

CEAPS E-News March 23rd - 27th, 2026

Event Recap



AAS 2026 Film Expo

CEAPS successfully hosted our 15th Film Expo in collaboration with the Association for Asian Studies Conference in Vancouver, Canada on March 12-14. For three days, we screened 24 films that explore diverse stories from across Asia. Many post-screening Q&A sessions took place, during which audiences got to listen to fascinating behind-the-scenes stories of the filmmaking from the directors on site and immerse themselves further into the films. Thank you to all the audience members and filmmakers for your contributions in making this event a success!

[More Information](#)

Event This Weeks



10th Annual Korean Speech Contest

The 10th Annual Korean UIUC Korean Speech Contest is approaching! Winners from each level will receive a gift card and eligible to compete in the 6th Midwest Korean Speech Contest in Chicago on April 4th.

- **Date:** Mar 26, 2026
- **Time:** 7:00 - 8:30 pm
- **Venue:** LH 1000
- **Registration Deadline:** Friday, March 13
- **Script Submission Deadline:** Sunday, March 22
- **Contact:** Jeeyoung Ha (jahn3@illinois.edu)

[More Information and Registration](#)



Roll With Us: A Kimbap Workshop on Food, Culture, and Community

Join fellow graduate student Joohye Oh for an interactive kimbap-making workshop at the AACC! In this hands-on session, you'll learn about the social and cultural significance of kimbap, a beloved Korean dish, while creating your own customizable rolls. Whether you're new to Korean cuisine or already a fan, this is a great opportunity to cook, learn, and connect with other graduate students! Vegan and vegetarian options will be available. RSVP is highly encouraged if you plan to attend this workshop.

- **Date:** Mar 26, 2026
- **Time:** 5:00-6:30 pm
- **Venue:** AACC (1210 W. Nevada Street)

[More Information and Registration](#)



CEAPS Japan Faculty Get Together

The Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies is looking forward to hosting any UIUC faculty with a connection to or interest in Japan. 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!

- **Date:** Mar 27, 2026
- **Time:** 1:30 - 3:00 pm
- **Venue:** 306 Cobble Hall, 801 S Wright St, Champaign
- **Contact:** Alex Chun (sarK387@illinois.edu)

[More Information and Registration](#)

Upcoming Events



CEAPS Speaker

Dr. Michelle L. Hauk | "Finding An Audience: Japan's First Women Architects and the NHK Ladies' Classroom"

- **Friday, April 3**
- **1:30pm - 3pm**
- **Hybrid: 306 Cobble Hall & Zoom**

About the Speaker: Dr. Michelle L. Hauk is an assistant professor in architectural history and theory at the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University in St. Louis. Trained in both architectural design and history, she specializes in the history of architecture, technology, and society in twentieth-century Japan. Her research examines the evolution of the dwelling in twentieth century Japan through the lens of water and the technologies that organize its flow. She considers the ways in which the design of water within domestic environments intersects with social relationships, cultural practices, and the natural environment.

[More Information and Registration](#)



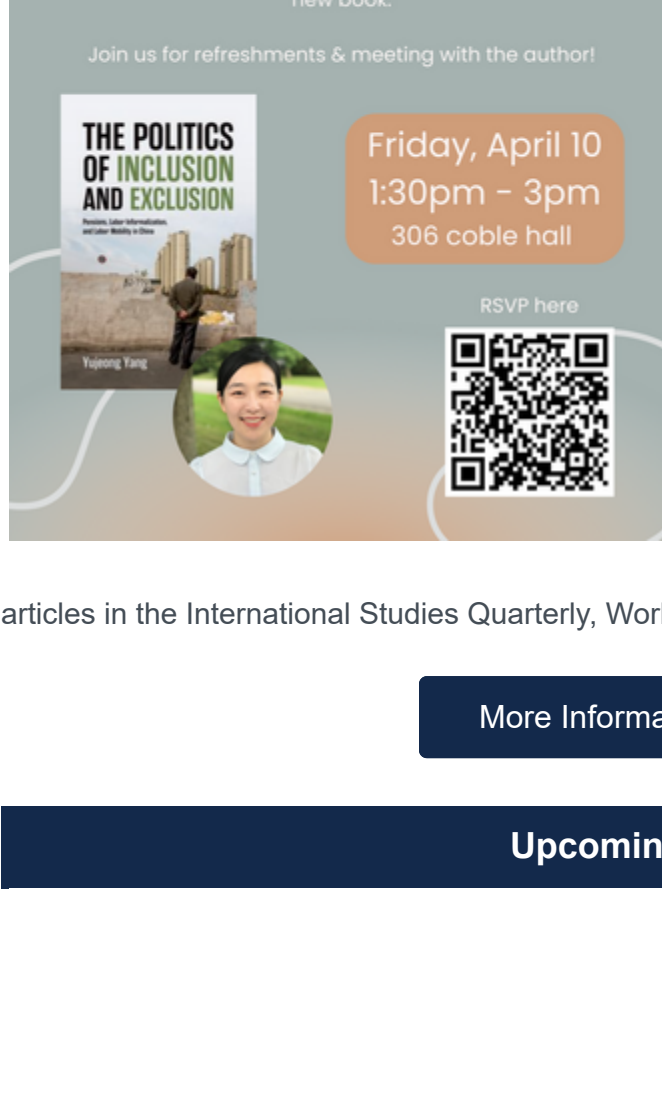
CHINA Town Hall

- **Tuesday, April 7**
- **5:30pm**
- **Live Webcast & 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 Blegun**, 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](#)



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 Cobble 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 Opportunities

Fulbright Taiwan ETF Information Session

Are your students interested in teaching English abroad? Encourage them to join representatives from Fulbright Taiwan on **March 23** for an in-person information session focused on Taiwan's **English Teaching Elopasia (ETE)** Award. The program allows U.S. citizens holding a bachelor's degree to teach English in Taiwanese elementary or junior high schools with support from local coordinators and professional advisors. In addition to 90 ETF participants, Taiwan's Fulbright commission funds many other opportunities to teach and study, including 150 English Teaching Assistant (ETA) grants and 4 open study/research grants for U.S. students, and 20 TEFL advisor awards.

- **Location:** Illini Union Bookstore Building room 514 (floor 5)
- **Date/Time:** Monday, March 23, 3:00-4:00pm
- **Sponsors:** National & International Scholarships Program; Graduate College Office of External Fellowships

This session will include a 40-minute program overview and 20-minute Q&A. We hope you'll join us!

[More Information and Registration](#)



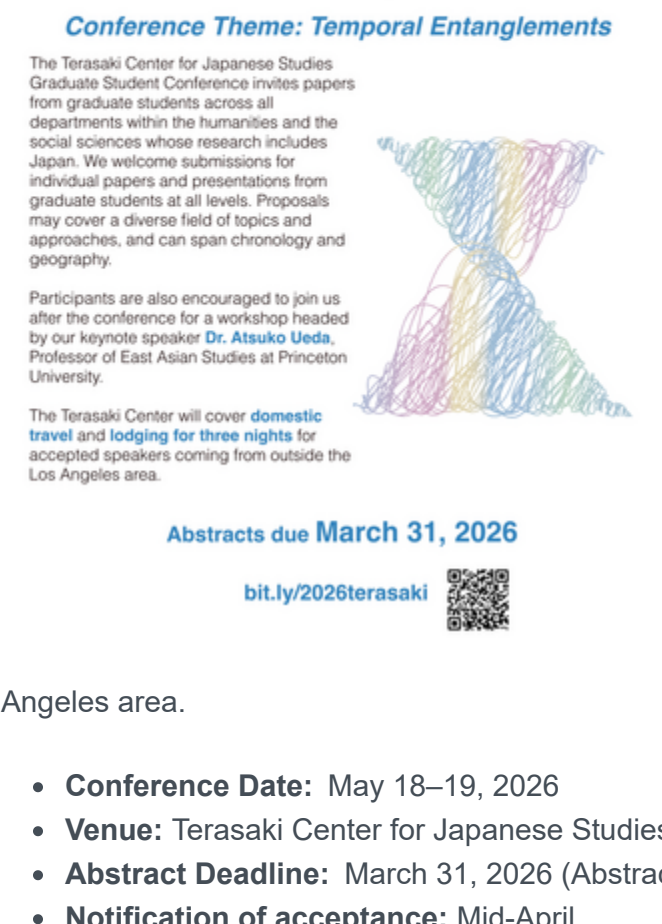
NCTA Applications, Now Open!

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 I/EN hours (for Illinois teachers)
 - Certificate of Completion
 - NCTA alumni

Registration deadline is **March 27th, 2026**. Email ceaps@illinois.edu with any questions! Please share with any K-12 educators you may know!

[UIUC & NCTA Website](#)



Call for Proposals:

The 28th Annual Japanese Studies Graduate Student Conference at UCLA

The Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies Graduate Student Conference invites papers from graduate students across all departments within the humanities and the social sciences whose research includes Japan. We welcome submissions for individual papers and presentations from graduate students at all levels. Proposals may cover a diverse field of topics and approaches, and can span chronology and geography. Participants are also encouraged to join us after the conference for a workshop headed by our keynote speaker Dr. Atsuko Ueda, Professor of East Asian Studies at Princeton University. The Terasaki Center will cover domestic travel and lodging for three nights for accepted speakers coming from outside the Los Angeles area.

- **Conference Date:** May 18-19, 2026
- **Venue:** Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies, UCLA
- **Abstract Deadline:** March 31, 2026 (Abstracts of up to 300 words with a working title)
- **Notification of acceptance:** Mid-April
- **Final paper submission:** May 10, 11:59 pm (Pacific Time)
- **Contact:** 2026terasaki@gmail.com

[Registration and Submission](#)



International Food Security at Illinois Symposium:

"Cultivating a New Vision for International Food Security in ACES"

Join us as we revisit and re-imagine how to best collaborate across department and college lines to work towards global food security. Sessions will be a mix of interdisciplinary panels highlighting key cross-cutting themes in ACES existing work. All ACES stakeholders and others interested in food security are invited to attend. Find out more and register using QR Code above or at <https://go.illinois.edu/foodsecurity2026>

- **Date:** Apr 15-16, 2026
- **Time:** All Day
- **Venue:** Heritage Room, ACES Library
- **Contact:** Lauren Karplus (karpil2@illinois.edu)

[Registration Link](#)

Spring 2026 Chinese Language Table

- **Date and Time:** 2-3 pm, every other Friday (2/6-4/25/2026)
- **Location:** LCLB 2050 (EALC Library)
- **Contact:** Ying Pin Chen (ypchen@illinois.edu)

The Chinese Language Table is an informal, no-pressure space for students and community members of all proficiency levels to practice communicating in Mandarin Chinese, engage in Chinese cultural activities, and connect with one another. Meeting topics and dates include Lantern Festival (3/6), Calligraphy (3/27), Chinese Tea Culture (4/17), and Making Sachets (4/24). Join us!



Spring 2026 Korean Conversation Table

- **Date and Time:** 5-6 pm every Friday (1/30-4/24) during SP26 semester except for March 14-28
- **Location:** Everitt Lab 2233 across Illini Union
- **Contact:** Jeeyoung Ahn Ha (jahn3@illinois.edu), Director of the Korean language program or Jihye Yun (jihye26@illinois.edu), KCT coordinator for any questions!

Korean Conversation Table (KCT) is an informal, voluntary meeting for learners of Korean who would like to practice speaking in a relaxed and supportive environment. Participants can build confidence through casual conversation, interact with fellow learners and facilitators, and engage with Korean language use at various levels. KCT also provides an opportunity to learn about and experience aspects of Korean culture. Everyone is welcome so please join us!



2026 UAAT Mandarin Speech Contest

The 2026 UAAT Mandarin Speech Contest welcomes young Mandarin learners to join in on an upcoming community event. If you are interested in building confidence in public speaking and meeting other Mandarin learners, we'd love for you to register. We warmly welcome attendees of different ages and Mandarin backgrounds from Central Illinois to participate.

- **Date:** Saturday, April 18, 2026
- **Time:** 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM
- **Venue:** Levis Faculty Center, Room 210
- **Application Deadline:** Wednesday, March 18, 2026
- **Contact:** Yiwen Chiang (ywichiang@illinois.edu)

[More Information and Registration](#)

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