ILLINOIS

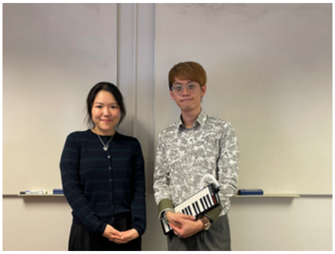
Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

CEAPS E-News November 17th - November 21st, 2025

CEAPS Event Recap

AsiaLENS "Echoes of Home" Screening & Conversation with Mirshad Ghalip

On Tuesday evening, CEAPS hosted filmmaker Mirshad Ghalip for a screening of his film *Echoes of Home* at the Spurlock Museum's Knight Auditorium. The film, featured at the 2025 AAS Film Expo, was followed by an engaging conversation with the filmmaker, moderated by CEAPS Director Matt Winters (Professor, Political Science). Thank you to Mirshad Ghalip for joining us and sharing this inspiring film with the UIUC community, and to everyone who attended this meaningful event.



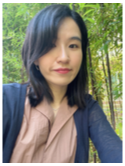
CEAPS Brown Bag | Jiwon Oh & Darren Chuang

On Friday afternoon, CEAPS welcomed Jiwon Oh (Ph.D. student, Institute of Communications Research) and Darren Chuang (Ph.D. student, Musicology) for our Brown Bag session, held in 306 Coble Hall and on Zoom. Their presentations—*"Navigating Gendered Anthropomorphism in AI Ethics"* and *"Sailing in Sonic Vortex"*—sparked lively discussions from both our in-person and online attendees. Thank you to Jiwon Oh and Darren Chuang for sharing their engaging and interdisciplinary research with the CEAPS community, and to everyone who joined us for this stimulating conversation.

Fall 2025 Travel Grant Awardees

Please join us in congratulating our seven travel grant awardees for the fall semester. Five students will be traveling to present papers at various conferences, and two will be traveling to South Korea and Pakistan for their dissertation research. Best of luck to you all!

CEAPS Graduate Student Conference Research Travel Grant Fall 2025 Awardee



Hwajung Kim is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Anthropology. She will be presenting her paper, *"From Materials to the Landscape in Conflict Zones: A Spatial and Temporal Expansion of Interpretations in the South Korean Border Area,"* at the CHAT Botxo Conference.

Rhonda Ran Huo is a Ph.D. student in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. She will be presenting her paper, *“Imperial Projects and Individual Research: Studies of Mongolia and Xinjiang by Han Chinese from 1700 to 1850,”* at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

Tianhong Yin is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Political Science. She will be presenting her paper, *“Victimhood and Violence: The Impact of Nationalist Mentalities on Interstate Conflict,”* at the International Studies Association 2026 Conference.

Yingzhi Lu is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. She will be presenting her paper, *“Time is Death: Dialogic Nostalgia, Death, and Future in Ōe Kenzaburō’s Changeling (2000),”* at the Association for Japanese Literary Studies (AJLS) 33rd Annual Meeting.

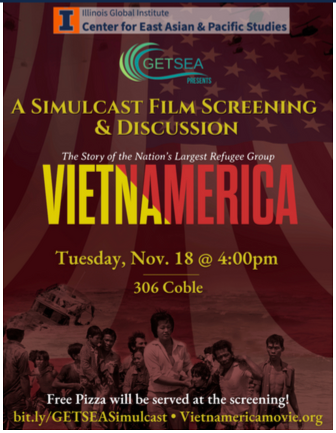
Ruoyi Bian is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. She will be presenting her paper, *“Gender Performativity and Postcolonial Critique: Reimagining Dongfang Bubai in Hong Kong Cinema,”* at the 2026 Modern Language Association Convention (MLA).

CEAPS Graduate Student Dissertation Research Travel Grant Fall 2025 Awardees

Jiwon Oh is a Ph.D. student in the Institute of Communications Research. She will be traveling to Seoul, South Korea, for dissertation research related to her paper, *“Technomasculinity and Gendered Harms in South Korea’s AI Futures.”*

Shuyan Huang is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Political Science. He will be traveling to Islamabad, Pakistan, for dissertation research related to his paper, *“Chinese Aid Regime and Its Narrative.”*

Event this Week


Illinois Global Institute
Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies
GETSEA
PRESENTS
A SIMULCAST FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION
The Story of the Nation's Largest Refugee Group
VIETNAMERICA
Tuesday, Nov. 18 @ 4:00pm
306 Coble
Free Pizza will be served at the screening!
bit.ly/GETSEASimulcast • Vietnamericamovie.org

AsiaLENS & GETSEA | *Vietnamerica*

🗓️ Tuesday, Nov 18th
⏰ 4pm
📍 306 Coble Hall

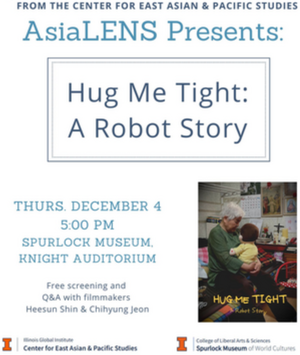
AsiaLENS in collaboration with GETSEA will be hosting a free screening of *Vietnamerica*. Executive Producer **Nancy Bui** of the Vietnamese Heritage Foundation joins GETSEA and over 20 universities across North America to watch Vietnamerica together simultaneously and connect via Zoom for a discussion with the filmmaker about the Vietnamese diaspora, their struggle, and how Master Hoa’s story is a prism to see the larger group.

Pizza 🍕 for all attendees!

Register & About the Film

Upcoming Event

AsiaLENS | Hug Me Tight: A Robot Story


FROM THE CENTER FOR EAST ASIAN & PACIFIC STUDIES
AsiaLENS Presents:
Hug Me Tight: A Robot Story
THURS. DECEMBER 4
5:00 PM
SPURLOCK MUSEUM,
KNIGHT AUDITORIUM
Free screening and
Q&A with filmmakers
Heesun Shin & Chihyung Jeon
HUG ME TIGHT
A Robot Story
Illinois Global Institute
Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Spurlock Museum of World Cultures

🗓 Thursday, Dec 4th
⏰ 5pm
📍 Spurlock Museum, Knight Auditorium, 600 S. Gregory St., Urbana

AsiaLENS presents a free screening of *Hug Me Tight: A Robot Story*, featured at the 2025 AAS Film Expo. After the film, join us for a virtual Q&A with filmmakers **Heesun Shin** and **Chihyung Jeon**.

About the Film:
In South Korea, thousands of older adults live with *Hyodol*—a doll-shaped robot equipped with sensors and communication modules. Following Hyodol from its production to its daily use, *Hug Me Tight: A Robot Story* explores how the meaning of care is transforming in the age of robots. Featuring members of the robot company, care workers, and older adults who interact with Hyodol, the film raises poignant questions: Can robots care for people? Can people care for robots? How should we care for one another?

(Directed by Heesun Shin and Chihyung Jeon. 2024. South Korea. 61 minutes.)

More Information Here

Upcoming Opportunities

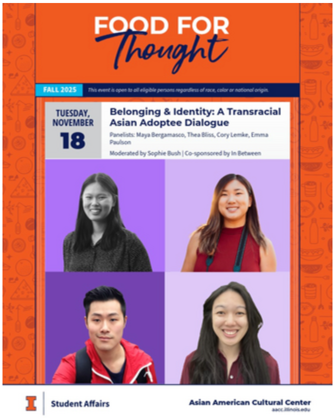
BOREN AWARDS

Boren Scholarship

Are you studying a less-commonly-taught language and seeking linguistic and cultural immersion? If so, the Boren Scholarship is for you! The Boren Scholarship seeks applicants who have a solid academic record, plan to pursue intensive language study abroad, have the potential to succeed in their proposed study abroad experience, and have clear plans for how they will use the target language in their future academic and professional endeavors.

- **Eligibility:** Freshmen through Seniors who are **U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old**, and want to **study language and culture in a non-Western country vital to U.S. interests** are eligible to apply (Click here for more information).
- **Deadline:** January 15, 2026 at 12:00pm (noon).

All undergraduates and graduates invited to attend to learn more about the Boren Scholarship! For more information, contact the scholarships office or visit our website.


FOOD FOR Thought
FALL 2025
This event is open to all eligible persons regardless of race, color or national origin.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Belonging & Identity: A Transracial Asian Adoptee Dialogue
Panelists: Maya Bergamasco, Thea Bliss, Cory Lemke, Emma Paulson
Moderated by Sophie Bush | Co-sponsored by In Between
Student Affairs
Asian American Cultural Center
aacc.illinois.edu

Food for Thought: Belonging & Identity: A Transracial Asian Adoptee Dialogue

🗓 Tuesday, Nov 18th
⏰ 12:00-1:00pm
📍 Asian American Cultural Center, 1210 W Nevada Street

Join us this Tuesday for the final *Food for Thought* of the semester, featuring a powerful conversation on Asian adoption and the experiences of transracial adoptees. Navigating "in between" spaces, transracial adoptees carry an often-overlooked, underrepresented voice within broader Asian diasporic and Asian American narratives. This panel brings together adoptees whose personal experiences, community work, and scholarship challenge dominant ideas of identity, belonging, and kinship. This conversation invites attendees to listen, learn, and reflect on what it means to belong and to reimagine solidarity across the pan-Asian diaspora.

- **Panelists:**
  - Maya Bergamasco (Graduate Student, Information Sciences)
  - Thea Bliss (Graduate Student, Entomology)
  - Cory Lemke (Graduate Student, Linguistics)
  - Emma Paulsen (Graduate Student, Information Sciences)
- **Moderator:** Sophie Bush (Asian American Cultural Center)
- **Cosponsor**: In-Between

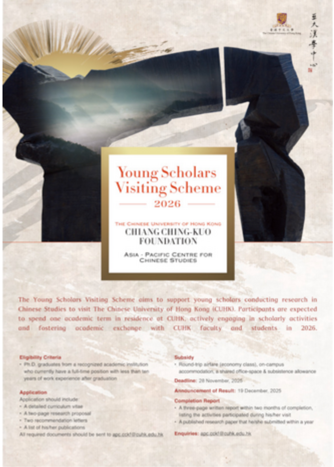
Baifang Schell Book Prize — Nominations Now Open!

China Books Review is proud to announce the return of the Baifang Schell Book Prize. The prize, held at Asia Society in New York, celebrates exceptional book-length works (in English) published in 2025 on or from China and the Sinophone world. There are awards in two categories, each accompanied by a $10,000 prize:

- **Nonfiction:** Outstanding Nonfiction Book on China or the Sinophone World
- **Literature:** Outstanding Literature on China or the Sinophone World

Now through December 15, we invite nominations from scholars and the public—especially from academics whose work focuses on China and the Sinophone world. Individuals can nominate a maximum of three books across both award categories. To nominate a book, email us at info@chinabooksreview.com with the **book's title** and **author**, the **award category** (nonfiction or literature), and **your affiliation.**

The Baifang Schell Book Prize is decided by independent juries. This year, the nonfiction jury will be chaired by Isabel Hilton and includes Yangyang Cheng, Andrew Nathan, Jeffrey Wasserstrom and Edward Wong. The literature jury will be chaired by Perry Link and includes Eric Abrahamsen, Jiayang Fan, RF Kuang, and Megan Walsh.



Young Scholars Visiting Scheme
2026

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation
Asia - Pacific Centre for Chinese Studies

The Young Scholars Visiting Scheme aims to support young scholars conducting research in Chinese Studies to visit The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). Participants are expected to spend one academic term in residence at CUHK, actively engaging in scholarly activities and fostering academic exchange with CUHK faculty and students in 2026.

Eligibility Criteria
- Ph.D. graduates from a recognized academic institution who currently have a full-time position with less than ten years of work experience after graduation

Application
Application should include:
- A detailed curriculum vitae
- A two-page research proposal
- Two recommendation letters
- A list of his/her publications

All required documents should be sent to apc.cckf@cuhk.edu.hk

Subsidy
- Round-trip airfare (economy class), on-campus accommodation, a shared office-space & subsistence allowance

Deadline: 28 November, 2025

Announcement of Result: 19 December, 2025

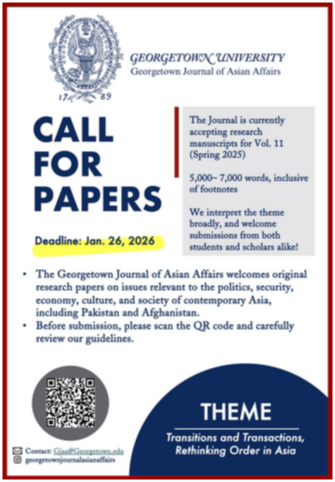
Completion Report
- A three-page written report within two months of completion, listing the activities participated during his/her visit
- A published research paper that he/she submitted within a year

Enquiries: apc.cckf@cuhk.edu.hk

The Young Scholars Visiting Scheme 2026

Organized by CUHK-CCK Foundation Asia-Pacific Centre for Chinese Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, is now open for application.

Should you be interested, please send your application by clicking here no later than **28 November, 2025**. The Scheme will cover the costs of airfare (economy class), on-campus accommodation, a shared-office space and subsistence allowance. Selection results will be announced by **19 December, 2025.**



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Georgetown Journal of Asian Affairs

1789

CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline: Jan. 26, 2026

The Journal is currently accepting research manuscripts for Vol. 11 (Spring 2025)

5,000– 7,000 words, inclusive of footnotes

We interpret the theme broadly, and welcome submissions from both students and scholars alike!

- The Georgetown Journal of Asian Affairs welcomes original research papers on issues relevant to the politics, security, economy, culture, and society of contemporary Asia, including Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- Before submission, please scan the QR code and carefully review our guidelines.

Contact: Gjaa@Georgetown.edu
georgetownjournalasianaffairs

THEME

Transitions and Transactions, Rethinking Order in Asia

Call for Papers – Georgetown Journal of Asian Affairs, Vol. 11

The *Georgetown Journal of Asian Affairs* is now accepting submissions for Vol. 11, slated for Spring 2026. The journal is open-access, peer-reviewed, and welcomes original research manuscripts from students and scholars alike and invites contributions that examine how order is practiced, negotiated, or challenged across lines, however you choose to define them.

Theme: *Transitions and Transactions: Rethinking Order in Asia*

From statecraft to street life, Volume XI explores how Asia navigates power, people, and possibility in an increasingly multipolar world. How is order shaped by great powers and external actors? How is legitimacy built, sustained, or contested? What does security mean in times of transition, and how do societies balance the tensions between war and peace, authority and agency? The theme is intentionally broad — we welcome submissions on topics ranging from regional partnerships and economic alignments to digital, generational, and transnational forms of exchange, including those cultural and sociological in nature. Areas of interest may include (but are certainly not limited to) trade and tariffs, energy and the environment, soft power and youth culture, and the everyday practices that shape Asia's evolving order.

Guidelines: Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis until January 26, 2026. Manuscripts should be 5,000–7,000 words and follow our formatting guidelines, available in the attached *Instructions for Contributor*s or through the *Notice to Contributors* section on the website.

For more information and further questions, feel free to reach out to Rory Mencin at gjaa@georgetown.edu, Editor-in-Chief, Georgetown Journal of Asian Affairs.

Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies

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