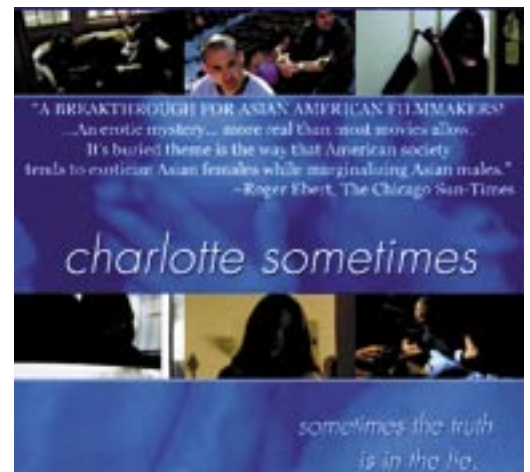


Gail Tsukiyama, Distinguished Visiting Writer Series Lecturer

This October, APAS worked closely with the Piper Center for Creative Writing at ASU to advertise the visit of Asian American writer and poet, Gail Tsukiyama. Ms. Tsukiyama was born in San Francisco, California to a Chinese mother from Hong Kong and a Japanese father from Hawaii. She has been a part-time lecturer in creative writing at San Francisco State University, as well as a freelance book reviewer for the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

She has sat as a judge for the Kiriyama Book Prize and is currently Book Review Editor for the online magazine *Pacific Rim Voices*. Her novels include *Night of Many Dreams*, *The Language of Threads*, and *Dreaming Water*.

Ms. Tsukiyama is also a recipient of the Academy of American Poets Award. She spoke at the Scottsdale Center for the Arts on Friday, October 8, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. She also visited with students and gave a reading at the Asian American Faculty and Staff Fall Reception on Thursday, October 7th.



hold the key to Michael’s heart. When the women in Michael’s life meet face to face, Michael is forced to choose between a daring tryst with an alluring stranger, and the habitual comfort of his bittersweet obsession. (Excerpts from “charlotte sometimes” website: www.charlottesometimesmovie.com/home.html).

Spring 2005 APAS Classes

APA 200	Introduction to Asian Pacific American Studies	General Studies: C, HU, SB	3 credits
An examination of historical and contemporary issues facing Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. (Required for APAS certificate.)			
SLN 50477	Sec A	MW	1:40 p.m.-2:55 p.m. AG 301 Instructor: Li
SLN 77493	Sec B	TTH	9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. AG 246 Instructor: New TA
SLN 63090	Sec C	MW	3:15 p.m.- 4:30 p.m. AG 246 Instructor: New TA
SLN 74347	Sec D	TTH	1:40 p.m.-2:55 p.m. AG 246 Instructor: Ku
APA 210	Introduction to Ethnic Studies in the U.S.	General Studies: C	3 credits
Covers diversity of experiences and relations among racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. (Elective for APAS Certificate.)			
SLN 58300	Sec A	TTH	10:40 a.m. - 11:55 a.m. EDB 205 Instructor: Johnson
APA 330	Asian Pacific American Genders & Sexualities	General Studies: C, SB	3 credits
Exploration of gender and sexuality issues as they relate to Asian Pacific American experiences, including interracial relationships; stereotypes, feminism, queer theory. (Elective for APAS Certificate.)			
SLN 73164	Sec A	M	4:40 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. AG 246 Instructor: de Jesus
APA 340	Asian Pacific Americans and Media	General Studies: C, HU	3 credits
Analysis of social construction of APA media images and resistance to those images in various historical contexts. (Elective for APAS certificate.)			
SLN 63901	Sec A	TTH	10:40 a.m. - 11:55 a.m. ECG 236 Instructor: Kuo
APA 345	Asian Pacific Americans and Film		3 credits
This course focuses on the social and visual construction of APAs in narrative (Hollywood films) documentary and experimental films, including how APAs have been treated by the film industry. (Elective for APAS Certificate.)			
SLN 02036	Sec A	TTH	12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. BA L1-31 Instructor: Kuo
APA 360	APA Experience: Pacific Islanders	General Studies: C, HU, SB	3 credits
Historical and contemporary experiences of an APA racial/ethnic group in the U.S. (One course required for APAS certificate. May be repeated as elective for APAS Certificate if a different topic.)			
SLN 47194	Sec A	TTH	10:40 a.m. - 11:55 a.m. AG 301 Instructor: Rosa
APA 360	APA Experience: Chinese Americans	General Studies: C, HU, SB	3 credits
Historical and contemporary experiences of an APA racial/ethnic group in the U.S. (One course required for APAS certificate. May be repeated as elective for APAS Certificate if a different topic.)			
SLN 95645	Sec A	W	4:40 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. AG 301 Instructor: Li
APA 360	APA Experience: Filipino Americans	General Studies: C, HU, SB	3 credits
Historical and contemporary experiences of an APA racial/ethnic group in the U.S. (One course required for APAS certificate. May be repeated as elective for APAS Certificate if a different topic.)			
SLN 03105	Sec A	MW	3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. BA 265 Instructor: de Jesus
APA 450	APA Contemporary Issues	General Studies: C, SB, (1, 5)	3 credits
This course focuses on issues shaping Asian Pacific American communities including immigration, politics, economic participation, family issues, education issues, health, gender issues, youth issues, interracial relations and other contemporary topics. (Required for APAS certificate.)			
SLN 42126	Sec A	T	4:40 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. AG 181 Instructor: Rosa
APA 484	Internship: Community Service	(13)	3 credits
(Required for APAS certificate.)			
SLN 01544	Sec A	F	1:40 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. AG 246 Instructor: Kuo
APA 493	Honors Thesis	(14, 15, 19)	3 credits
SLN 82879	Sec A	F	1:40 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. WHall 167 Instructor: Rosa
APA 499	Individualized Instruction	(14, 15)	3 credits
SLN 81030	Sec A	F	1:40 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. WHall 267 Instructor: Romero

Footnote Flags:

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| (1) Permission of Instructor required. | (15) Staffing and time subject to individual arrangement. |
| (5) Pre-requisite required. See current catalog. | (19) Honors students. Others by permission. |
| (13) Special course fee or refundable deposit is required. | (GS) Course fulfills general studies requirement. |
| (14) Special application required prior to registration. | |

Spring 2004 Highlights



APAS staff posing with Anne Schneider, former Dean of College of Public Programs.

Left to right: Carol Caruss, Tom Nakayama, Wei Li, Anne Schneider, John Rosa, Melinda de Jesús, Karen Kuo

APAS Bids Farewell to COPP and Dean Anne Schneider

This July, APAS left the College of Public Programs and moved to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. In the process, APAS joined COPP one last time in commemoration of Professor Anne Schneider, who stepped down as Dean after 16 years of guiding COPP and its programs. In late April, COPP threw a farewell party for Professor Anne Schneider with such notable guests as Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano and ASU President Michael Crow.



COPP staff celebrating Carol Caruss' staff award.

Left to right: Anne Schneider, Kristi McFarland, Carol Caruss, Kathy Gunderson

APAS Administrative Associate Wins Staff Award

This year, APAS had the pleasure of witnessing our very own Carol Caruss, Administrative Associate for APAS, receive the prestigious COPP Classified Staff Award. Carol has been at APAS since its inception and has helped guide this program through each administrative and regulatory hoop within ASU. In the words of an APAS member, "Carol is Our Most Valuable Player."

What many of us appreciate most about Carol is not only her hard work and accuracy, but her warmth and thoughtfulness. Carol remembers each of our birthdays, suggests potlucks to make new staff and teaching assistants feel comfortable at APAS, and more. Without Carol, as one insightful APAS member remarked: "We would all still be walking around in our own self-absorbed state!"

2004 Asian/Asian Pacific American Convocation

This year's graduation ceremony included Lin Sue Cooney, news anchor for KPNX, Channel 12 News; Dr. Juan C. Gonzalez, Vice President of Student Affairs at ASU; Dr. Christine Kajikawa Wilkinson, Senior Vice President and Secretary of the University; Dr. James Rund, Vice President of University Undergraduate Initiatives; and Adelaida Velasco Severson, President-Elect of the ASU Asian Alumni Association. The ceremony featured a performance by Fushicho Daiko.



LEAD Academy participants at monument marking the Gila River Japanese American internment camp.

Asian LEAD Academy 2004

Every June, select Asian American and Pacific Islander high school students from all over Phoenix participate in ASU's Asian LEAD Academy. The Academy is a two-week program offering academic and leadership skills training. The LEAD program includes leadership workshops on public speaking, panels on Asian Pacific American history, a mock-trial training session, and panels on Asian Pacific Americans in media and broadcasting.

This year's Asian LEAD Academy speakers included community members Masaji Inoshita of JAACL-Az who accompanied students on a tour of the Gila River internment camps and JoAnn Garcia, attorney and facilitator of the mock trial. The media/broadcasting panels included Asian/Asian American members from the Phoenix metro news community: Cara Liu, Tammy Vo, and Ross Shimabuku.

Workshops were also conducted by ASU faculty and staff such as Arlene Chin, Marisel Herrera, Dr. Melinda de Jesús, Alonzo Jones, Karen Kuo, Dr. Karen Leong, Claudia Martinez, Stefani Price, Dr. John Rosa, Kathy Wong, and Stephen Tsang, Asian/Asian Pacific American Coalition President and ASU student.



Oasis is published twice a year by Asian Pacific American Studies. Please contact the editor with any questions or submissions:

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Asian Pacific American Studies Program Donations

The Asian Pacific American Studies Program at Arizona State University relies on you to help us reach our goal of creating a strong program with a national reputation. Please help us in our efforts toward building for a bright future by making a charitable contribution. You can direct your gift to one or more of the accounts listed. If you are interested in more information on charitable giving options please contact us. Your donations will make it possible for us to do the kinds of things that are otherwise beyond our reach.

Funds will be deposited with the ASU Foundation, a separate nonprofit organization that exists to support Arizona State University.

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