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# Asian Mode

## From the Section Chair

The 2009 annual meetings for the Section on Asia and Asian America were a big success! We held two regular sessions which drew a huge turnout, and our 15 roundtables were full of rich discussions and scholarly exchanges. Our reception, jointly held with the Section for Race, Ethnicity, and Minority, was also a fun event, and the awards winners brought to our Section a momentum that we were all proud of our colleagues' great scholarly achievements. Thanks to the Section's members, the Council, and especially to the great leadership of Mary Danico for a successful 2009 annual convention. Surely we were grateful to the great city of San Francisco -- its attractiveness drew a large crowd to the annual meetings.

We are looking forward to a new year of even greater success. While I thank out-going council members, Carolyn Chen and Xiaoling Shu, for their valuable contributions, I am warmly welcoming Margaret Abraham, Monisha Das Gupta, and Susan Hong to the Council and its eight committees (five awards, nominations, current research, and research and organizing). Please consult the details for all committees in this Newsletter.

A great piece of news is that the Section had reached the mark of 400 memberships by October. This means that we will be able to have a third regular session at the 2010 ASA annual meetings in Atlanta. My thanks go to the many people who mobilized their students and colleagues to join our Section, and sincerely the greatest thank-you goes to Jiannbin Lee Shiao -- Dear "J" you are superb indeed!

Finally, the responsible officer for organizing next year's annual convention is our Section's Chair-elect, Dr. Mia Tuan. Mia has already taken the lead to begin organizing regular sessions and thinking of how to boost our roundtables. In the past, Atlanta had drawn a smaller turnout to the ASA conventions. But that was the past and we can make history this time.

Let us all help Mia out: suggest an idea or two about a round-table theme, mobilize your students and colleagues to submit their papers to the Section, and make plans to come to Atlanta next August. The council has decided to hold its annual reception alone and immediately after the roundtables. That's when we will give awards to new winners, to engage conversations with friends new and old, and to have some fun altogether. See you all in Atlanta in August 2010!

Yanjie Bian  
*University of Minnesota-Twin Cities  
and Xian Jiaotong University, China*

## About *Asian Mode*

*Asian Mode* is the newsletter of the Section on Asia and Asian America of the American Sociological Association and is edited by Jiannbin Lee Shiao, Section Secretary/Treasurer, Department of Sociology, 1291 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1291; [JShiao@UOregon.edu](mailto:JShiao@UOregon.edu); Phone: 541-346-5366; Fax: 541-346-5026.

Contributions to the newsletter are very welcome. Previous issues can be found online at: <http://www2.asanet.org/sectionasia/news-archive.html>.

# Report of the Committee on Research and Organizing

**The Committee on Research and Organizing** spotlights the scholarship on social movements and the work of social change organizations.

**Margaret Abraham and Gregory M. Maney, Department of Sociology, Hofstra University**

Margaret Abraham and Gregory M. Maney in partnership with the New York Asian Women’s Center and the Workplace Project have completed an action research project funded by a grant from the American Sociological Association’s Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Policy on NIMBYism. The project examined opposition faced by two community organizations seeking to establish facilities and services for immigrants. NIMBYism (Not in My Backyard) is a community-identified issue and concern negatively affecting the well-being of both victims/survivors of domestic violence seeking support and safe spaces for shelter and day laborers seeking safe, accessible public spaces for organizing and searching for employment. The objectives of the research were to learn lessons from past campaigns and to offer recommendations for better practices that can assist community organizations in providing much needed services to marginalized and vulnerable populations while also enhancing the quality of life for all residents. An article from this research was recently published in the journal, *Social Justice* and a report on the project entitled, “Seen and Sheltered: Effective Responses to NIMBYISM” will be available by December 20th 2009.

**Ibrahim G. Aoudé, Ethnic Studies, University of Hawai‘i—Mānoa**

Ibrahim Aoudé’s book chapter, “Political Economy and Contemporary Social Struggles” discusses the stages through which social movements in Hawai‘i have developed between 1959-2009. It analyzes progressive social movements’ responses to the dynamics of global capitalism as they manifest themselves on the islands. The chapter will appear in *Barack Obama’s Multicultural Hawai‘i*, edited by Michael Haas (forthcoming, 2010).

**Jennifer J. Chung, University of British Columbia**

After 25 years of organizing low-wage immigrant women workers, Asian Immigrant Women Advocates (AIWA), a community organization based in Oakland, California, is collaborating with Jennifer Jihye Chun and George Lipsitz, Professor at UC Santa Barbara, to engage in a reflexive analysis of its grassroots leadership development model, the Community Transformational Organizing Strategy (CTOS). The aim of the project is to identify how and under what conditions economically vulnerable and politically marginalized populations are empowered to meaningfully participate in democratic processes, and influence the decisions that shape the lives of their families and children. The project draws on a variety of empirical sources, including focus groups with AIWA leaders, in-depth interviews with staff, members, and key organizational supporters, and a worker-led survey on the civic and political participation of immigrant women workers. By moving beyond a focus on consumer boycotts and other short term campaign victories, the project seeks to develop critical insight into the concrete conditions that enable immigrant women workers to overcome overlapping forms of social exclusion along race, gender, migration, and employment status – dynamics that are not only pervasive in San Francisco but increasingly around the world.

**Monisha Das Gupta, Ethnic Studies and Women’s Studies, University of Hawai‘i—Mānoa**

Monisha Das Gupta is working on a new project that looks at how the different segments of the immigrant rights movement articulate with proposals to reform U.S. immigration policy. How do dominant discourses about reform and the various types of rights talk within the movement imagine the relationship between people and places? What do the legislative parameters within which reform can be imagined say about the U.S. nation-state’s identity? To investigate these questions, the multi-city ethnography focuses on immigrant rights campaigns against detention and deportation, abuse of non-citizen workers, and restricted access of undocumented immigrants to public education and identification papers.

**Nadia Kim, Sociology, Loyola Marymount University**

Nadia Kim has begun a book manuscript project tentatively titled ‘We the People’: Immigrants of Color in the Gendered Fight for Clean Air and Health Care, a mixed-methods study of mainly Asian/Pacific Islander American and Latino women who are community activists for clean air and quality health care in Los Angeles, the country’s largest immigrant gateway. She examines whether immigrant women and men, in their fight against environmental injustice, feel that they are, and are in fact, better served by community organizations rather than electoral politics (e.g., voting on candidates and ballots) – that is, how do they define the “political?” She is also tracing how immigrant women’s fight against pollution and sickness hinges on their use of gendered strategies across multiple relationships, those with the men in their households and also with the mostly (White) male representation from state agencies and corporations. Understanding how and why marginalized immigrant groups organize in their communities is important given dramatic shifts in the US political landscape and debates over immigrant assimilation,

transnationalism, and empowerment. An investigation of the gendered strategies that these women use, especially those who are low-income and undocumented, is also important in light of women's spearheading of community campaigns to a greater degree than men in recent decades.

### **Soniya Munshi, CUNY Graduate Center**

Soniya Munshi is conducting research that is concerned with sociopolitical responses to domestic violence in South Asian communities in the United States. She is interested in when and how communities organize against interpersonal violence. Specifically, she looks at how community-based efforts to engage domestic violence navigate the intertwined relationship between state violence and interpersonal violence. This relationship has been produced through the criminalization of domestic violence and the criminalization of immigrants, and is of particular relevance to South Asian communities during the post-9/11 "War on Terror." Her research also considers transformative social change models that centralize the marginalized peoples within these communities for whom safety may be jeopardized by greater interaction with the state.

## **Meet the 2009 Section Award Winners & Honorees**

### **2009 Book Award Co-Winners:**

**Nadia Kim. 2008. *Imperial Citizens: Korean and Race from Seoul to LA*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press.**

The inspiration for my book came as I watched the 1992 unrest coverage on television and cringed at the recycled repertoire of images of Koreans crying and shrieking in an "un-American"

Korean language, as hard-working, innocent model minority immigrants wronged by Black and Latino hoodlums, or as AK-47-toting vigilantes shooting indiscriminately from store rooftops. None of the racial/ethnic frameworks and theories I had learned in high school or college, especially in light of a focus on the White-Black binary and the assimilation of Asian Americans, could answer my burning questions of why the unrest had happened, why the media had chosen to focus on the "mutual hatred" between Blacks and Koreans rather than White American police violence, or why the police and governments had chosen to let Koreatown, but not Westwood or Beverly Hills, burn to the ground.

Currently, I am still researching the central theme of my book, i.e., how subordinated migrant populations react to and resist power in creative, contradictory, and complex ways, and do so in a manner that reconfigures power relations. I have begun a second major project on the nature of Asian American and Latino collective action for environmental justice and healthcare access in greater Los Angeles. In particular, scholars have tended to overlook Asian Americans' environmental concerns and activities. Yet, members of these two biggest immigrant groups in the country, namely women, have become more prominent in environmental justice efforts and in community leadership more broadly. As fighting disproportionate air pollution and getting care for asthma, for instance, has depended on community based organizations (CBOs), my project examines the efficacy of grassroots organizing relative to formal politics in reaching these ends.



**Wang Feng. 2007. *Boundaries and Categories: Rising Inequality in Post-Socialist Urban China*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press.**

As a sociologist who has always been interested in the studies in social inequalities and as someone who was born and brought up in China, the rapidly rising inequality in the wake of China's post-socialist reforms had both a theoretical and personal lure to me. Writing this book took a long time, and in the process, the project involved many turns. The earliest idea of studying China's rising inequality was formed twenty years ago, following the military crackdown of popular demonstrations in Tiananmen Square in Beijing in the spring of 1989. Those demonstrations were in part a response to the new reality of rising inequality and economic uncertainty, as well as the perceived roles of political corruption and injustice in China. I was then a post-doctoral fellow at the East West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, and had plans to return to China. The events in 1989 forced a change in my professional route and personal life.

The real intellectual surprise, which later became a central theme of the study, came during ethnographic studies, when I traveled to various local areas and interviewed people of different social ranks. I was surprised to learn the complaints from many of my interviewees were not about the magnitude of inequality, but the persistent equality in their work organizations, to some was a form of inequality. Together with results based on statistical analysis using survey data, a picture of inequality as well as equality emerged. In exploring answers to such a pattern of both equality and inequality, the importance of social categories became increasingly prominent. Since the research and the writing of this book, recent developments in China in some ways have only reinforced the arguments of the book, that various social categories (work organizations, and social categories of migrants versus locals) are the most important in understanding social inequalities.

**2009 Research Paper Award  
Co-Winners:**

**Ho-fung Hung. 2008. "Agricultural Revolution and Elite Reproduction in Qing China: The Transition to Capitalism Debate Revisited." *American Sociological Review*. 73: 569-588.**

The question of why industrial capitalism developed in England first but not in other places has been puzzling me since I read Marx and Weber, whose explanations based on preconception about totalitarian politics or irrationality in pre-industrial Asia don't look very convincing to me, and look suspiciously influenced by racist stereotypes of Asian cultures of their times (and I confirmed this in an earlier research that investigated what sources on Asia they used). Later I was exposed to the historiography that unveils the impressive socio-economic performances of China in the sixteenth through eighteenth century. Influenced by China's recent economic miracle, this literature tends to swing to the other extreme, giving unreserved praise of pre-industrial China. This literature actually makes the puzzle even more puzzling: if China had been doing so well, then why industrial capitalism didn't happen after all?

Informed by recent sociological theory in elite politics, Bourdieu's theory of social reproduction, and the Marxist perspective of class struggle, I looked at cases and events illustrating how different elite groups in Qing China – merchants, officials, landowners, etc. – intermingled to create the conditions for the development of a wonderful market economy but constrained the possibility of capitalist-industrial growth. I'm excited that in the end, I found a nuanced sociological explanation that transgressed the prominent approach, which only sees structure but not actors in macro-historical development. I find it very intriguing that the pattern of inter-elite politics in Qing times had constituted a habitus that persisted into today's China in one way or other. My hypothesis is that this habitus facilitated

China's rapid market development in recent years but also generated obstacles to its further capitalist growth, just like what it did back in the Qing times.

**Ethan Michelson. 2007. "Lawyers, Political Embeddedness, and Institutional Continuity in China's Transition from Socialism." *American Journal of Sociology* 113:352-414.**

I am honored and delighted to share this award with my colleague Ho-fung Hung. My hope is that this double-win helps draw even more attention to China-related research activity not only in our department but also across the entire Indiana University-Bloomington campus. My article builds on my dissertation research on Chinese lawyers. Survey and interview data I collected across China in 1999-2001 painted a fairly depressing picture of legal practice. Lawyers reported widespread and intense problems from state actors (interference and obstructionism), clients (failure to pay fees), and even their own law firms (weak professional support). My article focuses on lawyers' coping strategies in the face of difficulties vis-à-vis state actors.

Because the data on which this article is based are almost a decade old, my findings have been greeted with a sizable dose of skepticism. Critics suggested my findings, to the extent they were valid at all, were already the stuff of history as ongoing legal reforms rendered them obsolete. After my article was accepted for publication, however, it has enjoyed growing support from a veritable cottage industry of reportage on the plight of Chinese lawyers. While it is always professionally gratifying to find oneself on the "right" side of a debate, my gratification has been tempered by the sad knowledge that harassment, intimidation, and even violence in the Chinese bar have more likely intensified than diminished in the time since my original field research. In order to assess the state of Chinese lawyers' difficulties, I conducted a new survey this past summer with fellow sociologist Professor Sida Liu (University of Wisconsin-Madison). We

indeed found no evidence that ongoing legal reforms have mitigated the challenges I originally documented in my dissertation. A preliminary report of our findings is available here: [http://www.indiana.edu/~emsoc/lawyer\\_survey.htm](http://www.indiana.edu/~emsoc/lawyer_survey.htm).

**Honorable Mention: Eileen Otis. 2008. "Beyond the Industrial Paradigm: Consumer Markets and the Gender Politics of Labor in China's Globalized Service Workplaces." *American Sociological Review* 73:15-36.**

I traveled to China in 1987 to teach English in Changsha, Hunan, almost ten years after Deng Xiaoping implemented the first wave of market reforms in China. But there was very little to suggest reforms had affected this interior province. When I arrived in the city I was put up in a state-run guesthouse, typical of the Mao-era. Guests were not given keys to their rooms. When I needed access to my room, I would have to search out one of the female floor workers, who kept all the keys to the floor on a large key ring that made her look like a jailer. They always seemed inconvenienced, if not irritated, by my request for access. When room attendants came to the door to deliver hot water or clean the room, they knocked twice and then immediately opened the door, without concern for what was going on inside, and occasionally caught guests in various states of undress. Workers were gruff. But they were also very confident and proud.

At the same time I watched Western hotels sprout up in other Chinese cities. In these hotels staff members did not control keys, guests did. And workers smiled. Female staff members wore form-fitting dresses, instead of the dark pantsuits that bagged around the waists of employees in the state-run hotels.. These hotels quickly became a model for Western services. Women were also beginning to labor as escorts/sex workers in karaoke bars and the occasional sauna and they also collected in wait for customers at lower-end hotels. Before my eyes I was witnessing

the transition of a service economy from socialist to capitalist. As part of the transformation it was clear that women were being feminized to labor in services and to cater to a growing clientele of men who suddenly had access to considerable cash resources. I became quite fascinated with how this dimension of economic reforms created novel conditions of labor for a newly feminized proletariat. I went on to study the two Western, luxury hotels that are the focus of "Beyond the Industrial Paradigm," and the contrasting types of feminized labor they manufactured. I am quite proud that this article is the recipient of the section's article honorable mention. I continue to study globalization and service in China through an ethnographic project examining retail labor in two Walmart outlets in two Chinese cities, Kunming and Changchun. The project reflects my ongoing interest in the localization of global service labor.

### 2009 Graduate Student Paper Award

**Winner: Lijun Song (Duke University) for "Cultural Revolution Depressed Education Homogamy in Urban China"**



My parents belonged to the marriage cohort who got married during the Cultural Revolution. Their stories inspired me to think about how macro-level state policies and their change over time can strongly determine individuals' life chances including their marriages. Also the existing literature on status homogamy in China pays limited attention to the effect of shifting institutional structures in China. After identifying this research gap, I started my systematic work on this project. One of the most difficult aspects of this

research project was reviewing the pioneering studies. I read a lot of work on the political changes in modern China, which was really informative and helped me derive my research hypotheses. The most memorable part of this research was communicating with scholars with similar interests. I am indebted to quite a few scholars for their helpful comments. This paper was just published in *Social Forces*. Chinese society will continue to be one of my major research interests.

### 2009 Early Career Award

**Winner: Pawan Dhingra, Associate Professor, Oberlin College**



I am currently working on two projects. The first is a monograph on Asian Indian American motel owners. Indian Americans own about half of the motels in the country, comprising the largest ethnic enterprise in the nation's history. In this project I analyze both their entrepreneurship and sense of belonging as means to attend to the broader topics of the nation (and its internal and external boundaries), social justice, inequality, and agency. The second project is a textbook, *The Sociology of Asian America*, solicited by Polity Press. It will be useful in classes on race/ethnicity, immigration, and/or Asian America.

**Honorable Mention: Wei-hsin Yu, Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at Austin**

Most of my research concerns how societal differences in institutions, norms, and practices affect individuals' views, behaviors, and, ultimately, life chances. For example, my recently published book, entitled *Gender Trajectories: Women, Work, and Social*

*Change in Japan and Taiwan*, addresses the question of why two societies that share many features vary in the pace at which they reduce gender inequality by examining the roles of country-specific organizational arrangements, industrial policies, and educational systems. More recently, I began to study how rapid social and institutional changes in China and the severe economic crisis of the 1990s in Japan affect individuals' well-being over their life course. Perhaps because I witnessed dramatic economic and political changes while growing up in Taiwan, I always find the link between macrolevel social forces and the day-to-day reality individuals face particularly fascinating. My experience of living in four different countries during the past 15 years also makes me a constant observer of cross-national variations, with or without intention to turn the observation into academic work. Because of my interest in macrolevel forces, studying East Asia makes perfect sense. Not only do East Asian societies often differ from many "textbook cases," which are generally based on the experiences of the United States and West European countries, but they have also been changing in an amazing speed over time. The fact that I can always count on encountering something new serves as one major motivation for me to continue the research on East Asia.

### 2009 Outstanding Teaching Award

**Winner: Bandana Purkayastha, Associate Professor, University of Connecticut**



I moved to Sociology from Geography after I moved to the US. As a cartographer I was interested in the process of data construction and presentation--who decides categories, how are these ideas transformed to reality, what is emphasized and why--and how these decisions affect--control or enable--people positively or

negatively. In the US, Sociology offered a better home for exploring these questions. My current research and teaching on the intersections of gender/race/class, human rights, and organizing continue to reflect these earlier concerns. Teaching a variety of students helps me to stay human and I try to maintain a human touch that goes beyond classroom instructions. When I am able to help students to climb any mountain they set their sights on, or get beyond some barrier that threatens to overwhelm their lives, then my reward is apparent in faces that light up, taut postures that relax, or cheerful messages sent later that state: "do you remember telling me...well I want to tell you....I did it;" I hear of honors and awards that are won, careers accessed, graduation goals attained and of growth as leaders, as human beings. My main frustration is about the growing corporatization of teaching, the transformation of education into a product of consumption rather than being a vehicle for growth. My advice about teaching sociology/Asian American courses is to show the links between the subjects and the students' lives so that they begin to 'own' the material and move beyond learning discrete sets of information and techniques.

## Meet Your Section Officers

**Chair:** Yanjie Bian, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and Xian Jiaotong University, China (2009-2010)

**Chair-Elect:** Mia Tuan, University of Oregon (2009-2010)

**Past-Chair:** Mary Yu Danico, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (2009-2010)

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Jiannbin L. Shiao, University of Oregon (2009-2012)

**Council Members:**  
Lisa Park (2010)  
Angie Chung (2010)  
Rebecca Kim (2010)

Xiaogang Wu (2011)  
Yong Cai (2011)  
Margaret Abraham, Hofstra University (2012)  
Monisha Das Gupta, University of Hawai'i (2012)

**Student Representative:**  
Susan Hong (2009-2010)

### Officer Biographies:



**Yanjie Bian** is Professor of Sociology at the University of Minnesota, the funding director of the Survey Research Center at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and the co-PI of the Chinese General Social Survey. His areas of research are social stratification and mobility, social networks, economic sociology, and contemporary Chinese society. An author and co-editor of seven books, he has published numerous journal articles and book chapters in English and Chinese. His most recent research is about the roles social networks play in Chinese transitional economy.



**Mia Tuan** is Professor of Education at the University of Oregon and Director of the Center on Diversity and Community (CoDaC). She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles. She has published in the areas of Korean adoption, racial and ethnic identity development, and intergroup relations. Her most recent book (with Larry Bobo) is *Prejudice in Politics: Group Position, Public Opinion, and the Wisconsin Treaty Rights Dispute* (Harvard University Press). She is currently working on a book (with Jiannbin Shiao) called *Choosing Ethnicity, Negotiating Race: Korean Adoptees in America*.

**Mary Yu Danico** is Professor of Sociology and the Interim Director of the Michi and Walter Wegyn Endowed Chair of Multicultural Studies at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. Her main areas of research include international migration; ethnic and racial relations; Korean American diaspora, ethnic identity and 1.5 and 2<sup>nd</sup>



generation; immigrant families; and Asian American youth. She has published many articles and book chapters, and is the author of *The 1.5 Generation: Becoming Korean American in Hawaii* (University of Hawaii Press, 2004), *Asian American Issues* (Greenwood Press, 2004), and is currently finishing up her co-edited book, *Transforming the Ivory Tower: Challenging Racism, Sexism, and Heterosexism in Higher Education*. Danico is currently working on her 3<sup>rd</sup> book project: *Korean American Diaspora: Constructing Communities and Fluid Transnational Boundaries* and is finishing up her research on low-income Asian Pacific Islander youth in Orange County. She advocates for underrepresented students and junior scholars.

**Jiannbin Lee Shiao** is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Oregon. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests are in interracial intimacy, genomics, racial-ethnic identity, transracial adoption, and organizational diversity policy. He published his book, *Identifying Talent, Institutionalizing Diversity: Race and Philanthropy in Post-Civil Rights America* (Duke University Press) in 2005 and has published articles in *American Journal of Sociology*, *Asian American Policy Review*, *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, and *Race and Society*.



**Council Members (in alphabetical order):**



**Margaret Abraham** is Professor of Sociology and Special Advisor to the Provost

for Diversity Initiatives at Hofstra University at Hofstra University, New York. She served as Chair of the Department of Sociology & Anthropology from 2000–2003. Her research and teaching interests include ethnicity, gender, domestic violence and immigration. Margaret has published in various journals including, *Violence Against Women, Gender & Society*, and *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, and *Social Justice*. Her book, *Speaking the Unspeakable: Marital Violence Among South Asian Immigrants in the United States* (Rutgers University Press, 2000) received the American Sociological Association: Section on Asia and Asian America Outstanding Book Award in 2002. Her co-edited book, *Contours of Citizenship: Women, Diversity and the Practices of Citizenship* is being published by Ashgate (Spring 2010). Margaret has worked as an action researcher in the South Asian community for more than a decade and has been honored for her work on domestic violence. She has served as a board member in community based organizations and also as a national advisory board member on projects related to violence against women. She is currently the Co-President of the International Sociological Association – Research Committee on Women and Society (2006-2010).



**Yong Cai** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He studies social change and

social inequality from a demographic perspective, with a strong empirical focus on China. He is currently working on several projects that examine China's fertility change in the contexts of emerging global low fertility, aiming to

facilitate China's transition away from its "one-child" policy.



**Angie Y. Chung** is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University at Albany. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology at the

University of California at Los Angeles in 2001 and has served as Visiting Professor at Yonsei and Korea University. Her areas of expertise include immigration and the second generation, community and urban sociology, race and ethnicity, Asian American studies, qualitative methods, and gender and family. She recently released her book *Legacies of Struggle: Conflict and Cooperation in Korean American Politics* (Stanford University Press, 2007).



**Monisha Das Gupta** is Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies and Women's Studies at the University of Hawai'i—Mānoa.

She received her PhD in Sociology from Brandeis University. Her book, *Unruly Immigrants: Rights, Activism, and Transnational South Asian Politics in the United States* (Duke University Press, 2006), won two awards in 2008 – one from the Association of Asian American Studies, and the other from the American Sociological Association's Asian and Asian American section. Her recent publications focus on the post-9/11 political terrain, immigrant rights, transnational feminism, and approaches to the South Asian diaspora that connect the Atlantic and Pacific communities. A special issue of the *Journal of Historical Sociology*, "Imperial Plantations: Past and Present," co-edited with Piya Chatterjee, and Richard C. Rath will be out in early 2010. Her new research is on the relationship between the immigration rights movement and immigration reform.



**Rebecca Y. Kim** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Pepperdine University. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of California at Los Angeles in 2003. Her

research interests are in immigration, the second-generation, and religion. She recently published her book, *God's New Whiz Kids? Korean American Evangelicals on Campus* (NYU Press, 2006). She is currently the director of the ethnic studies program at Pepperdine University.



**Lisa Sun-Hee Park** is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Minnesota. She received her doctorate in sociology from Northwestern University. Her areas of research and teaching include immigration, environmental justice, urban social policy, and Asian American Studies. In addition to journal articles and book chapters, she has published two books: *Consuming Citizenship: Children of Asian Immigrant Entrepreneurs* (Stanford University Press, 2005) and *Silicon Valley of Dreams: Immigrant Labor, Environmental Injustice, and the High Tech Global Economy* (co-authored with David N. Pellow, NYU Press, 2002).



**Xiaogang Wu** is Associate Professor of Social Science at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He received his Ph.D. in

Sociology at the University of California at Los Angeles in 2001, and spent two years at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor as an Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow (2001-2003). His research interests include social stratification and mobility, labor

markets and economic sociology, and quantitative methodology. He has published in *American Sociological Review*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Social Forces*, and *Demography*. He has received the prestigious National Academy of Education/Spencer Post-doctoral Fellowship (2006), the Best Paper Award on Asia (2006) and the Asian and Asian American Early Career Award (2007) from the American Sociological Association.

**Student Representative:**



**Susan Hong** is a current Ph.D. student in the Department of Sociology at University of Maryland-College Park. Her research interests include stratification, urban

sociology, medical sociology, and development. Her past research explored depression and suicide rates among different ethnic groups in various colleges and universities in America.

## Call for Submissions for the 2010 ASA Meeting in Atlanta

*The ASA Submission System will open December 1, 2009: [http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/meetings/future\\_meetings/2010\\_annual\\_meeting\\_online\\_call\\_for\\_papers\\_guide](http://www.asanet.org/cs/root/leftnav/meetings/future_meetings/2010_annual_meeting_online_call_for_papers_guide). The deadline for all paper submissions is Wednesday, January 13, 2010.*

**For new members of the ASA:** In order to present a paper at the annual meeting, you must submit it for consideration by the organizers of

particular sessions. There are two types of sessions that are open for unsolicited submissions: **Regular Sessions and Section Sessions**. A paper can be submitted to a *first choice session* as well as a *second choice session*.

The Program Committee for the annual meeting selects the topics for Regular Sessions and assigns their organizers, whereas each of the 40+ sections of the ASA, including the Section on Asia and Asian America, selects the topics for their respective Section Sessions and assigns their organizers.

Like most sections, we use one of our allocated sessions for simultaneous roundtables in a large meeting room. This past August in San Francisco, our Section Roundtables included roundtables on 15 topics.



*For the 2010 meeting, our section will organize three Section Sessions in addition to our Section Roundtables.*

**Section Session #1: "Social Relations and Social Life in East Asia" (open submission)**

Organizer: Yanjie Bian, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and Xian Jiaotong University, China, [yjbian@mail.xjtu.edu.cn](mailto:yjbian@mail.xjtu.edu.cn)

**Section Session #2: "Emerging Connections Between Asia and Asian America" (open submission)**

Organizer: C.N. Le, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, [le@soc.umass.edu](mailto:le@soc.umass.edu)

**Section Session #3: "Race, Class, and Gender in Asia & Asian America" (open submission)**

Organizer: Yong Cai, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, [caiyong@unc.edu](mailto:caiyong@unc.edu)

**Section Roundtables: Asia and Asian America: Issues, Challenges, and Prospects (open submission)**

Organizer: Mia Tuan, University of Oregon, [tuan@uoregon.edu](mailto:tuan@uoregon.edu)

• While roundtable submissions are open to all topics, some of our section members have already graciously agreed to organize certain thematic tables. These include:

1. **"Asian Transracial/Transnational Adoption: Theory and Research"** (Rick Tessler)
2. **"The Assimilation of Social Categories in Asia and Asian America"** (Kiat Jin Lee)
3. **"Work and Home in Asian American Lives"** (Pawan Dhingra)
4. **"Asians & Asian Americans & Religion"** (Rebecca Kim)
5. **"Asian Americans and Healthcare"** (Elizabeth Jenner)

• Please note in your roundtable submission if you would like your paper to be considered for one of these special themes.

**Recommendations for paper submissions to Asia and Asian American section sessions:**

Given the rules of the online Submission System, we recommend following the procedures below *if you would like our Section Roundtables to be the backup placement for your paper*, in the event that it is not accepted for a Regular Session or a Section Session.

1. We welcome your submissions to the Section Sessions (#1-3 above) as first choice sessions. In this situation, however, if your paper is not chosen for a Section Session, we cannot review your submission for the Section Roundtables because the first choice organizers must forward unplaced papers to their second choice sessions for consideration.



2. *To make our Section Roundtables your backup placement*, you must choose one of the following as your second choice session: (1) an Asia and Asian American Section Session or (2) the Asia and Asian American Section Roundtables.

*Please Also Note...*

**Regular Session: Asians and Asian Americans (open submission)**

- Organizer: Nadia Y. Kim, Layola Marymount University

## Call for Nominations for the 2010 Section Awards

*The deadline for the 2009-10 award nominations is March 31, 2010, except for the Book Award.*

### Book Award

The Asia and Asian American section invites nomination letters and materials for the Asian and Asian American Section book award. Each year we rotate the nominations between books on Asia and books on Asian America. This year the award will go to **the most outstanding book on Asian American issues**. Eligible books must be published during **either 2008 or 2009**. Please send a nomination or a self-nomination letter along with a copy of the book to each of the Book Award Co-Chairs. Nominations letters should include the name of author, title of book, date of publication, publisher, and a brief statement about why the book should be considered for this award. **The deadline for Book Award nominations is January 31, 2010.**

**Professor Monisha Gupta (Co-Chair)**  
Ethnic Studies Department  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
2560 Campus Road  
George Hall, Room 306

Honolulu, HI 96822  
Email: [dasgupta@hawaii.edu](mailto:dasgupta@hawaii.edu)

**Professor Mia Tuan (Co-Chair)**  
Education Studies Department  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403  
Email: [tuan@uoregon.edu](mailto:tuan@uoregon.edu)

### Research Paper Award

Nominations (including self-nominations) are invited for the Section's Research Paper Award. Each year we rotate the nominations between papers on Asia and papers on Asian America. This year we plan to give the award for **an outstanding paper on Asian America**. Eligible papers must be published during **2007, 2008, or 2009**. Nomination and self-nomination letters should be no more than 2 pages stating the significance and innovations of the paper.

Send two copies of the paper along with nomination letter(s) via e-mail--one to each Research Paper Award Co-Chair:

**Professor Yanjie Bian (Co-Chair)**  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and Xian Jiaotong University, China  
Email: [yjbian@mail.xjtu.edu.cn](mailto:yjbian@mail.xjtu.edu.cn)

**Professor Angie Y. Chung (Co-Chair)**  
Department of Sociology  
1400 Washington Avenue, AS351  
Albany, NY 12222  
Email: [aychung@albany.edu](mailto:aychung@albany.edu)

### Graduate Student Paper Award

The section will award a prize to the best graduate student paper addressing **any topic in the sociology of either Asia or Asian America**. The winner receives a cash prize of \$300 at the annual meeting. Entries should be double spaced with 12 point font and not exceed 35 pages in length (including all references, tables, and figures). Papers may be published, under consideration for publication, or accepted for a panel at the ASA. Papers may be co-authored, but the student should be the lead author. Papers may be submitted by students or by professors on behalf of their students.

Send an electronic copy of the paper to the following two Graduate Student Paper Award Committee members: **Dr. Yong Cai**, (email: [caiyoung@unc.edu](mailto:caiyoung@unc.edu)) and **Dr. Rebecca Y. Kim** (email: [rebecca.y.kim@pepperdine.edu](mailto:rebecca.y.kim@pepperdine.edu)).

### Outstanding Teaching Award

The Asia and Asian American Section invites nominations for the Outstanding Teaching Award for a scholar who teaches courses in the Sociology of Asia or Asian American communities. A nomination letter of no more than 2 pages should address the nominee's qualifications for the award and highlight the contributions of the scholar's work.

Please direct three copies of the nomination letter and the nominee's curriculum vitae to the Teaching Award Committee Chair:

**Professor Mary Danico (Chair)**  
Department of Sociology  
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona  
3801 W. Temple Boulevard  
Pomona, CA 91768  
Email: [mkydanico@csupomona.edu](mailto:mkydanico@csupomona.edu)

### Early Career Award

This award recognizes a scholar in the early stage of her/his career (no more than 10 years post Ph.D. award date) and who is conducting exemplary research on the sociology of Asia or Asian American communities. A nomination letter of no more than 3 pages should address the nominee's qualifications for the award and highlight the significance of the scholar's work.

Please send an electronic copy of the nomination letter and the nominee's vitae to the Early Career Award Committee Chair:

**Professor Yanjie Bian (Chair)**  
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and Xian Jiaotong University, China  
Email: [yjbian@mail.xjtu.edu.cn](mailto:yjbian@mail.xjtu.edu.cn)

# Selected Opportunities

*Announcements of other jobs and opportunities can be found on the section homepage at:*

<http://www2.asanet.org/sectionasia/index.html>.

## Fellowships

### *Doctoral Dissertation Scholarship*

**The Research Center for Korean Community** established at Queens College of the City University of New York in Fall 2009 selects three doctoral students each year to start their dissertations and give each a scholarship of \$3,000 to support his/her dissertation. We have selected two of the three students, and we are looking for one more doctoral student for the scholarship. Those who are interested in submitting applications for the scholarship should send their dissertation proposals as e-mail attachments to Pyong Gap Min, the Director ([pyonggap.min@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:pyonggap.min@qc.cuny.edu)). For inquiries, contact Min at 718/997-2810.

### *National Science Foundation East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes for U.S. Graduate Students*

**Application Deadline: December 8, 2009.** The National Science Foundation (NSF) East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes for U.S. Graduate Students (EAPSI) is a flagship international fellowship program for developing the next generation of globally-engaged U.S. scientists and engineers knowledgeable about the Asian and Pacific regions. The Summer Institutes are hosted by foreign counterparts committed to increasing opportunities for young U.S. researchers to work in research facilities and with host mentors abroad. Fellows are supported to participate in eight-week research experiences at host laboratories in Australia, China, Japan (10 weeks),

Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and Taiwan from June to August. The program provides a \$5,000 summer stipend, round-trip airfare to the host location, living expenses abroad, and an introduction to the society, culture, language, and research environment of the host location.

Application instructions are available online at [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov)

### *Bixby Fellowship Program – Population Council*

**Application deadline: January 15, 2010.** Through a generous grant from the Fred H. Bixby Foundation, the Population Council has created the Bixby Fellowship Program to expand opportunities for recently trained social scientists and biomedical researchers in the health and population fields. Ten fellows have participated in the program since 2007, and applications are currently being sought for the 2010 competition.

Bixby fellowships allow citizens of developing countries to work with experienced mentors in the Council's international network of offices. Fellows work on projects in one of three program areas: Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, and Poverty, Gender and Youth. A description of the program and details about the application process are available on the Council's website at: [www.popcouncil.org/slr/Bixby/Bixby\\_home.html](http://www.popcouncil.org/slr/Bixby/Bixby_home.html).

### *Boren Fellowship, the National Security Education Program (NSEP)*

**Application deadline: January 28, 2010.** The National Security Education Program's (NSEP) Boren Fellowships enable U.S. graduate students to add an important international and language component to their graduate education through specialization in area study, language study, or increased language proficiency.

Fellowships provide support for overseas or domestic study, or a

combination of both. The maximum level of support for a combined overseas and domestic program is \$30,000. A maximum of \$12,000 per semester for up to two semesters (\$24,000) is available for overseas study. A maximum of \$12,000 is available for a program of domestic study only.

NSEP supports students studying languages, cultures, and world regions EXCEPT Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Boren Fellowships are intended to support U.S. graduate students who will pursue the study of languages and cultures deemed critical to U.S. national security, and who are highly motivated by the opportunity to work in the federal government. Recipients of the Boren Fellowship must agree to seek employment in an agency of the federal government involved in national security for a minimum of one year.

For more information, visit <http://www.borenawards.org/>

### *2010 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship, Society for the Study of Social Problems*

**Application deadline: February 1, 2010.** Applications are being accepted for the 2010 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship. Members of the Society should urge qualified candidates to apply for this award. Applicants will be notified of the results by July 15, 2010.

A \$12,000 scholarship will be funded to one student with an additional \$500 awarded for attendance at the annual meeting. All applicants must be current SSSP members when applying.

Visit [www.sssp1.org](http://www.sssp1.org) to download an application. Complete application packets should be sent to:

The Society for the Study of Social Problems  
University of Tennessee, 901 McClung Tower  
Knoxville, TN 37996-0490  
W: 865-689-1531; F: 865-689-1534;  
[sssp@utk.edu](mailto:sssp@utk.edu)

## Calls

### The Research Center for Korean Community

is creating a comprehensive bibliography on Korean Americans to distribute to the Korean community and universities in Korea. Towards this effort, social scientists who have conducted research on Korean Americans are asked to send their CV or a list of their publications on Korean Americans. Email attachments should be sent to Pyong Gap Min: [pyonggap.min@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:pyonggap.min@qc.cuny.edu).

## Notes on Section Members

**A. Aneesh** published, "Bloody Language: Clashes and Constructions of Linguistic Nationalism in India," *Sociological Forum*, 25, 2, June 2010; and "Global Labor: Algoratic Modes of Organization," *Sociological Theory*, 27, 4, 2009.

**Xiangming Chen** edited *Shanghai Rising: State Power and Local Transformations in a Global Megacity* (University of Minnesota Press, July 2009), and the simultaneous Chinese edition was published by the People's Press of Shanghai (August 2009). He also co-edited *The Era of Global City-Regions* (Fudan University Press, August 2009).

**Angie Y. Chung**, University at Albany, was interviewed and cited in an article in the Oct.11 issue of the *Bergen Record* on the growing Korean American population in Bergen County, NJ.

**Anna Romina Guevarra** published *Marketing Dreams, Manufacturing Heroes: The Transnational Labor Brokering of Filipino Workers* (Rutgers University Press, 2009). The book examines the multilevel brokering process that manages and sends Filipino workers worldwide. This multisited ethnography reveals the disciplinary

power that the state and private employment agencies exercise over nurses and domestic workers--two of the country's prized "exports."

**Miliann Kang's** book, *The Managed Hand: Race, Gender and the Body in Beauty Service Work* (forthcoming Feb 2010 from the University of California Press) won the Sara Whaley book prize from the National Women's Studies Association. The book examines social relations between women as consumers and providers of body labor and the ways that the discourses of model minority, yellow peril and Asian-black conflict shape intimate service interactions and their meanings. She was invited to present on "Poisonous Polish: Toxic Exposure and Nail Salon Workers' Reproductive Health" at the Reproducing Justice conference, at UC Berkeley School of Law, Nov 12-13, 2009.

**Nadia Kim** was awarded the 2010 Bellarmine Award, Loyola Marymount University's most prestigious grant across the college of liberal arts (1 awarded annually) for her research on Asian American women and Latina activists for environmental justice and health care access. She also recently published two pieces with which she is especially pleased: (1) "Finding Our Way Home: Korean Americans, Homelands Trips, and Cultural Foreignness." Pp. 305-24 in Takeyuki Tsuda, ed., *Diasporic Homecomings: Ethnic Return Migrants in Comparative Perspective*. Stanford University Press, 2009 & (2) "Critical Thoughts on Asian American Assimilation in the Whitening Literature." Pp. 53-66 in *Racism in Post-Racism America: New Theories, New Directions*, edited by Charles A. Gallagher. Chapel Hill, NC: Social Forces, 2008. She was also interviewed about her book on "New America Now," the flagship radio show of New America Media (aired July 10, 2009).

**Prema Kurien** has received a two year grant (2009-2011) from the Carnegie Corporation for a research project on Indian American political engagement.

**C.N. Le** was invited to speak at two events: at Emerson College, MA on November 3, 2009 and his presentation was entitled, "Lions, Tigers, and Dragons, Oh My!: An Introduction to Asian American History, Stereotypes, and Identities," and at the annual Boston Asian American Students Intercollegiate Conference, held at Northeastern University, MA on October 10, 2009 and his presentation there was entitled, "Obstacles and Opportunities in Connecting Asian and Asian Americans in the 21st Century." He was also quoted in three media articles: in *USA Today* on November 16, 2009, "Cultural Factors Help Limit Recession's Impact" article [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-11-15-asians\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-11-15-asians_N.htm), written by Haya El Nasser; in *The Hill* on September 10, 2009, "Cutting Her Own Path" article <http://www.thehill.com/capital-living/cover-stories/57997-cutting-her-own-path>, written by Kris Kitto; and in *Marie Claire* magazine in the August 2009 issue, "The New Trophy Wives: Asian Women" article <http://www.marieclaire.com/sex-love/advice/tips/asian-trophy-wife>, written by Ying Chu.

**Timothy Madigan** published "Teaching Social Stratification at Central China Normal University" in the online journal *Perspectives*, Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer 2009.

**Pyong Gap Min** has served as Director of Research Center for Korean Community, established at Queens College to provide data to the Korean community and the Korean government, since the beginning of the fall semester. He published a co-authored article with Young Oak Kim, "Ethnic and Subethnic Attachments among Chinese, Indian, and Korean Immigrants in New York City," in *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (2009) and another co-authored article with Chigon Kim, "Patterns of Inrtermarriages and Cross-Generational Inmarriages among Native-Born Asian Americans," in *International Migration Review* (2009). In addition, his new

book, *Preserving Ethnicity through Religion in America: Korean Protestants and Indian Hindus across Generation*, will be published in March 2010 by New York University Press.

**Kumiko Nemoto** published *Racing Romance: Love, Power, and Desire Among Asian American/ White Couples* (Rutgers University Press, 2009).

**Bandana Purkayastha** now serves on the international editorial board of the new journal, *Journal of South Asian Diasporas*. She continues as the Deputy Editor of *Gender & Society*. She has published the following books, chapters and articles this year: *Living Our Religions: South Asian Hindu and Muslim Women Narrate Their Experiences*, with Anjana Narayan. 'Another Word of Experience? South Asian Diasporic Groups and the Transnational Context' in the *Journal of South Asian Diasporas*. 1: 85-99; "Bridges and Chasms. Orientalism and the Making of Indian Americans in New England" (with Anjana Narayan) in *Asian Americans in New England*; "Tagore and Human Rights," in *Celebrating Tagore*; 'Many Views on Peace,' in *Military Sociology, Essays in*

*Memory of Charles Moskos*; and, "Sex Trafficking in South Asia," (with Shweta Majumdar) in *Globalization and Third World Women*.

**Leland T. Saito** published *The Politics of Exclusion: The Failure of Race-Neutral Policies in Urban America* (Stanford University Press, 2009) and "From 'Blighted' to 'Historic': Race, Economic Development, and Historic Preservation in San Diego, California" in *Urban Affairs Review* (2009 45(2):166-187).

**Jiannbin Lee Shiao** was invited to speak at the 6th Annual Ray Warren Multicultural Affairs Symposium at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. His presentation, given November 12, was titled, "Does Identifying as a Mixed Family Matter? The Case of Korean Adoptees."

**Mia Tuan** was recently promoted to Full Professor at the University of Oregon.

**Bin Xu** published "Durkheim in Sichuan: The Earthquake, National Solidarity, and The Politics of Small Things" in *Social Psychology Quarterly*

(2009, 72: 5-8). In addition, he (first author, with Xiaoyu Pu) published "Dynamic Statism and Memory Politics: A Case Analysis of the Chinese War Reparations Movement." *China Quarterly* (forthcoming).

**Jane H. Yamashiro** recently became a Teaching Fellow in American Cultures at Loyola Marymount University. In addition, Yamashiro was invited to speak at the *Reconsidering 'Race' as a Transnational Construction in Global Japan* Symposium at the Graduate School of Global Studies at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan. Her presentation, given November 14 (via videoconference), was titled, "Comparative Mixed Race Categories: 'Hapa' in the U.S. and 'Haafu' in Japan." Yamashiro also published a review of *Pathways to the Present: U.S. Development and Its Consequences in the Pacific*, by Mansel G. Blackford (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2007) in *Business History* (2009, 51 (4): 640-641) and recently became a Council Member for the ASA Section on Racial and Ethnic Minorities (2009-2012).

