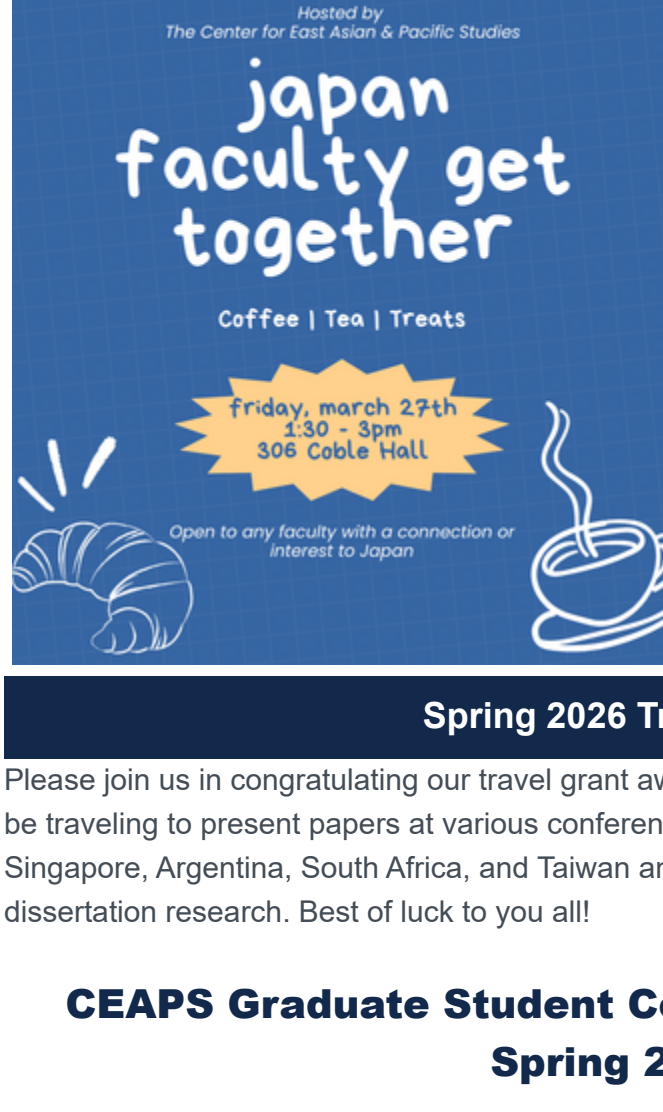


CEAPS E-News March 30th - April 3rd, 2026

Event Recap



CEAPS Japan Faculty Got Together

CEAPS hosted the first social meeting of Japan Faculty Get Together on March 27. Faculties whose research areas have relevance to Japan or who are of Japanese descent had the opportunity to connect, get to know each other, and learn of their ongoing research or refreshments. Thank you to all faculty who attended this event! We'd love to continue networking and connecting with all of you.

Spring 2026 Travel Grant Awardees

Please join us in congratulating our travel grant awardees for the 2026 spring semester. Twelve students will be traveling to present papers at various conferences all over the world, including US, Canada, UK, Singapore, Argentina, South Africa, and Taiwan and two will be traveling to China, Japan and Korea for their dissertation research. Best of luck to you all!

CEAPS Graduate Student Conference Research Travel Grant Spring 2026 Awardee

Yating Li
Yating Li is a PhD candidate in the Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures. She will be presenting her paper, "Womb Maladies: Epistemic Pluralism and the Making of a Female Disease in Early 20th Century China (1902-1930)" at the 2026 Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

Sohee Shin
Sohee Shin is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology. She will be presenting her paper, "Negotiating Housework in Transnational Marriages: The Role of Gender Ideology Alignment and Economic Resources among Marriage Migrant Women in South Korea," at the Population Association of America (PAA) 2026 Annual Meeting in Saint Louis, United States.

Cheeno Sayuno
Cheeno Marlo Sayuno is Postdoctoral Research Associate in the School of Information Sciences. He will be presenting his paper, "Dance of the Lights: Crafting Martial Law Narratives in a New Marcos Regime in the Philippines" as an individual paper and "Voices of Asian/American Youth: Transnational Stories, Transnational Scholars, Transnational Scholarship" as panel presentation at the 40th International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) World Congress in Ottawa, Canada.

Reanne Zheng
Reanne Zheng is a PhD candidate in the Department of History. She will be presenting her paper, "Entanglements in Imperial Economies: Chinese American Labor Potential in the Late 19th Century," at the Association for Asian American Studies Annual Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Shuyan Huang
Shuyan Huang is a PhD student in the Department of Political Science. He will be presenting his paper, "Aid, Protest, and Persuasion: Strategic Public Diplomacy in Foreign Assistance," at the ISA Annual Meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

Chae Eun Lee
Chae Eun Lee is a PhD student in the Department of Linguistics. She will be presenting her paper, "Second language acquisition of Korean plural marking," at the Generative Approaches to Second Language Acquisition Conference in Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Ann (Xiaoxu) Pei
Ann (Xiaoxu) Pei is a PhD student in the Department of Comparative and World Literature. She will be presenting her paper, "Recasting Nostalgia in (Post)socialist Dongbei (Northeast China) Transitions: Energy, Media, and Affective Infrastructure in The Long Season," at the Association of Chinese and Comparative Literature Conference in Singapore.

Jianfeng (Steven) Guo
Jianfeng (Steven) Guo is a PhD student in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. He will be presenting his paper, "Falling in Two Dimensions: Pitch and Temporal Properties in Fuxing Chinese Fanying To the Coast," at the OPTFL-Prosody 2026 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Samantha Ting
Samantha Ting is a PhD student in the Department of Comparative and World Literature. She will be presenting her paper, "Tireless Memory: Undermining Imperial Authority in Two Okinawan Stories," at the 10th Annual Meeting of the Memory Studies Association in the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Zhou Nini
Zhou Nini is a PhD student in Communication and Media of the College of Media. She will be presenting her paper, "Masculine Anxiety and the Making of Racialized Nationalism in China: A Qualitative Investigation into Sunxiaoquan Bar," at the Annual International Communication Association (ICA) Conference in Cape Town, South Africa.

Darren Chuang
Darren Chuang is a PhD student in the School of Music. He will be presenting his paper, "Island's Sunrise: Reawakened Music, Protest, and the Pursuit of Taiwanese Sovereignty," at the 20th Anniversary and the 9th Symposium of the International Council for Traditions of Music and Dance Study Group on Musics of Eastern Asia in Taipei, Taiwan.

Luming Xu
Luming Xu is a graduate student in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. He will be presenting his paper, "When Migration Meets 'Saving the Nation': China's Disaster Relief, Agricultural Migration, and Nation-Building in Manchuria, 1912-1931," at the Association for Asian Studies 2026 Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

Graduate Student Dissertation Research Travel Grant Spring 2026 Awardees

Yating Li
Yating Li is a PhD candidate in the Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures. She will be traveling to Tokyo, Japan and Seoul and Daejeon, Korea for dissertation research related to her paper, "Pathologizing the Womb: Medical Knowledge, Women's Body, and Mirage of Health in China (1900s-1940s)."

Woochul Park
Woochul Park is a PhD student in the Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures. She will be traveling to Tokyo, Japan and Seoul and Daejeon, Korea for dissertation research related to her paper, "Evidencing Truth: Criminal Law, Judgment, and Proof in Modern East Asia, 1876-1946."

Event This Week



Screening Workshop on Moving Image Archives, Methodology, and Co-survivorship

Monday, March 30
5:30 pm
LCLB G58 (Film Room)

Join us for an immersive screening workshop with film and media scholar Professor Chang-Min Yu (National Taiwan University).

This workshop explores the vital role of moving image archives through a curated selection of documentary shorts and experimental films from and about Taiwan. Designed specifically for the needs of graduate students, the session will delve into archival methodologies in East Asian and global media, with a particular focus on the idea of "co-survivorship"—the material, ethical, and methodological bond between the scholar and their research materials. The workshop is organized into two parts: a screening of surviving archival films and footage introduced by Dr. Yu, followed by an open dialogue on the related themes of archival labor, media research ethics, and strategies for survival in graduate school.

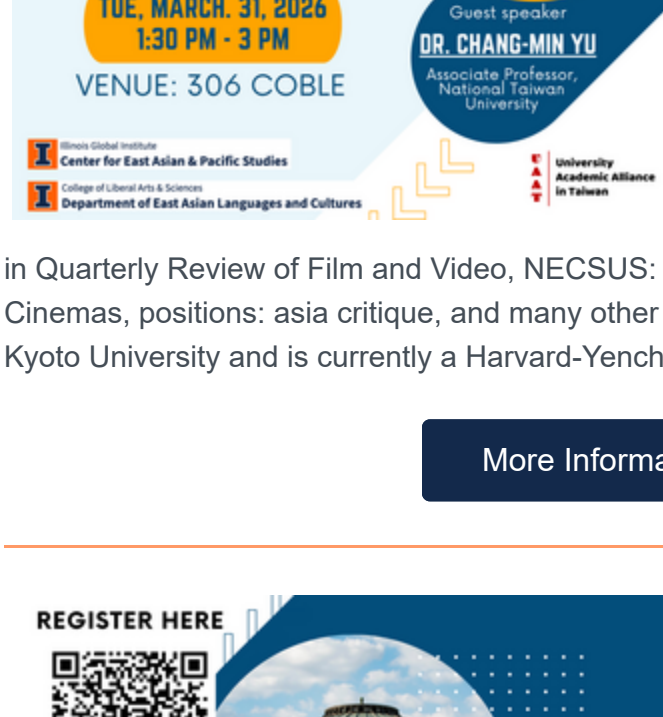
Note: To foster an engaged dialogue and accommodate venue capacity, space is limited to 25 registered participants (RSVP required, link below)

[More Information and Registration](#)

CEAPS Speaker
"The Combined and Uneven Development Film in East Asia."
Dr. Chang-min Yu (National Taiwan University)
Tuesday, Mar 31
1:30 - 3:00 pm
306 Cobble Hall, 801 S. Wright St., Champaign
Join us for the CEAPS Speaker in-person event with Dr. Chang-min Yu (National Taiwan University). Light refreshment will be served at the event.
About the Speaker: Chang-Min Yu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at National Taiwan University. His articles have appeared in Quarterly Review of Film and Video, NECSUS: European Journal of Media Studies, Journal of Chinese Cinemas, positions: asia critique, and many other journals and edited collections. He was a visiting fellow at Kyoto University and is currently a Harvard-Yenching Visiting Scholar.
[More Information and Registration](#)

CEAPS Speaker
"Finding an Audience: Japan's First Women Architects and the 'Milk Ladies' Classroom"
Dr. Michelle L. Hauk | "Finding An Audience: Japan's First Women Architects and the 'Milk 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](#)

Upcoming Events



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

Monday, April 6
4:00pm
306 Cobble 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 famous local drag queens who were part of the 2022 Halloween party raged by the authorities. One of them, Juan, was arrested for 'a man dressing up as a woman'. Two years later, they visit 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
TUESDAYS, 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 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 consistently 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 Yanzhi*, *The Secret Talker*, *Little Aunt Crane*, *The Flowers of War*, *The Banquet Bag*, *The Last 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 Shachong 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 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 policies 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](#)

CEAPS Korean 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 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 Cobble Hall, 801 S Wright St, Champaign
Contact: Alex Chun (aax387@illinois.edu)
[More Information and Registration](#)

Upcoming Opportunities

NCTA Applications, Now Open!
CEAPS is excited to announce our second annual NCTA seminar for K-12 educators this evening.
Spring Orientation: May 12th, 2026 | in-person 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 INTEL 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 IRI 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](#)

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 (yuchen@illinois.edu)

The Chinese Language Table is an informal, non-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 K26 semester except for March 14-28
Location: Everett Lab 2233 across Illini Union
Contact: Jeeyoung Ann Haijajab@illinois.edu
Director of the Korean language program or Jihye Yun (jihyey2@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!

Summer Online JAPN 201 (Elementary Japanese I)
Online Japanese class is open for 2026 summer JAPN 201 for those with no Japanese background and has no status restrictions, meaning that it is open to undergraduate and graduate students, including high school seniors, and non-degree students, including graduate students. It is an introductory course to Japanese, spoken language skills and the reading and writing of hiragana, 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, 9-11p)
[Course Information](#)

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