



# Carolina Asia Center

knowledge. innovation. leadership.



Hiren Gihwala, 2015 Mahatma Gandhi Fellow & 2015-16 MGF Co-Chair



June Zhu, Summer 2016 FLAS Fellow (right)



Ntuisse Inyang, 2015 Phillips Ambassador

## GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings from the Carolina Asia Center. As I serve as CAC Interim Director while Dr. Morgan Pitelka is on a research and study assignment, I would like to extend my warm wishes to our readers as we enter the 2016-17 academic year. I am delighted to report our activities since our last publication in winter 2016.

As a pan-Asia center, we have provided 50 scholarships to students; 27 conference, course development, and research grants to faculty members (pp. 10-11); and support to more than 170 Asia-related events in 2015-16.

We started spring 2016 with the celebration of the lunar new year. Thanks to our close ties with more than 40 Asia-related UNC student organizations, the celebration showcased cultural performances from East, South and

Southeast Asia by four student organizations. Other notable events in spring and summer 2016 included the UNC System Asia Scholar Network conference in February, the Triangle East Asia Colloquium in March, and the Toward a Non-Eurocentric Academia conference in May.

The Asia Scholar Network conference was the inaugural conference for Asia scholars in the UNC System and was well-attended by 17 scholars from nine universities. Building on its success, we plan to organize the next Asia Scholar Network Conference in February 2017, so please stay tuned.

We also expanded our online resources in 2016. We recently launched the Carolina Asia Map, an interactive map of UNC-Asia Connections (p. 3). Recognizing the importance of outreach programs to K-12 schools and community colleges, we have also developed a database of award-winning Asia-related books, lesson plans, and professional development opportunities for educators in North Carolina (p.7).

This year is a particularly important year for us as we celebrate the tenth anniversary of both the Phillips Ambassadors scholarship program for study abroad in Asia and the Korean Studies program in the Department of Asian Studies. As part of these milestones, the Phillips Ambassadors Program has announced five \$10,000 awards to Phillips Ambassadors alumni in support of further engagement with Asia (p. 6), and the Korean Studies faculty members, led by Dr. Ji-Yeon Jo, are organizing a series of Korea-related events on campus.

Finally, I want to congratulate CAC Director Dr. Morgan Pitelka on his promotion to a full professorship and extend a warm welcome to Dr. Harshita Kamath, who joins the Religious Studies Department as an Assistant Professor of Religions of South Asia.

Best wishes for 2016-17!

**Thupten Norbu**  
CAC Interim Director



# Carolina Asia Center Bulletin

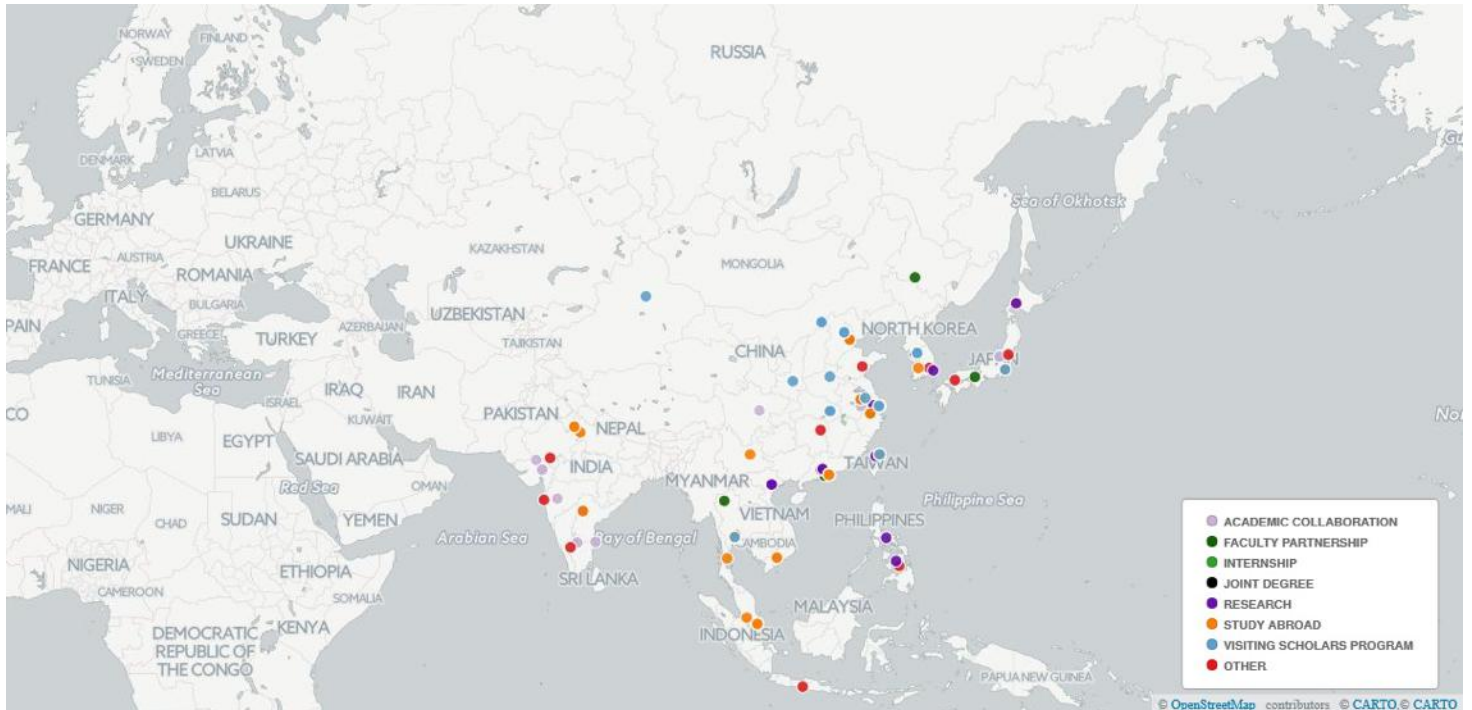
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Photo on the top of Mount Fuji by Diandra Dwyer '18 of Roswell, Georgia. Diandra, a Robertson Scholar, was a Phillips Ambassador and a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellow in summer 2016.

## Introducing the Carolina Asia Map



Beginning this year, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Asia are just a click apart.

The Carolina Asia Center (CAC) at UNC recently released the [Carolina Asia Map](#), an interactive map and searchable database. The map aims to provide a comprehensive list of every connection between Asia and UNC-Chapel Hill. Users can search study abroad programs, faculty partnerships, research collaborations and more by country, city, partner institution and UNC department.

The map has been years in the making. Morgan Pitelka, Professor of Asian Studies, first envisioned the map when he became director of the Carolina Asia Center in 2013. Compiling, sorting and mapping the data took more than a year after the initial work began.

“We are delighted to offer this resource to the Carolina community,” said Thupten Norbu, Interim Director of the Carolina Asia Center. “We hope this initiative will serve as a one-stop database to learn about UNC’s collaborations in Asia and strengthen our collective understanding of and involvement with Asia.”

Above all, the CAC intends the Carolina Asia Map to be a collaborative project. A link beneath the map allows users to suggest corrections or submit new programs. As members of the Carolina community contribute their knowledge, the map will become a more thorough and helpful resource.

Special thanks go to Brittany Darst, CAC Program Associate; Amanda Henley, Head of Digital Research Services at UNC University Libraries; Cherish Khang, Support Developer at ITS Digital Services; and Helen Jang, CAC intern and senior at East Chapel Hill High School. Their expertise and assistance made this project possible.

# Carolina Asia Center Events

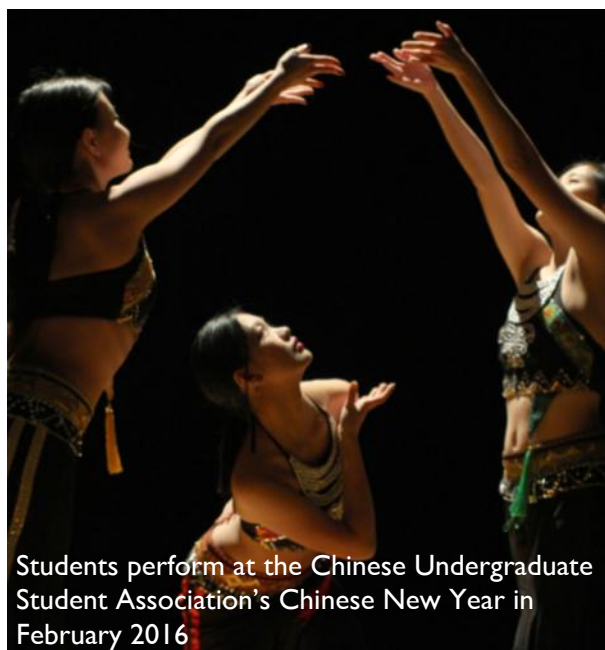
East & South Asia



Guqin musician Liusha Zou visits Dr. Li-ling Hsiao's CHIN 242: "Chinese Qin Music" course in May 2016



Students compete in the Chinese Character Championship in March 2016



Students perform at the Chinese Undergraduate Student Association's Chinese New Year in February 2016



UNC Samaa performs at the Carolina Asia Center Lunar New Year Celebration in February 2016

To receive weekly updates on Carolina Asia Center events, visit:  
[carolinaasiacenter.unc.edu/events](http://carolinaasiacenter.unc.edu/events)

# Carolina Asia Center Events

South & Southeast Asia



Launch party for MONSOON, the UNC student-run magazine for South Asian affairs and activism, at the FedEx Global Education Center in February 2016



Celebrating the Thai Song Kran Festival with Thai visiting scholars and community members in April 2016



Exhibit of celebrated paintings on Myanmar in the FedEx Global Education Center in spring 2016



Dr. Rungsima Kullapat teaches Thai at CAC-sponsored Southeast Asian Language Workshops in the FedEx Global Education Center in April 2016

# Phillips Ambassadors Spotlight

Fall 2016

## Celebrating 10 Years of Phillips Ambassadors

By Janet Walters

Since the summer of 2007, the Phillips Ambassadors scholarship program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has encouraged undergraduates at UNC and nearby Duke University to look toward Asia for their study abroad experiences and to deepen their understanding of Asian countries, culture, and language regardless of their academic major.

The Phillips Ambassadors Program marks its 10th anniversary this year and has supported more than 260 undergraduates in their study abroad endeavors in Asia. The program is honoring its impressive legacy by offering five \$10,000 awards to Phillips Ambassadors alumni to encourage further engagement with Asia at home or abroad.

"We wanted to do something that would reinforce the spirit and purpose of the Phillips Ambassadors Program," said Earl N. "Phil" Phillips, who, with his family, established the Phillips Ambassadors Program. Phillips a Carolina alumnus, entrepreneur and former United States ambassador, has had business interests in Asia for more than 25 years.

In marking the 10-year milestone of the scholarship program, Phillips said he and his family decided to look no further than the program's alumni. "Our alumni are our strength and a tremendous resource for each other and Carolina overall," Phillips said.

Phillips went on to say that Phillips



**Spencer Ivey of Fuquay-Varina, N.C., was a Phillips Ambassador in summer 2016 through the CET Beijing summer program. He is a political science and music double major with a Chinese minor.**

Ambassadors alumni have graduated from Carolina and continued along their unique career and academic paths in medicine, law, business, the arts and the humanities, and all have been influenced in some way by their study abroad experience in Asia.

Stressing that he himself is not on the selection committee for the scholarship or special anniversary awards, Phillips said he is looking forward to seeing the five winning proposals. "I've heard that there are filmmakers, educators, entrepreneurs and national security experts among the alumni who are interested in applying for the award," said Phillips.

The selection committee will evaluate the proposals on their

depth of engagement with Asia; the potential to share the experience with one's community, place of employment or current place of study; creativity; and the overall feasibility of the proposal.

The deadline for proposals for the 10-Year Anniversary Awards was October 1, 2016. Five winners will be announced on November 4, 2016, at a celebration in Chapel Hill marking 10 years of the Phillips Ambassadors Program. Details about the anniversary awards and the Phillips Ambassadors Program can be found here: [phillips.unc.edu/alumni/10-year-anniversary-award](http://phillips.unc.edu/alumni/10-year-anniversary-award)

## Teacher Enrichment Day with Anne Chesnutt Middle School

By Brittany Darst

38 staff members from Anne Chesnutt Middle School in Fayetteville, NC, gathered at the Ackland Art Museum on July 8, 2016, for a day of global enrichment. Faculty and staff from across campus came to deliver a day packed with global activities.

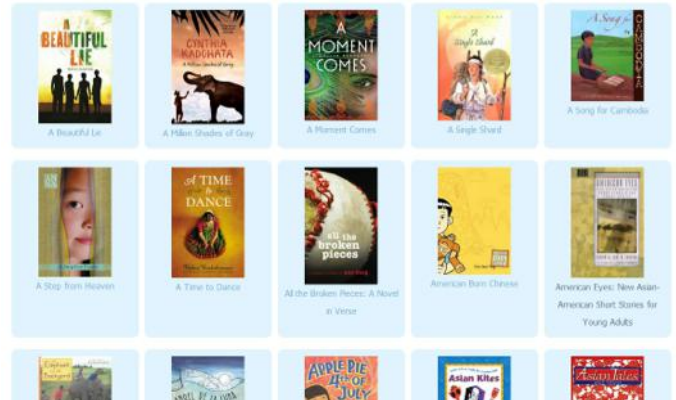
Anne Chesnutt is a year-round middle school in Fayetteville (Cumberland County) that offers Spanish and Mandarin Chinese and was recently awarded a grant from the Teachers of Critical Languages Program to add Arabic. As a Global Communications School of Choice, the school aims to strengthen students' critical thinking, creativeness, and communication skills through continuous teaching and learning of their language of choice, serving about 400 students.

To increase global awareness and engagement, the entire staff participated in sessions on each world area covered at Anne Chesnutt: the Middle East, China and Latin America. Nadia Yaqub, chair of UNC's Department of Asian Studies, delivered an "Introduction to Arab Cultures" lecture. Mariah Smith, Ph.D. candidate in the UNC School of Education and a Spanish Teaching Fellow in the Department of Romance Studies, led a workshop on "A Crash Course on the Connections between Latin America, the Caribbean and Beyond." Asian Studies Associate Professor Li-ling Hsiao led an information session and tournament of the ancient Chinese board game Five-Stone Go, and Ackland Art Museum's Jenny Marvel finished the day with an interactive museum tour called "Exploring World Cultures Through Art."

This program was a collaborative effort of the Ackland Art Museum, Carolina Asia Center, Duke-UNC Consortium for Middle East Studies, UNC-Duke Consortium in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and Cumberland County Schools.

## New Resources for Teachers

By Sarah Brown



The Carolina Asia Center has increased our resources this year to support K-14 educators.

We have compiled a database of award-winning Asia-related books that are recommended by teachers. Educators can search by country, region, topic, and grade level. Over 200 books are available to assist in enriching North Carolina classrooms. This fall, we will have our own collection of books to lend to educators around the state.

The Carolina Asia Center is also excited to offer lesson plans that help promote students' success in a diverse world. The lesson plans are interwoven with Asia content and created for teachers around the United States. The subjects range from elementary language arts to high school economics. We now offer lesson plans specifically tailored for North Carolina classrooms that are designed around the state's standards.

We have also added a list of professional development opportunities in North Carolina and around the country. Professional development resources include multimedia resources, online workshops, webinars, summer institutes, seminars, and more. We hope these opportunities will help K-14 educators who want to bolster their knowledge of Asia and apply it to the classroom.

Learn more at [carolinaasiacenter.unc.edu/outreach](http://carolinaasiacenter.unc.edu/outreach).

# Partner Spotlights

## 2016 Conferences

### UNC System Asia Scholar Network



The Carolina Asia Center launched an innovative program for Asia scholars in North Carolina last academic year. The UNC System Asia Scholar Network, funded by the Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education, connects faculty and graduate students studying Asia-related topics across the 16 UNC System universities.

On February 26, 2016, the Asia Scholar Network's first conference took place in the FedEx Global Education Center at UNC-Chapel Hill. Titled "New Directions in Asian Studies," the conference featured talks by 17 scholars from nine UNC System universities. Topics included "Urbanizations in India and Japan," "Identity and Culture" and "Interdisciplinary Perspectives in the Study of Muslims and Pakistan."

Leslie Boney, Vice President for International, Community, and Economic Engagement at UNC General Administration, delivered welcome remarks on the importance of global engagement in the UNC System. He highlighted the connections North Carolina higher education has

developed with both China and India, producing two global engagement reports available at [northcarolina.edu/our-time-our-future/strategic-directions-initiative](http://northcarolina.edu/our-time-our-future/strategic-directions-initiative).

The "New Directions in Asian Studies" conference will be followed by annual conferences for the Asia Scholar Network as well as year-round access to UNC libraries and other resources for members. UNC System faculty interested in joining can contact [brittany.darst@unc.edu](mailto:brittany.darst@unc.edu).

### "Toward a Non-Eurocentric Academia"



In May 2016, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University, and the University of Bremen hosted their second collaborative workshop, "Toward a Non-Eurocentric Academia: Border Thinking and Decoloniality," at the FedEx Global Education Center at UNC-Chapel Hill.

The workshop spanned ten days in which 22 young scholars and activists joined together with faculty from these three institutions to think through and discuss various issues—including race, gender, and the colonial legacies—which confront contemporary scholarship and social justice movements on campuses worldwide. The event was sponsored by the Carolina Asia Center at UNC-Chapel

Hill, Duke University's Center for Global Studies and the Humanities, the UNC-Chapel Hill Departments of History and Religious Studies, and the Bremen Institute for Postcolonial and Transcultural Studies.

### Triangle East Asia Colloquium



In March 2016, the Carolina Asia Center hosted the 2016 Triangle East Asia Colloquium. This conference is the flagship annual meeting of the Triangle East Asia Consortium, which was established in 1976 to promote dialogue and collaboration among East Asian studies faculty at Duke University, North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The 2016 colloquium featured three panels: "Inter-Asian Connections as Politics and Scholarship," "Circulation of Texts Within and Beyond Sinosphere, Indic and Islamicate Asia," and "Inter-Asian Encounters as a Site of Modern Buddhist and Muslim Thought." Faculty from all three TEAC universities presented. Prasenjit Duara, Director of the Duke Global Asia Initiative, and Seteny Shami, Program Director at the Social Science Research Council-InterAsia, also contributed remarks.

To learn more about TEAC and join us for the next conference, visit [triangleeac.org](http://triangleeac.org).



### NCCU Partnership

*By Brittany Darst & Thupten Norbu*

The Carolina Asia Center at UNC-Chapel Hill has developed a strong partnership with North Carolina Central University in Durham, N.C. With the support of the Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the CAC has collaborated with Dr. Matthew A. Cook, Professor of Postcolonial and South Asian Studies at NCCU, to create South Asia-focused programming for the benefit of both universities and the Triangle area.

Since August 2015, the CAC-NCCU collaboration has resulted in several successful events and shared projects on various South Asian topics. With the CAC's support, Dr. Cook at NCCU and Dr. Iqbal Sevea of the Department of History at UNC-Chapel Hill jointly hosted visiting scholar Aqsa Ijaz from Lahore, Pakistan, from September 1 to December 31, 2015.

Ijaz, the American Institute of Pakistan Studies Joint NCCU/UNC-CH Junior Visiting Faculty Fellow, conducted research at both universities and presented a lecture on "Parallel Narratives of Identity and Self in Contemporary Pakistani Art and Literature" at the CAC. Attendees included UNC & NCCU students and scholars and community members from around the Triangle.

This year, several other scholars also presented lectures with the support of the CAC and NCCU. In spring 2016, Dr. Walter Hakala of the State University of New York at Buffalo, Dr. Puskar Sahoni of the University of Pennsylvania's South Asia Center, and



**Dr. Saeed Shafqat of Forman Christian University with CAC Interim Director Thupten Norbu**

Dr. Cara Cilano of UNC-Wilmington visited NCCU. Dr. Hakala spoke on "Setting the World on Fire: Syphilis and Chilies in Old Word Vocabularies;" Dr. Sahoni presented a lecture titled "Squaring a Circle: Design and Construction in the Temple at Anwa;" and Dr. Cilano presented on "Parody, Satire and Spatial Visions in Pakistan." All the talks were well-attended by faculty, students and community members.

In addition to daytime presentations at NCCU, Dr. Hakala, Dr. Sahoni and Dr. Cilano also made evening presentations to faculty from around the Triangle area via two colloquia by the North Carolina Consortium for South Asian Studies. These colloquia were co-organized by Dr. Cook (NCCU), Dr. David Gilmartin (NCSU), and Dr. Sevea (UNC-Chapel Hill).

This summer, in collaboration with Dr. Cook and Dr. Charles Kennedy at Wake Forest University, the CAC also hosted



**Dr. Matthew A. Cook of NCCU with Joint NCCU/UNC-CH Junior Visiting Faculty Fellow Aqsa Ijaz**

Dr. Saeed Shafqat, Professor at Forman Christian University in Lahore, Pakistan, as a part of the Pakistan Lecture Series tour sponsored by the American Institute of Pakistan Studies and Wake Forest University's Middle East and South Asia Studies Program. Dr. Shafqat presented on "Perceptions, Realities, and the Changing Dynamics of U.S.-Pakistan Relations" at the CAC in August 2016.

Dr. Cook is also an active member of the UNC System Asia Scholar Network, an initiative of the CAC which connects Asia scholars across the UNC system. We heartily congratulate Dr. Cook on being appointed Vice President of the American Institute for Pakistan Studies (AIPS) and Dr. Iqbal Sevea on being selected to serve as an AIPS Executive Committee Member. Building on our partnership, the CAC will continue working with Dr. Cook to raise awareness and understanding of South Asia in the Triangle area.

# Carolina Asia Center Student Awards

## 2016 Mahatma Gandhi Fellows

The Mahatma Gandhi Fellowship provides funding for 1-2 students per year to implement a service project in a South Asian community.

**Alexis Hoyt**, Master's Student in Global Public Health

**Maebelle Mathew**, Chemistry

## 2016 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellows

FLAS provides summer and academic year fellowships to undergraduate and graduate students to study an Asian language and area studies. The fellowship provides funding to cover tuition, fees and a stipend. During the academic year, graduate fellows receive up to \$33,000 and undergraduate fellows receive up to \$15,000. Summer fellows receive up to \$7,500.

### CHINESE

**Zayna Abdo** Global Studies (Summer)

**Jimmy Chin** Economics & Asian Studies (Summer)

**Willa Dong** Ph.D. Student in Global Public Health (AY)

**Caroline Jones** Master's Student in Social Work (Summer/AY)

**Spencer Ivey** Political Science & Music (Summer)

**Kiralina Soare** Global Studies (Summer)

**Jeffrey Zhang** Computer Science (Summer)

**June Zhu** Global Studies & Romance Languages (Summer)

### HINDI-URDU

**Akhila Boyina** Biology & Global Studies (AY)

**Samah Choudhury** Ph.D. Student in Religious Studies (AY)

### JAPANESE

**Charles Cook** Ph.D. Student in Religious Studies (Summer)

**Diandra Anna-Kay Dwyer** Media and Journalism (Summer)

**Samantha Johnson** Asian Studies (Summer)

**Rachel Matsumura** Business Administration (AY)

**Haley Petersen** Ph.D. Student in Religious Studies (Summer)

**Justin Wu** Ph.D. Student in History (Summer)

### KOREAN

**Justin Andrews** Doctoral Student in Physical Therapy (AY)

**Shati Khan** Master's Student in City and Regional Planning (AY)

**Alexis Rush** History (Summer)

### TAGALOG

**Michael Hawkins** Ph.D. Student in Geography (Summer)

### TAMIL

**Christopher Neubert** Ph.D. Student in Geography (Summer)

## 2016 Phillips Ambassadors

The Phillips Ambassadors program is one of the most generous and flexible scholarships for undergraduate study at Carolina. The scholarship combines a financial award, an academic course, and a charge to students to share their unique study abroad experience with people in their hometowns and with the Carolina community.

### CHINA

**Rebekah Cockram** History

**Eliza Farren** Global Studies

**Luke Gutekunst** Business Administration

**Spencer Ivey** Political Science & Music

**Johnathan Lueck** Nutrition & Chemistry

**Sam Miner** Business Administration & History

**Alexander Stephenson** Business Administration & Asian Studies

**Austin Story** Pre-Business & Public Policy

### INDIA

**Moreen Wambui Njoroge** Biology & Global Health (Duke University)

**Kevin Parham** Health Policy and Management & South Asian Studies

**Samuel Silverstein** Undeclared

### JAPAN

**Kelsey Britton** Asian Studies & Public Policy

**Diandra Dwyer** Media and Journalism

**Stephen Lanier** Chemistry & Asian Studies

**Samee Siddiqui** Ph.D. Candidate in History

### KOREA

**Dolly Estevez** Biology & Global Studies

**Caby Styers** Anthropology

**Andrew Worth** Political Science

### SINGAPORE

**Cyrous Bortey** Business Administration

**Zoe Fisher** Business Administration

**Nancy Gao** Computer Science

**Eric Lee** Economics

**Tony Liu** Geography

**Cameron Gilchrist** Business Administration & Anthropology

**Lacy Rardin** Psychology & Exercise and Sport Science

### THAILAND

**Gabrielle Beaudry** Environmental Science

**Tate Shanahan** Environmental Science

# Carolina Asia Center Faculty Awards

## 2016 Faculty Grantees

The Carolina Asia Center awarded a variety of grants in 2016 to UNC-Chapel Hill faculty, including the following:

### CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS FOR UNC-CH FACULTY

*Up to \$1,500 for conference travel*

**Michelle King** Associate Professor of History  
**Christian Lentz** Assistant Professor of Geography  
**Steven Rosefielde** Professor of Economics  
**Michael Tsin** Associate Professor of History

### COURSE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FOR UNC-CH FACULTY

*Up to \$2,500 to add Asia content to an existing course or develop a new course with an Asia focus*

**Robert Anderson** Lecturer in Portuguese  
**John Caldwell** Lecturer in Hindi-Urdu  
**Ji-Yeon Jo** Assistant Professor of Asian Studies  
**Pamela Lothspeich** Associate Professor of Asian Studies  
**Afroz Taj** Associate Professor of Asian Studies

### UNC-CH ASIAN LANGUAGE FACULTY PEDAGOGY TRAINING & COURSE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

*Up to \$2,500 for pedagogy training and course development for Asian language instructors*

**Dongsoo Bang** Lecturer in Korean  
**Luoyi Cai** Lecturer in Chinese  
**Fumi Iwashita** Lecturer in Japanese  
**Jia Lin** Lecturer in Chinese  
**Jackie Relyea** Lecturer in Korean  
**Gang Yue** Associate Professor of Asian Studies  
**Yi Zhou** Senior Lecturer in Chinese

### THE RAJKUMAR FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

*Up to \$5,000 for UNC-CH faculty travel to Singapore*

**Cemil Aydin** Associate Professor of History  
**Steven Rosefielde** Professor of Economics

### JIMMY AND JUDY COX ASIA INITIATIVE AWARDS

*Up to \$8,000 for UNC-CH faculty research and conference travel to Asia*

**Mark Driscoll** Associate Professor of Asian Studies  
**Pamela Jagger** Associate Professor of Public Policy  
**Christopher Nelson** Associate Professor of Anthropology  
**Mai Nguyen** Associate Professor of City & Regional Planning

### UNC LIBRARIES ASIAN COLLECTIONS SUPPORT

*Support for travel, acquisitions and conferences for UNC Libraries' Asian Collections*

**Hsi-chu Bolick** East Asian Resources Bibliographer

### PARTNER INSTITUTION GRANTS

*Up to \$2,000 for Asia-focused faculty at UNC System universities*

**Tracy Hargrove** Associate Professor of Education, Watson College of Education at UNC-Wilmington  
**Joti Sekhon** Professor of Sociology and Director of International Programs, Winston-Salem State University  
**Russell Smith** Associate Professor of Geography, Winston-Salem State University  
**Wen Xiong** Associate Professor of Chinese, Winston-Salem State University

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UNC  
GLOBAL

Find us on social media!



The Carolina Asia Center is the University of North Carolina's flagship organization for Asia-related activities. In 2014, we became the first Title VI-funded pan-Asia National Resource Center in the southeast United States.

Our mission is to positively transform our understanding of and relationship with Asia and to equip students and others with the knowledge of Asia to assume leadership roles. We develop resources for engagement with Asia-related topics through seminars, language study, outreach, cultural competency, study abroad and visiting scholars programs.

We are a unit of UNC-Chapel Hill's College of Arts and Sciences and work with various professional schools, departments, centers and student organizations on campus. Beyond Carolina, we collaborate with regional and international institutions to develop and implement educational programs on Asia.

Our programs have also been supported by the Freeman Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, the Japan Foundation, the Korea Foundation, the Thai Government, and through our close partnerships with Duke University and the UNC system of universities and community colleges.

To donate to the Carolina Asia Center, please visit <http://carolinaasiacenter.unc.edu/make-a-gift/>.