

CEAPS E-News April 6th - April 10th, 2026

Events Recap

Chang-min Yu



Michelle L. Hawk



CEAPS Speaker Events

CEAPS hosted two speaker events titled "The Combined and Uneven Development Film in East Asia" by Dr. Chang-min Yu, National Taiwan University on March 31 and "Finding An Audience: Japan's First Women Architects and the NHK Ladies' Classroom" by Dr. Michelle L. Hawk, Washington University in St. Louis on April 3. Thank you to both speakers for your inspiring talks and all who made possible engaging discussions after! We look forward to connecting with all of you in the upcoming events.

Events This Week



AsiaLENS / GETSEA Presents: "Sotong" & "Against This Messy World"

TODAY, April 6
4:00pm
306 Coble Hall

GETSEA will host two short films alongside 20+ other universities in North America, followed by a ZOOM discussion with the filmmakers. The films highlight the challenges to art and expression in Malaysia's complex political, legal, and societal landscape. Join us for this screening and pizza.

Sotong follows four fierce local drag queens who were part of the 2022 Halloween party raided by the authorities. One of them, Juan, was arrested for 'a man dressing up as a woman'. Two years later, they revisit on the fallout of that night as they continue to perform underground and nurture the Malaysian drag scene in all its beauty, joy, and pain.

Against This Messy World is a deeply introspective and visually captivating short documentary that delves into the heart and soul of artistic expression in Malaysia. A personal exploration, narrated by Malaysian artists, this documentary takes viewers on an evocative journey to understand the essence and purpose of being an artist in a world marked by chaos and uncertainty and piece together conversations and unfiltered moments in their lives.

Register Here



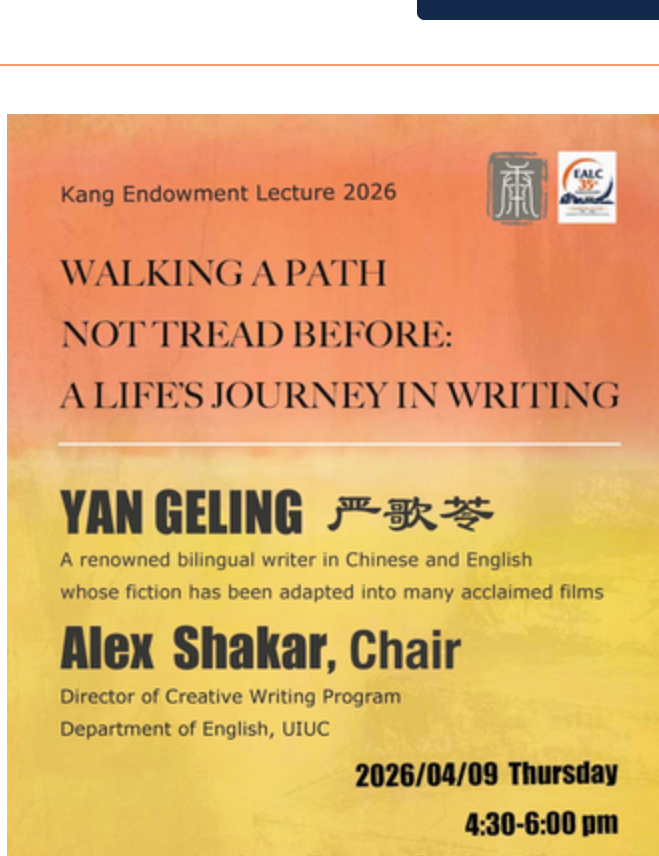
CHINA Town Hall

Tuesday, April 7
5:30pm
404 David Kinley Hall, 1407 W Gregory Dr, Urbana

The Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies will be hosting the 2026 CHINA Town Hall (CTH), a program that provides a snapshot of the current U.S.-China relationship and examines how that relationship reverberates at the local level – in our towns, states, and nation – connects people around the country with U.S. policymakers and thought leaders on China.

The 2026 CHINA Town Hall program will take place via live webcast with two veteran senior diplomats discussing the current state and future trajectory of the U.S.-China relationship: Stephen Biegun, former U.S. deputy secretary of state, and Sarah Beran, former deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing and former senior director for China and Taiwan affairs at the White House National Security Council.

More Information and Registration



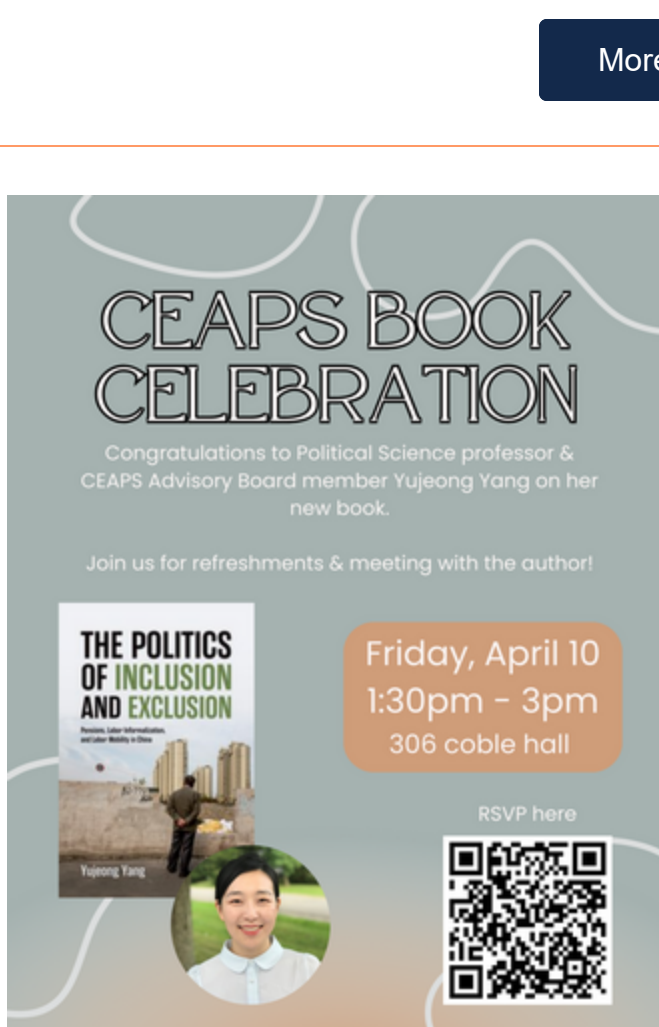
2026 Kang Endowment Lecture Yan Geling | "Walking a Path not Tread Before: A Life's Journey in Writing"

Thursday, April 9
4:30 - 6:00 pm
Knight Auditorium, Spurlock Museum (600 S Gregory St, Urbana, IL)

About the Speaker:

Geling Yan 严歌苓 is one of the most acclaimed novelists and screenwriters in the Chinese language and a well-established writer in English. Born in Shanghai, she served with the People's Liberation Army during the Cultural Revolution, starting at age twelve as a dancer in an entertainment troupe. After more than a decade with the army, she published her first novel in 1986 and has been writing constantly ever since. Her themes include the immigrant experience, historical novels set in 20th Century China and works set in contemporary China. Her novels in English include Criminal Lu Yanshi, The Secret Talker, Little Aunt Crane, The Flowers of War, The Banquet Bug, The Lost Daughter of Happiness, and White Snake and Other Stories. Many of Ms. Yan's works have been adapted for film and television, directed or produced by famous directors such as Zhang Yimou, Chen Kaige, Feng Xiaogang, Ang Lee, Li Shaohong and Joan Chen. She is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and of the Writers' Guild of America (west).

More Information



CEAPS Book Celebration

Yujeong Yang | "The Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion: Pensions, Labor Informalization, and Labor Mobility in China"

Friday, April 10
1:30pm - 3pm
306 Coble Hall

About the Speaker:

Yujeong Yang is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research focuses on welfare and labor politics in China, as well as the political and social implications of China's global economic expansion. She is the author of Politics of Inclusion and Exclusion (Oxford University Press, 2025) and has published articles in the International Studies Quarterly, World Development, and Politics & Society.

More Information and Registration

Upcoming Events



CEAPS Korean Faculty Get Together

The Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies is looking forward to hosting any UIUC faculty with connection to or interest in Korea. We will have coffee, tea, & treats for this social event to get to know other faculty and CEAPS. Feel free to share this event with any of your colleagues!

Please RSVP in the link below.

Date: Apr 24, 2026
Time: 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Venue: 306 Coble Hall, 801 S Wright St, Champaign
Contact: Alex Chun (park387@illinois.edu)

More Information and Registration



CEAPS Speaker / Political Science Workshop

Join us for a hybrid event titled "From Correction to Connection: Relational Approaches to Countering Misinformation" with Cesi Cruz (University of Michigan).

About the Speaker:

Cesi Cruz is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Economics at the University of Michigan. Her research examines political accountability and governance, with a focus on how information, institutions, and social networks shape political behavior in developing democracies. She serves on the editorial board of VoxDev, a policy platform that translates academic research into accessible insights for policymakers and practitioners in development. Her work has been published in leading journals in political science and economics.

- Date: May 1, 2026
- Time: 12:00 - 1:30 pm
- Venue: 404 David Kinley Hall, 1407 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana

Information & Registration



Reading and Research Presentation Day

Please join us on Reading Day, May 7th, for a day of studying, student research presentations, and plenty of food to fuel your brain and ideas to fuel your mind! You can stop by briefly or get settled and stay all day. If you would like to present your research, please see the attached flyer for a QR code or follow the presentation registration link. If you would like to join us, registration is optional, but using the event registration link will help us get an idea of numbers for food. We look forward to seeing you on Reading Day!

Date: May 7th
Time:
9am - 12pm - Quiet Study with snack
12pm - 2pm - Student Workshop of presentations with lunch
2pm - 4pm - Quiet Study with snacks

- Venue: 306 Coble Hall, 801 S Wright St, Champaign

Upcoming Opportunities



NCTA Applications, Now Open!

CEAPS is excited to announce our second annual NCTA seminar for K-12 educators this summer.

Spring Orientation: May 12th, 2026 | evening over ZOOM
Seminar Dates: July 20th - July 24th, 2026 | in person on UIUC campus
Wrap Up: Fall 2026 Date TBD

Benefits include:
- \$300 stipend
- \$230 worth of teaching materials & \$100 mini-grant
- 30 IEIN hours (for Illinois teachers)
- Certificate of Completion
- NCTA alumni

Registration deadline is April 13th, 2026. Email ceaps@illinois.edu with any questions! Please share with any K-12 educators you may know!

UIUC & NCTA Website



Call for Proposals for International Research

The Illinois Global Institute invites proposals for international research projects and collaborations. Funded by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences INSURE program, we welcome proposals that support both new and ongoing international research, with the aim of sustaining and strengthening the international agenda of research by LAS faculty. The program is open to all LAS faculty regardless of the impacts of funding cuts to their research, but we particularly welcome proposals that support research that faces other funding constraints in areas such as Fulbright, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and initiatives supported by the IGI area and global studies centers that have faced the loss of Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center Funding.

Each grant will offer up to \$5,000 (or, \$10,000 for teams of two or more) in research support with the aim to keep LAS faculty's international research on track and globally competitive. Applications will be accepted for a May 1, 2026 deadline.

More Information and Application



Call for 2027 Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies

The Center for Chinese Studies (CCS), administered by the National Central Library (NCL), is pleased to announce the call for applications for two research grants for the year 2027: Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies (外籍學人來臺研究漢學獎助) and MOFA Taiwan Fellowship (外交部臺灣獎助金).

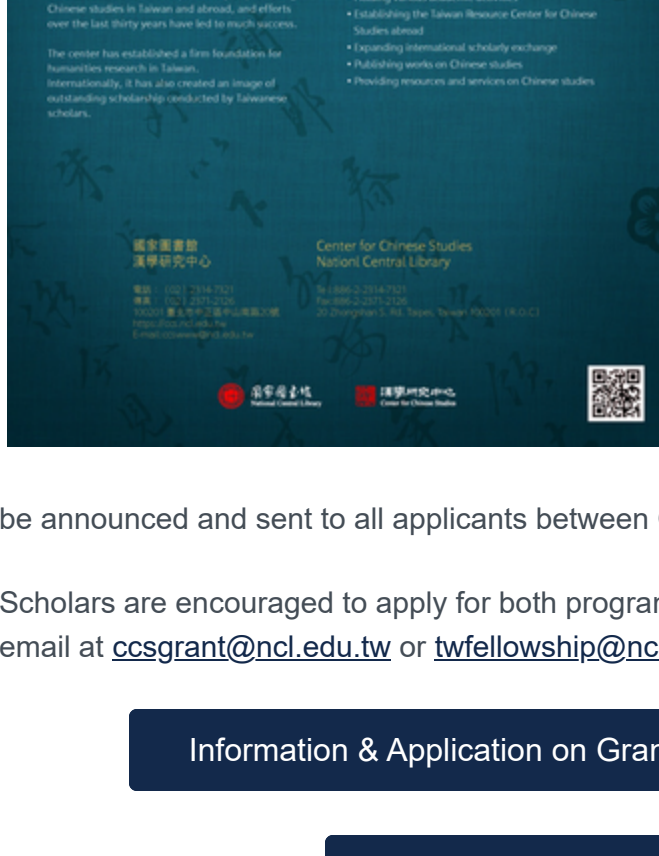
1. 2027 Research Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies Applications are now open, with a deadline of May 31, 2026. All application materials must be submitted electronically or by air mail no later than this date. Notifications of the Selection Committee's decisions will be sent by the end of August 2026.

2. 2027 MOFA Taiwan Fellowship Applications for the Taiwan Fellowship, which CCS administers on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), R.O.C. (Taiwan), will be accepted from May 1 to June 30, 2026. All application materials for this Fellowship must be submitted electronically no later than this date. Notifications of the Selection Committee's decisions will be announced and sent to all applicants between October and the end of November 2026.

Scholars are encouraged to apply for both programs if eligible. For any questions, please contact us via email at ccsgrant@ncl.edu.tw or twfellowship@ncl.edu.tw

Information & Application on Grant for Foreign Scholars in Chinese Studies

Information & Application on Taiwan Fellowship



Summer Online JAPN 201 (Elementary Japanese I)

Online Japanese class is open for 2026 summer! JAPN 201 is for those with no Japanese background and has no status restrictions, meaning that it is open to undergraduate and graduate students, graduating seniors, and non-degree students, including high school students. It is an introductory course to Japanese, spoken language skills and the reading and writing of hirigana, katakana, and kanji.

- Date: June 15 - August 6, 2026
- Credit: 5 Credit Hours
- Format: Asynchronous format with two synchronous meetings per week (typically Tuesdays and Fridays, 7-8 pm)

Course Information

CEAPS Social Media

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