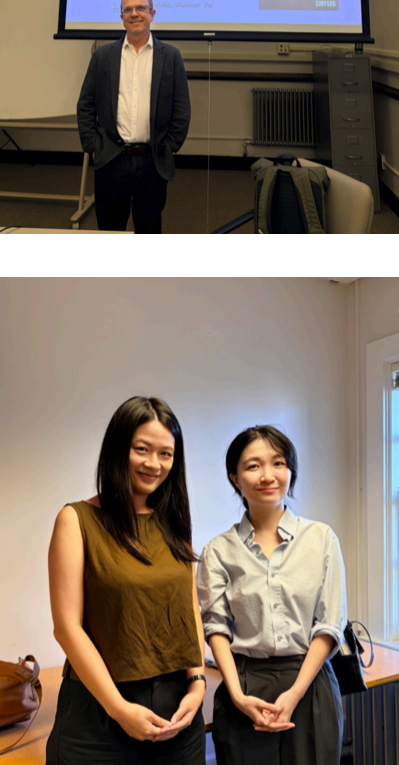


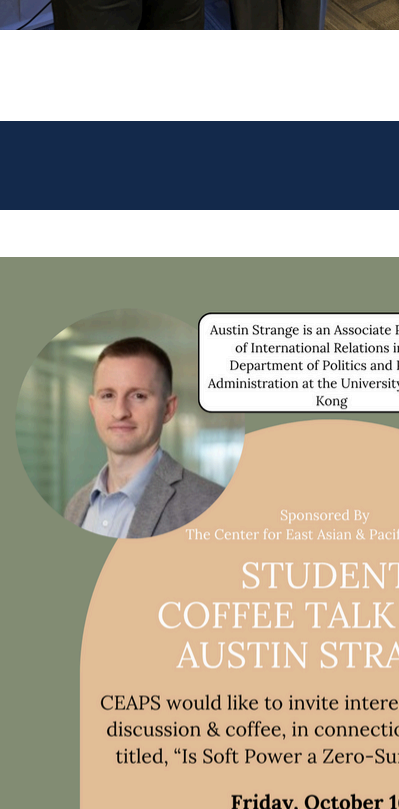
CEAPS E-News October 12th - October 16th, 2026

Event Recap



CEAPS Speaker Event Bradley Simpson Gives Talk on International Politics

On Monday, the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies welcomed University of Connecticut Professor Austin Strange to give a talk titled "Self-Determination in Very Small Spaces". We had a great turn out at this talk both in person and virtually. Check out our next talk, also at 404 DKH on Friday, 10/16!



First CEAPS Brown Bag!
Ft. **Samantha Ting & Woohui Park**

Samantha (left) received both the IGI Language Fellowship as well as a spring conference travel grant. Her presentation was titled, "Against Reverence: Defiling the Emperor in Medoruma Shun's Short Fiction". Woohui was one of our IGI Summer Research Grant awardees. Her presentation was titled, "Evidencing Truth: Criminal Law, Judgment, and Proof in Modern East Asia, 1850–1950". Thank you to both Samantha & Woohui for sharing their interesting research! CEAPS loves to support students and see the amazing things they do with the grants and fellowships they receive.

Events This Week

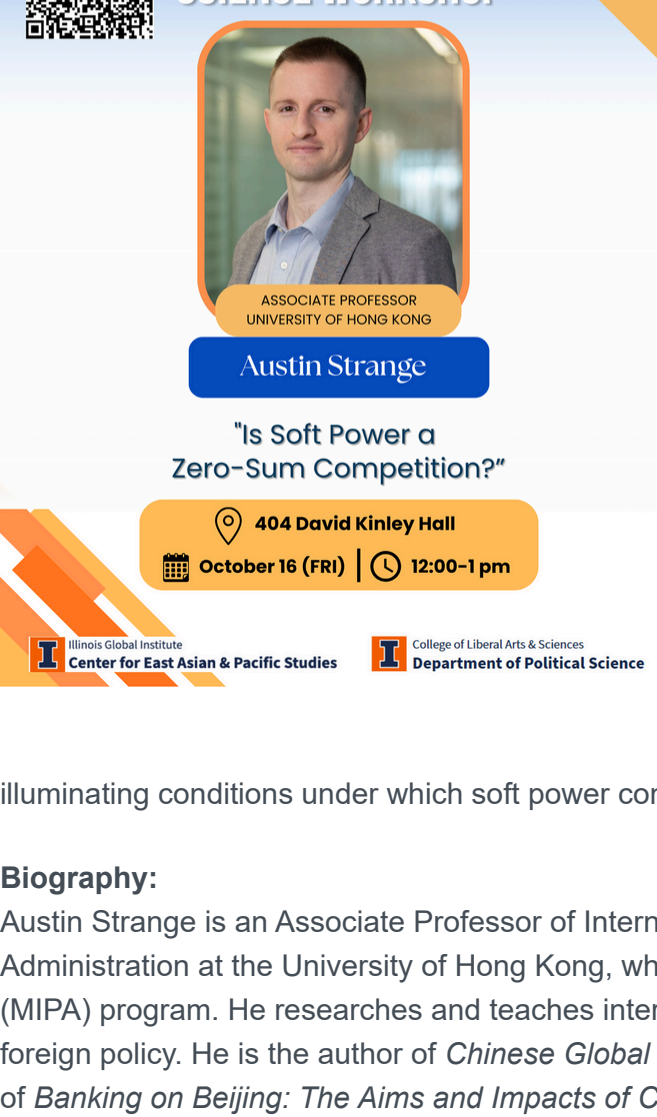


Student Coffee Talk with Austin Strange

📅 October 16th
🕒 9am - 10am
📍 404 David Kinley Hall

CEAPS would like to invite interested students to a discussion & coffee, in connection to Austin's talk titled, "Is Soft Power a Zero-Sum Competition"

More Information & Registration



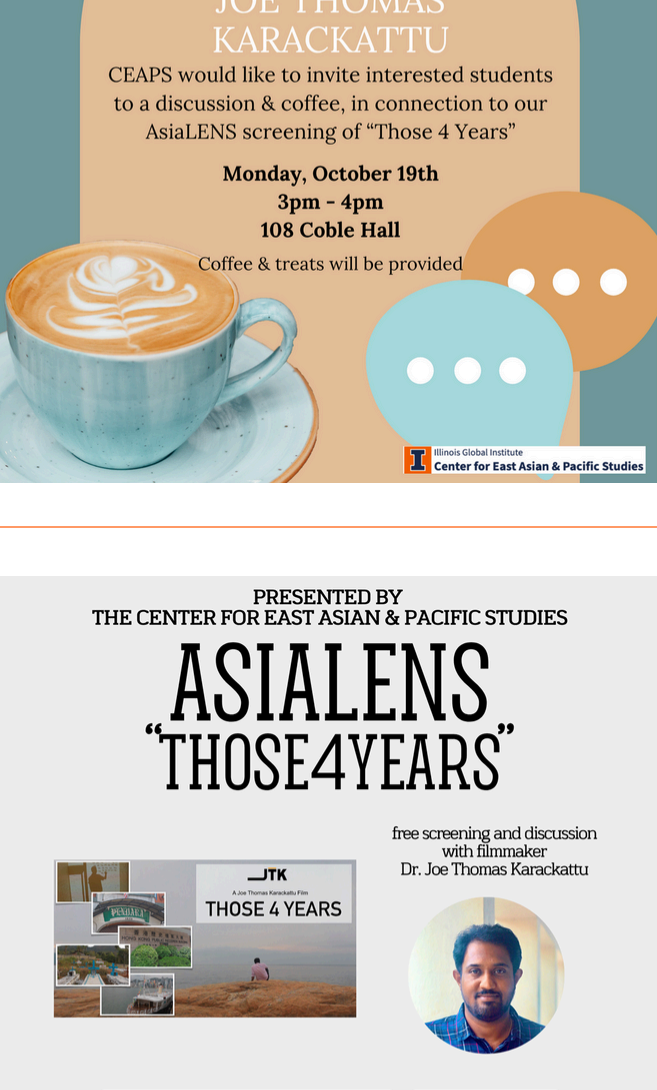
CEAPS Speaker/Political Science Workshop | "Is Soft Power a Zero-Sum Competition?" | Austin Strange (University of Hong Kong)

📅 October 16th
🕒 12:00 - 1:00 pm
📍 404 Coble Hall

Abstract:
Using an original survey experiment in Thailand, Strange tested whether and how American- and Chinese-sponsored development activities reflecting different reputational elements affect views toward both governments. The findings show when soft power is built on a reputation for being a principled actor who does things the right way, it is generally perceived as zero-sum. However, when soft power is instead based on a reputation for being competent at completing concrete tasks, zero-sum perceptions weaken. Our findings deepen efforts to theorize soft power by illuminating conditions under which soft power competition may be more and less intense.

More Information & Registration

Events Next Week

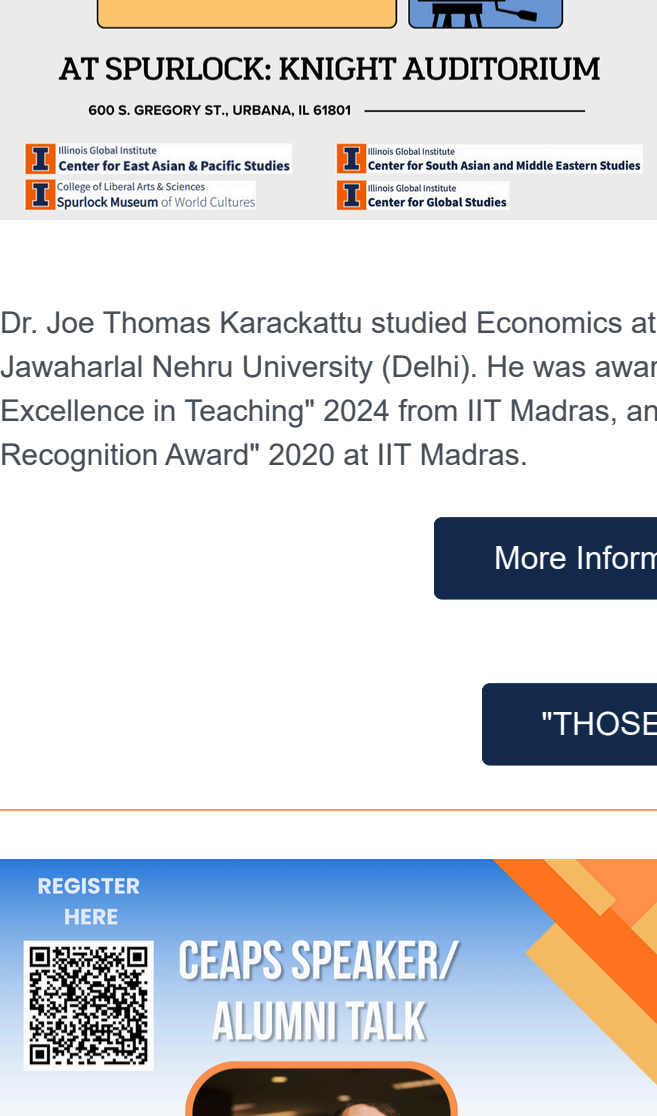


Coffee Talk with Dr. Joe Thomas Karachattu

📅 October 19th
🕒 3:00 - 4:00 pm
📍 108 Coble Hall

This event is open to everyone! Join us this Monday for a fun coffee talk with professor and filmmaker Dr. Joe Thomas Karachattu. Dr. Karachattu is a professor with the Humanities and Social Sciences Department at IIT Madras. He was a Fox Fellow (2008–2009) at Yale University, Centenary Visiting Fellow (2013) at SOAS, University of London and CISLI Fellow with the India-China Institute at the New School, New York (2017-19). CEAPS will be presenting his film "THOSE4YEARS" later the same day at 6 pm.

More Information & Registration



AsiaLENS | "THOSE4YEARS"
Free Screening + Discussion with Filmmaker Dr. Joe Thomas Karackattu

📅 October 19th
🕒 6:00 pm
📍 Spurlock Museum, Knight Auditorium 600 S. Gregory St., Urbana, IL 61801

Synopsis:
The film is an amazing journey into the lives of those Chinese who came to India around the middle of the 19th century... speaking a language unknown to their neighbors when they first arrived. It journeys across three countries and reams of colonial office records to retrace the places those people came from, the means and mode of their arrival, and how many of them ended up making India their home.

About the Filmmaker:
Dr. Joe Thomas Karackattu studied Economics at St. Stephen's College (Delhi) and Chinese studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University (Delhi). He was awarded the "Srimathi Marti Annapurna Gurunath Award for Excellence in Teaching" 2024 from IIT Madras, and was previously recipient of the "Young Faculty Recognition Award" 2020 at IIT Madras.

More Information & Registration

"THOSE4YEARS" Trailer



CEAPS Speaker/Alumni Talk | "The Anime Studies/Appetizer Sampler" Billy Tringali (Indiana University Indianapolis)

📅 October 23th
🕒 1:30 - 3:00 pm
📍 1000 Lincoln Hall

Join anime scholar and the founder of the *Journal of Anime and Manga Studies* for an exciting, hour-long lecture discussing the current state of the field of anime and manga studies.

About the Speaker:
Billy Tringali is the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Anime and Manga Studies, and Founder and Academic Showrunner for the JASM@AX Academic Symposium at Anime Expo, the largest anime convention in North America. Billy is a Faculty Librarian at Indiana University Indianapolis, where he serves as

liaison for First-Year Sciences, Undergraduate Research, and Health Sciences. Billy is an alum of the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, graduating with his Master of Library & Information Science in 2019.

More Information & Registration

AAS Film Expo 2027

1 Week Left to Submit!

The Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies (CEAPS) at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, in partnership with the [Association for Asian Studies \(AAS\)](#), is pleased to announce an open call for films for the AAS 2027 Film Expo. The Film Expo will be held concurrently with the [AAS 2027 Annual Conference](#) in Boston, MA, March 18-21, 2027.

Our film submission deadline is **October 16, 2026**.

The AAS Film Expo is curated and organized by the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies (CEAPS) at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, in partnership with the Association for Asian Studies. Questions may be sent to ceaps@illinois.edu with the subject line "AAS 2027 Film Expo/NAME OF FILM."

More Info & Registration

Upcoming Opportunities

CEAPS Fall 2026 Travel Grant Due Date is October 15th

The Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies is giving out Travel Grants for students and faculty who plan to either present their research at a conference or conduct fieldwork in a East Asian, Southeast Asian or Greater Pacific Country. For those who are interested in conducting or presenting their research, please apply for the CEAPS Fall 2026 Travel Grant before midnight on **October 15th, 2026**. Awards will be announced in November, 2026. The proposed travel plan should take place no later than November 30th, 2027 or about 12 months after the awards are announced. Students interested in getting a CEAPS Travel Grant in the Spring should also look into our Spring 2027 Review. For more information regarding the qualifications and requirements of the CEAPS Fall 2026 Travel Grant as well as a link to the application itself, please visit our calendar page linked below.

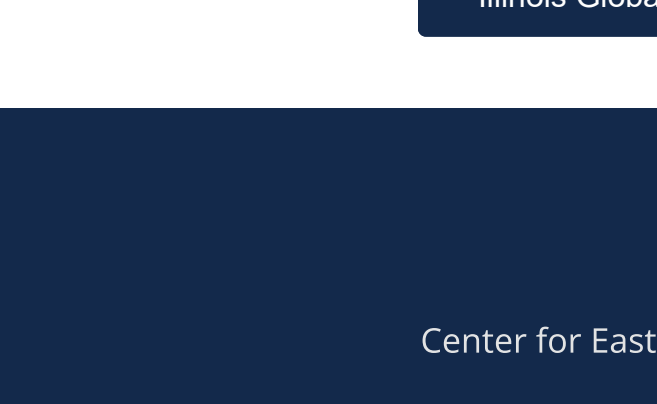
More Information & Application

International Graduate Student Conference 2027

International Graduate Student Conference is an excellent opportunity for emerging scholars to present their work on a regional scale, and since 2001, it has served as a nexus of interdisciplinary and multi-cultural exchange. Building on the last 25 years, this year's conference theme is *Weaving Knowledge for Shared Indo-Pacific Prosperity*, with the goal of this year's conference being to explore how cross-cultural dialogue, relational learning, innovation, and collective action can make communities more resilient, build sustainable economies, and foster regional cooperation. As researchers and emerging scholars, we harness the potential to address economic security in the Indo-Pacific Region, and we would be grateful for your participation in weaving knowledge systems to cultivate shared Indo-Pacific prosperity.

The International Graduate Student Conference 2027 will take place from **February 11-13, 2027** at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. The deadline for abstract submissions for paper and poster presentations is **September 30th, 2026 at 11:59 pm**. If you have any questions, concerns, or need additional information, please contact us at igsc@eastwestcenter.org.

International Graduate Student Conference Website



CSGGE Lunch Series: Ting Ting Zhang

Dr. Tingting Zhang, School of Labor and Employment Relations gives lunch talk, "Pushed out and Boxed In: Gendered Silence and Exit Orientation in China's Tech Industry" on Thursday, October 15th. She argues that silence in such environment is not a uniform response to constrained institutional conditions, but it shaped by the gendered social positions workers occupy.

This series is co-sponsored by the LAS Office of Inclusive Excellence.

Lunch Provided with Registration

Illinois Global Institute Student Feedback

CEAPS Students and Affiliates

To support and enhance student experience, the Illinois Global Institute (IGI), CEAPS' parent unit, would like to know what research and professional activities students engaged in area, global, and thematic studies are interested in. We are already planning to host a career exploration day in Spring collaboratively with IGI and the other centers (see [previous examples of Career Day](#)), but are there other activities and programs that would help you on your research or professional path?

Please fill out the [IGI Student Event Feedback 1](#) by Oct 14. It will only take a couple of minutes to fill out!

We appreciate your input and look forward to learning about your interests!

IGI Event Feedback 1 Form

Illinois Global Institute Career Day