

CEAPS E-News September 22nd - September 26th, 2025

Call-to-Action! Urge Congress to protect NRC and FLAS programs

Act Now!

Six centers at the University of Illinois have been designated by the Department of Education as National Resource Centers (NRCs) for international studies – the second largest number of any university, reflecting Illinois' leadership in training students to engage with our world.

This year, Congress renewed funding for the NRC's and the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) program, but it has been withheld by the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Education. Nationally, \$85.6 million in support for international education and research is on the line. For Illinois, \$3.3 million of that funding would support students, language teaching, and community education.

Through the National Resource Centers, part of eleven global and area studies centers at Illinois, generations of leaders in many fields have learned languages, studied world regions, and developed cultural skills that keep Illinois globally competitive in agriculture and industry and safeguard our national security. The federal government has supported these programs at Illinois every year since Dwight Eisenhower was president.

The loss of that funding – already allocated by Congress – comes with real costs:

- \$3.3 million for scholarships, language teaching, and public educational programs in Illinois.
- Over 50 FLAS scholarships and fellowships that support students studying target languages.
- Teaching languages that support Illinois' agricultural, technological, and industrial competitiveness and our national security.
- Support for teaching heritage languages that are at the heart of many Illinoisians.
- Study abroad experiences through faculty-led programs, as well as summer grants that allow students to participate in intensive language institutes.
- Dozens of research and teaching-assistant positions that make studies affordable for current students.
- Hundreds of public programs such as community current event talks, professional development programs for teachers, local library story hours and cultural crafts, lessons for Head Start students, language competitions for high school students, public film screenings, and cultural performances that impact hundreds of Illinoisians each year.

To learn more about Illinois' world area and global studies, and the ways Illinois supports our students' global competitiveness, visit: <https://igi.illinois.edu/>

Your voice matters. These programs have enduring bipartisan support in Congress. Ask your members of Congress to insist that the 2025 funding already allocated for NRC and FLAS be released. And if you were a recipient of one of the thousands of FLAS awards made by the Illinois centers, share your story about what your FLAS grant helped you achieve!

Event Recap



CEAPS Speaker | Lori Yue

We had our first speaker join us virtually on Friday, Lori Yue who is an associate professor at Columbia Business School. We thank Dr. Lori Yue for bringing to us her expertise on an interesting topic and for our audience's presence and questions. We will post Dr. Lori Yue's talk on our website in the next few weeks.

Event this Week



CEAPS Brown Bag

Sarah Park Dahlen & Michelle Lê (I-School, UIUC)

"Keeping Afloat: Water, War, and Vietnamese Diaspora in Picture Books"

When? Friday, Sept 26th at 1:30pm

Where? 306 Coble & ZOOM

About the Speakers:

Sarah Park Dahlen 박사라 is an Associate Professor at the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where she is also affiliate faculty in the Department of Asian American Studies and the Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies. Her research is on Asian American youth literature and transracial Korean adoption.

Michelle Lê is a current PhD candidate in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Her research is on Vietnamese American History, Vietnamese American youth literature, Asian American youth literature, Viet Nam War and Memory, and Oral History Archives.

[More Info & Registration Here](#)

Upcoming Events in September



CEAPS Speaker

Ulug Kuzuoglu (History, University of Washington in St. Louis)

"Cybernetics with Chinese Characteristics: Artificial Intelligence in the Age of Reform"

When? Tuesday, Sept 30th at 1:30pm

Where? 306 Coble & ZOOM

About the Speakers:

Professor Ulug Kuzuoglu is a historian of modern China and the world, currently teaching at Washington University in St. Louis. His research focuses on the history of non-Western information and communication technologies, spanning from printing devices to artificial intelligence, and their intersections with political ideologies and social imaginaries.

[More Info & Registration Here](#)

October Preview

October 2nd [co-sponsored event]

CEAPS Speaker | "Global Challenges: The View from Down Under" | John Blaxland
306 Coble Hall at 11am

October 17th

CEAPS Brown Bag | "Zhou Zuoren at Tiger Bridge" | Jingling Chen
306 Coble Hall & ZOOM at 1:30pm

October 23rd [co-sponsored event]

Roger Ebert Screening: Piccadilly (1929)
Spurlock Museum, Knight Auditorium at 7pm

October 24th [co-sponsored event]

Roger Ebert Lecture | "A Yellow Spot on the Silver Screen" | Yiman Wang
Spurlock Museum, Knight Auditorium at 2pm

October 31st

VASP Brown Bag | "Morality and Sentiment: Female Ci Poets and Cultural Transformation in Late Ming China" | Baiheng Qian
306 Coble Hall & ZOOM at 1:30pm

Check our event calendar or this weekly newsletter for the most up to date information on our events!

[View our CEAPS Calendar](#)

Travel Grants - Now Open!

**FALL 2025
GRADUATE STUDENT &
FACULTY TRAVEL GRANTS**



CEAPS Graduate Student Travel Grant Application

The Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies (CEAPS) Graduate Student Travel Grant provides travel awards for graduate students to present papers at professional conferences or to conduct dissertation research in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and the greater Pacific region. Priority will be given to those proposals that concern East Asian and Pacific issues. The number of awards is determined each year based on funding availability.

Conference Travel

For AY 2025 - 2026, awards up to \$500 for domestic travel/up to \$750 for international travel will be granted. Paper acceptance at the time of application is required.

Dissertation Research Travel

For AY 2025 - 2026, 1 award (up to \$1,500) will be granted per semester to a doctoral student conducting fieldwork research in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and the greater Pacific region for periods up to 12 months.

[More Information & Application Here](#)

CEAPS Faculty Travel Grant

The CEAPS Affiliated Faculty Conference Travel Grant is open to any CEAPS affiliated faculty from all departments and colleges. You must be a current faculty affiliate and have a paper with a strong East Asian and Pacific Studies focus accepted in a conference to apply.

The number of awards is determined each year based on funding availability. For AY 2025-26, awards up to \$500 for domestic travel/up to \$1,500 for international travel will be awarded per semester.

[More Information & Application Here](#)

AAS26: Now Accepting Film Submissions



Association for
Asian Studies



UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**AAS 2026
FILM EXPO**

Call for Films: AAS 2026 Film Expo

The Association for Asian Studies 2026 Annual Conference

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, March 12-15, 2026

Film Submission Deadline: Friday, October 17, 2025

- All film entries must have English subtitles to be considered.
- We do not accept any films that have had scheduled screenings at past AAS meetings.
- AAS does not pay rental or royalty fees, nor does it charge you for publicity and exposure. AAS considers this program of mutual benefit to both you and our members.
- AAS does not offer financial or travel support for filmmakers to attend the conference screenings. Complimentary conference registration (one registration per film) will be provided to selected filmmakers attending the conference for in-person Q&As.
- Selected films will be required to submit two (2) high quality promotional images, which may be uploaded at the time of submission or the time of acceptance confirmation.
- Upon acceptance, selected films will be required to provide a digital film file for Film Expo presentation and a private screener link for virtual on-demand screening.

[More Info & Submission Link Here](#)

Upcoming Opportunities



October 9th 10-2PM

Where:
Illinois Union, 1401 W. Green St. Urbana, IL

LAS International Programs

Explore countless short-term, semester, and year-long programs abroad. Speak with recent study abroad participants and current exchange students

Discover research, internship, service-learning, and additional global learning opportunities

Start thinking about and planning for study abroad & global learning experiences during your time at UIUC

Questions? Contact LAS International Programs at las-studyabroad@illinois.edu

LAS Global Opportunities & Study Abroad Fair

Event Details:

Thursday, October 9, 2025

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Illini Union, 1401 W Green St, Urbana, IL

[RSVP here](#)



FA25 Korean Conversation Table

The FA25 Korean Conversation Table will start its in-person meeting this week on Friday, September 5, 2025

- Date and Time: 5-6 pm every Friday (9/5-11/14) during FA25 semester except for Oct. 31
- Location: Everitt Lab 2233 (except Sept. 19 in Everitt Lab 1306) across Illini Union
- Contact: Jeeyoung Ahn [Ha\(j\)-ahn3@illinois.edu](mailto:Ha(j)-ahn3@illinois.edu).

Director of the Korean language program or Jihye Yun (jihye26@illinois.edu), KCT coordinator for any questions!

Everyone who would like to practice speaking Korean and learn about Korean culture is welcome! Please join us.



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