

ASIAN MODE

2000-2001 Issue 1

October 2000

The *Asian Mode*, the official publication of the American Sociological Association Section on Asia and Asian America (ASA/AA Newsletter), is edited by Morrison G. Wong, Section Secretary, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, TCU Box 298710, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX 76129 Phone: (817) 257-7472; FAX (817) 257-7737; E-Mail: M.Wong@tcu.edu. Contributions to the newsletter are most welcome.

Officers of the ASA Section on Asia and Asian America

Chair: John Lie (2001)
Chair-Elect: Evelyn Nakano Glenn (2001)
Secretary-Treasurer: Morrison G. Wong (2003)
Council:
Yvonne Lau (2001)
Linda Trinh Vo (2001)
Rebecca King (2002)
Emily Ignacio (2002)
Janet W. Salaff (2003)
Miri Song (2003)
Student Representative:
Dina Okamoto (2001)

FROM THE CHAIR

John Lie

Greetings! First, I would like to thank Alvin So for doing such a wonderful job as the chair of the section. It is a bit daunting to succeed him (and to be succeeded in turn by Evelyn Nakano Glenn), but I trust that -- with the very capable members of the

Council and the redoubtable Morri Wong as the secretary -- things will go smoothly.

Secondly, and relatedly, I want to stress the importance of urging your colleagues and students to join our section. Judging from the healthy turnout at our reception in D.C., I gather that our section has a gustatory, as well as intellectual, attraction. In any case, the more members there are, the more section sessions we'll have; so don't be a free rider!

Finally, I want to urge all of you to contribute something to the Newsletter. In the past, several of you have written extremely interesting pieces. Your contribution can be about not only intellectual issues but also political and professional ones as well. It would be yet another means to vitalize the section.

If you have any concerns about the section, then please contact me.

John Lie
Department of Sociology
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-496-5029

CALL FOR PAPERS

englenn@socrates.berkeley.edu

Call for Papers: 2001 Asia and Asian America section sessions of the American Sociological Association Annual Meetings to be held in Anaheim, California. The themes for the panels encompass a wide range of possible topics, and we heartily invite submissions. Deadline for submissions is January 10, 2001.

- a) Panel Session (in conjunction with section Business Meeting): "Changing Dynamics of Gender and Sexuality in Asia"
Submit to: Emily Noelle Ignacio
Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology
Loyola University Chicago
6525 N. Sheridan Rd.
Chicago, IL 60626
email: eignaci@luc.edu (Please contact before trying to send e-mail submissions)
- b) Panel Session: "Issues of Asian Immigrant Communities"
Submit to: Rick Baldoz
Dept of Sociology
University of Hawaii-Manoa,
Social Sciences Bldg. 247
Honolulu HI. 96822;
Ph: (808) 956-8416
e-mail submissions to:
baldoz@hawaii.edu
- c) Refereed Roundtable Session: "Topics in the Sociology of Asia and Asian America"

Submit to: Evelyn Nakano Glenn
Department of Women's Studies
3408 Dwinelle Hall, MC 1070
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-1070
e-mail submissions to:

ASIA/ASIAN AMERICA SECTION BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2000

Washington Hilton and Towers
Washington, D.C.

Morrison G. Wong

The meeting was convened by Chair Alvin So at 9:40 a.m. About 28 people were in attendance. After some welcoming remarks, the new officers of the Section – Evelyn Nakano Glenn as Chair-Elect, Morrison Wong as Secretary-Treasurer, Janet Salaff and Miri Song as Council Members, and Dina Okamoto as Student Representative -- were introduced.

Thanks and appreciation for their time and service were given to out-going Secretary-Treasurer Yen Espiritu for six years of service, to Council members Nazli Kibria and Pyong Gap Min, and to Student Representative Bindi Shah.

Thanks was given to John Lie who organized this year's Section's Program at the Washington Meetings. As Chair-Elect, Evelyn Nakano Glenn will be responsible for determining the theme and organizing next year's section program. The Conference theme is Global Cities. AIDS in Asia and Gender were two ideas that were volunteered by members. Anyone wishing to offer ideas, please contact Evelyn.

Pyong Gap Min made the plaque presentation for the Book Award. Five excellent books were nominated for the Book Award. Leland Saito's book, *Race and Politics: Asian Americans, Latinos, and*

Whites in a Los Angeles Suburb received the Section's Award for Best Book. It is an ethnographic study that looks at how foreign-born and U.S. born Chinese used ethnic mobilization for political power in their coalition with Latinos. Public documents, interviews, and pictures were utilized throughout the book. Thanks goes out to the other committee members – Rebecca King and Emily Ignacio – for their time and diligence. The new Book Award Committee (on Asia) will consist of Emily Ignacio (chair) and Janet Salaff and Miri Song. The deadline for book nominations is late February and should deal with Asia (as opposed to Asian America) and have a publication date no earlier than 1997.

Morrison Wong was introduced as the new Newsletter Editor. He will continue to send the newsletter via e-mail (as a money-saving practice for the Section) as well as attempt to update the Section web page at the American Sociological Association website. Dina Okamoto will serve on Newsletter Committee and will be responsible for a graduate student column.

Local arrangements were performed by Esther Chow and Sunhwa Lee. They did an excellent job. They were able to organize an extra special section on “Asian and American Issues: Dialogue with Government and Asian American Communities” that comprised of a panel of five officials and executive directors of agencies that deal with Asian American issues either in Washington D.C. or nationally. This was a most informative session. They were also responsible for the Section reception at a Thai restaurant. Next year, the meetings will be held in Anaheim, California. Linda Vo and Yen Espiritu will be in charge of local arrangements.

Alvin So thanked the Nomination Committee

of Nazli Kibria (chair), Rebecca King, and Linda Vo for their work in soliciting nominations for the Section elections. Next year's Nomination Committee will be comprised of Becky King and Yvonne Lau.

Our Section membership is declining. After reaching a high of 370 (due in part to Esther Chow's efforts), our membership now stands at 320. It should be noted that the majority of sections also experienced a decline in membership. This may be attributed to the increase in the number of sections. Faculty members are encouraged to sponsor their graduate students as Section members as this is only a \$3 investment. It is important that our membership increase as ASA has raised the minimum number to 300 members in order to have sessions at the annual meetings. Evelyn Nakano Glenn will chair the Membership Committee with Alvin So.

Alvin So gave a report on the financial status of our Section. We had increased our surplus by \$1000. We are in great shape with a balance of about \$3700. The proposed budget for year 2000-2001 was approved by the membership.

Discussion then centered on the feasibility and possibility of increasing the number of awards that the section offers. We currently just give out one award – the Book Award. Suggestions included a “Best Graduate Student Paper Award,” “Graduate Student Travel Award,” “Recognition of Careers and Scholars, Past and Present' Award,” and “Best Dissertation Award.” An Ad Hoc Committee composed of Rebecca King and Yvonne Lau will report to John Lie after researching what awards other Sections offer.

With no other business, Alvin So then “passed the torch” to John Lie, the new chair

of the Section on Asia and Asian America. John Lie thanked Alvin So for all his work and leadership in conducting the business of the Section. Alvin So was applauded by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

SECTION MEMBERSHIP

If you are not a member of the Section or have let your membership lapse, it is easy for you to renew your membership. There is no form that you need to fill out to join our Section. There are three ways of joining. Membership to the section is only \$15. There is a discount for graduate students.

First, you can send in a check to ASA along with a letter explaining that you would like to join the Asia and Asian American Section and that you are a current member. Their address is: Membership, American Sociological Association, 1307 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC, 20005.

Second, you can send an e-mail (membership@asanet.org) along with a credit card number requesting membership to our section.

Third, they will be happy to take your section membership over the telephone (202-383-9005) for those not comfortable with sending credit card numbers via e-mail.

Faculty members: You may wish to reward your graduate students or assistants or researchers by paying for their first year membership to our Section. This way, they can become involved with the Section and with the American Sociological Association.

Please support the Section.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF OFFICERS

Listed below are the e-mail addresses of the officers of the section. Please feel free to contact any one of them regarding any Section business or concerns. After all, they are your officers and seek to serve you.

Chair: John Lie: jlie@wjh.harvard.edu

Chair-Elect: Evelyn Nakano Glenn:
englenn@socrates.Berkeley.edu

Secretary-Treasurer: Morrison G. Wong :
M.Wong@tcu.edu

Council:

Yvonne Lau: YLAU@wop.it.luc.edu

Linda Trinh Vo: volt@uci.edu

Rebecca King: king@usfca.edu

Emily Ignacio: eignaci@luc.edu

Janet W. Salaff:

salaff@artemis.chass.utoronto.ca

Miri Song: a.m.song@ukc.ac.uk

Student Representative:

Dina Okamoto: dina@u.arizona.edu

Past Chair: Alvin So: solavin@ust.hk

SNAIL V. E-MAIL

One of the recent changes in the distribution of *Asian Mode* is that it is now being sent by e-mail. If you are receiving the newsletter via regular mail, this means that we do not have an e-mail address for you. If you have an e-mail address, please send a short message to Morrison Wong at M.Wong@tcu.edu so that he can place you in the e-mail data file. Not only will you receive the newsletter more quickly (like one week ahead of time), but the Section (actually Morri's department) will save on mailing and postage. Thanks. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

NEW PUBLICATION

Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies is pleased to announce the publication of a special issue on Asian American women co-guest edited by Marian Sciachitano and Linda Trinh Vo (Volume XXI, Number 1/2, 2000) [240 pages]. The collection includes articles by Sabrina Margarita Alcantara-Tan, Piya Chatterjee, Nhi T. Lieu, Debbie Storrs, Pamela Thoma, Beverly Yuen Thompson, and Charlene Tung. In addition, it includes fiction and poetry by Rana Chang, Lan Duong, Shirley Ho, Kai Jo, Nhien T. Nguyen, Carol Roh-Spaulling, and Traise Yamamoto. The issue also features artwork by Zarah De Leon, Wennie Huang, Annu P. Matthew, and Elsie Yukiko Sakuma. Send \$15 in check or credit card to: Journals Fulfillment, University of Nebraska Press, 233 North 8th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0255. Make checks payable to *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*. Credit card orders need card numbers, expiration date, and signature.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

University of Missouri-Columbia. The Department of Human Development and Family Studies is seeking an assistant professor with interest in family diversity and/or multiculturalism to fill a tenure-track position beginning August, 2001. Candidates should have a Ph.D. in human development and family studies or such related fields as sociology, psychology, anthropology, communications, social work, or gerontology. The successful applicant, who has demonstrated exceptional promise in both research and teaching, will teach undergraduate and graduate courses

emphasizing multiculturalism, family diversity, and/or diversity in development across the life course. Mentoring both undergraduate and graduate research efforts is also expected. The department focuses on families as basic units of society and emphasizes the development of individuals and families across the life cycle. Family diversity and multiculturalism are the department's unique niches, and it seeks to strengthen that focus with this hire and eventual development of a graduate degree option in those areas. Currently, the department has eleven tenure track/tenured faculty members, and approximately 160 undergraduate majors and 50 masters and doctoral students. Faculty are productive scholars studying such areas as childcare, development across the lifespan, family interaction and relationships, divorce, and remarriage. In recent years the department has housed the editorship of both *Journal of Marriage and the Family*, and *Family Relations*, the top two journals in the family field, and currently houses *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*. The department also runs a laboratory preschool, rated among the top ten in the country, and enrolling over 100 children. Department faculty also direct The Center for the Study of Family Policy and Research. The current position offers a competitive salary and research start-up costs. Screening of applications begins November 1, 2000. A letter of application describing research and teaching experiences and interests, a curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference should be mailed to: Dr. Teresa M. Cooney, Chair of Multicultural Search Committee, 304 Gentry Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211-7700. The University of Missouri is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Catholic University. The Life Cycle Institute at Catholic University has received a large grant to study churches serving immigrants in the Washington DC area. We will be studying six immigrant groups over the next two years. We have good assistants to study five of the groups, but have not located a Chinese assistant. We are searching for a graduate student or recent graduate who would take part in one or two Chinese churches in the next year or two and who would write field notes and articles about the Chinese churches. We pay well, at least \$16,000 per year for 15 to 20 hours per week.

We will provide training for the Chinese researcher. We prefer persons educated in social sciences such as sociology, anthropology, or psychology. We would like to hire someone who has done this type of work, if possible. The job begins immediately.

If any student would like to register for graduate study at The Catholic University of America, that person would receive free tuition for as long as he or she is working for our study of immigrant churches. This is a good opportunity.

Interested persons please contact: Dr. Dean Hoge, Life Cycle Institute, Catholic University, Washington DC 20064. E-mail: hoge@cua.edu. Phone: 202-319-5999.

Bryn Mawr College. Asian American Studies. Tenure track position beginning Semester 1, 2001 for Assistant Professor. Joint appointment in Anthropology and Sociology, with specialization in Asian American and Comparative Ethnic Studies. Subfields should include one or more of the following areas: Qualitative research

methods; Urban social issues; Gender studies. Applicants must have teaching experience as well as a Ph.D. in anthropology, sociology, or ethnic studies at the time of appointment.

Send letter of application, CV, statement of teaching and research interests, writing sample, syllabus for a course in Asian American Studies, and three letters of recommendation to: Philip Kilbride, Chair of the Search Committee, Department of Anthropology, Bryn Mawr College, 101 North Merion Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-2899.

Bryn Mawr is an exceptional liberal arts college for women with coeducational graduate programs in sciences, some humanities, and social work. The College supports faculty excellence in both teaching and research, and provides a rigorous education in the context of a diverse and pluralistic scholarly community. Located 11 miles west of Philadelphia, Bryn Mawr participates in consortial programs with the University of Pennsylvania, Haverford and Swarthmore College.

The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology. The Division of Social Science invites applications for an Assistant Professorship in globalization processes and implications and/or the transnational linkage of Chinese settlement and community beginning Fall 2001. Methodological approach (quantitative or qualitative) is open. In addition to having a PhD in a social science discipline (anthropology, economics, geography, legal studies, political science, population studies, sociology) or a related field at the time of appointment, applicants with a demonstrated commitment to interdisciplinary teaching and/or program development are especially encouraged to

apply.

Salaries at the rank of Assistant Professor are highly competitive. Starting salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Fringe benefits including medical and dental insurance, annual leave, children's local education, allowance and assistance in housing will be provided where applicable. Initial appointment will normally be on a three-year contract. A gratuity will be payable upon successful completion of contract. Re-appointment will be subject to mutual agreement.

Applicants should send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and samples of published work and three letters of reference; other materials will be requested if needed. Applications will be screened beginning **November 15**. All materials should be addressed to: Dr. Tu Jow-Ching, Chair, Search Committee for position in Globalization, Division of Social Science, The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong [Fax: (852) 2335-0014; E-mail: sojowong@ust.hk]. For more information see <http://www.ust.hk/~websosc/>.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS FORUM GENERATES CHALLENGING DISCUSSION

Joyce Chinen

"I figured I would go the first day and just check it out, but it was really interesting, so I kept coming back all week." That's how one Nisei gentleman described his experience of the International Scholars Forum. With a theme of "Uchinanchu Diaspora: Memories, Continuities, and Constructions," members

of the Uchinanchu and the larger local community experienced a challenging set of presentations about Uchinanchu people and issues facing Uchinanchu around the world. It was also an opportunity to honor the scholarly work and many contributions of Professors Mitsugu Sakihara and Ruth Adaniya to the local Okinawan community.

Since the theme of the Okinawan Centennial Celebration is "Okage Sama De 2000: Bridging a Century of Uchinanchu Aloha," considerable thought went into the selection of the theme for the Scholars Forum. The objective of the organizers was to more deeply explore the reasons why Okinawans have migrated from the homeland of Uchin to the various host locations, including Hawaii, the continental U.S., Yamato Japan, various nations of South America, and the Philippines. And, even today, they are continuing to leave Okinawa. Why would people leave a place that they so love, that they celebrate in song and dance? Why did they leave in the 19th century? In the 20th century? And will they continue to leave in the 21st century?

The theme of "Uchinanchu Diaspora" was selected to explore the movement of Uchinanchu across geographical space, across historical time, and the different types of Uchinanchu who migrate or are affected by the migration. "Diaspora" refers to the scattering of a people because of a disastrous event, mostly of a political nature, but also of the efforts those people go through to hold on to their group identity. Most of the early 20th century migration came out of the extreme poverty which befell Okinawa because of the dismantlement of the Ryukyuan Kingdom and incorporation by and into Japan. At that time most of those who had to leave to generate income were men. But in the latter half of the 20th

century, much of the migration has been among women because of the heavy U.S. Military presence. Sessions focused on Uchinanchu diasporic communities in California, Peru, and the Philippines which were created in the first half of the 20th century, the contemporary diasporic conditions in Okinawa, religion, and on the issues of language policy, creation of literatures and communities, and the politics and possibilities of creating a transnational Uchinanchu identity.

For those who missed out on the International Scholars Forum, the conference papers along with other articles are being edited into an upcoming book. Those who would like to contribute to the publication of the book and be notified when it is published can fill out the form available at the HOC office, or contact Dr. Joyce Chinen at UH-West Oahu, Pearl City, HI 96782 (808) 454-4720 or <chinen@hawaii.edu>.

NOTES ON FOLKS

The University of California, Irvine is pleased to announce the appointment of Linda Trinh Vo as assistant professor of Asian American Studies. Linda's new address and telephone number are: Asian American Studies Program, U.C. Irvine, Irvine, CA 92697-6900, (949)824-3003, (949)824-3885 fax, e-mail: volt@uci.edu.

EDITOR'S NOTE

First, I would like to personally thank Yen Espiritu for all the work that she has done on the newsletter during the past six years. As a

past-editor, I know that a lot of work and time went into producing a newsletter three times a year. Your work is greatly appreciated. Thanks.

Second, this is your newsletter. You have my address. You have my telephone number. You have my fax number. You have my e-mail address. You have no excuse to not contribute. Any suggestions, changes, tidbits of information, reflections, opinions, commentaries, events, conferences, issues, announcements, or any other item that you feel will be of interest or importance to our Section members are greatly encouraged. If you want to write on a particular issue, submit the manuscript. Please note that the newsletter is published three times a year – October (after the meetings), February-March (after the preliminary schedule of the annual meetings is distributed), June-July (after the Section elections).

Third, if you would like to nominate someone or yourself for a position in our section – chair-elect, council, or student representative, please let Rebecca King or Yvonne Lau know. You have their addresses. They look forward to your input.

Fourth, if you would like to nominate a book for the Book Award, please contact Emily Ignacio (chair) and Janet Salaff and Miri Song. Next year's award will be a book on Asia.

Lastly, I look forward to serving you and carrying on the fine tradition that my predecessors have established.