Dear Colleagues, Students and Friends,

Welcome to our final newsletter for this most unusual academic year. In various ways, we all accommodated to and suffered through more than a year of the pandemic, Covid-19 continued to have devastating impact in Asia, and most recently in India where more than half a billion people may have contract the disease.

We end this unusual year with a successful series of public events for which many of you on campus and beyond joined us on zoom. As we hope to return to life on campus in the near future, we also will continue to reach out in digital formats to audiences beyond ASU.

Over the summer, we expect to move the Center’s offices to the second floor of a newly renovated Durham Hall. We anticipate that we will have more and better facilitates for hosting events and interacting with students and faculty.

In recent weeks, we have been able to finalize Title VI awards FLAS for 33 undergraduate and graduate students studying Asian languages and area studies during this coming summer and the next academic year. Please take a moment to read through the list of fellows below.

I want to thank all who contributed to the Center’s activities over the past year. The Executive Committee, comprising James Rush, Alexander Henn and William Hedberg as well as members of the FLAS Selection Committee invested precious time and energy into making this difficult year a success. A special thank-you to our Associated Director William Hedberg for organizing the speaker series. Chan Lwin, our Center and FLAS Coordinator, mentored FLAS fellows and ensured that everything happened as intended. To all, a heartfelt thanks, and best wishes for an even better summer.

Juliane Schober
Director
This year marks three decades of a most accomplished teaching career for Lê Phan Thúy Kim, Senior Lecturer, who began to offer Vietnamese language courses in 1991, at a time when very few U.S. universities did. Kim Le, however, put all of her energy into this endeavor to develop a curriculum for teaching Vietnamese, from first year to advanced levels as well as courses about culture and related content areas. She was instrumental in developing multimedia and technology in language teaching and learning, proficiency guidelines, and contemporary literature.

Her commitment to engage her students in Vietnamese studies went well beyond the classroom. During the early days, in the basement of Durham Hall, Kim would come in on Friday morning, bearing pots and pans and plates, full of fragrant Vietnamese dishes. Word got around and soon, it wasn’t just her students who wandered down into the basement on Fridays for a free and delicious Vietnamese meal -with all of the condiments and side dishes. Soon, thirty and forty undergraduates, graduate students and professors working on Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines also participated in that became a lively and successful brown bag series that continued for several years. It was an event not to be missed and from it, all sorts of initiatives developed that went well beyond introducing students to Vietnamese cuisine. Indeed, when the janitorial staff began to object to these “unauthorized events,” we invited them too to enjoy some of Kim Le’s pop-up restaurant. And I think Kim Le also convinced her mother and other family members to help with the cooking preparations. Those were the days, my friends....!

Kim Le’s professional involvements reached well beyond ASU to national and international levels as she was instrumental in the formation of the professional organization for teachers of Vietnamese, namely the Group of Universities for the Advancement of Vietnamese in America (GUAVA). Over the years, she served as GUAVA’s Chair of Academic Affairs, Vice President, and Chair of Proficiency Guidelines Committee.

In September 2002, Lê Phan Thúy-Kim received Outstanding Post-Secondary Educator of the Year award at the Arizona Language Association and an award for her community contributions from the Vietnamese Community in Arizona in 2006.
Between 1997 and 2019, Kim Le developed and published many textbooks, audio-visual teaching materials and online resources for teaching Vietnamese that appeared in several revised editions over the years. These publications are listed below. She felt that language usage in Vietnamese had changed enough that learners needed new and contemporary teaching materials. And most recently, Kim developed two first year courses for online learners, the first such curriculum for Vietnamese ever.

Kim Le’s success in developing an entire curriculum for the field of Vietnamese language study is unmatched at other universities. In addition to her enormous productivity, she is a great colleague and collaborator. She is a generous mentor to younger colleagues at ASU and at other institutions. We wish her well in her new endeavors and we will miss her in Asian studies, SILC and in the professional organizations. Most of all, we congratulate Lê Phạm Thuý-Kim on her achievements of her unrivaled career over thirty years of teaching, mentoring and curriculum development.

Publications:

- **Workbook Manual to accompany Chúng ta nói**, Lê-Nguyễn Press, August 2007
- **Chúng ta nói - An Intermediate Text** - University of Washington Press, 2001
- **Activities Manual** to accompany Spoken Vietnamese for Beginners- Books 1 & 2, 1997
- **Online Vietnamese Reading Program** and **Online Vietnamese Listening Program**, partially funded by the LCTL Mini-Grant project of CARLA, University of Minnesota
- **Learning Vietnamese through Songs** - An online language program partially funded by the LCTL Mini-Grant project of CARLA, University of Minnesota.
- **A Glimpse of Vietnam** - An online language program partially funded by the LCTL Mini-Grant project of CARLA, University of Minnesota.
- **Online Review Activities** - online activities for learners of Vietnamese
You are invited to join the virtual webinar this Friday. This Faculty Research Presentations will feature an invited Speaker, Dr. Russell Jeung, and moderated by Dr. H.L.T. Quan. This is a part of 3-part event on "Anti-Asian Racism" for the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) heritage month (celebrated in April for ASU) in collaboration with the ASU Asian/Asian Pacific American Student Coalition (AAPASC). For more information about the event, please click on the flyer. To register, please click on the link below.

**New Book Announcement**

Congratulations to **Professor Judit Kroo** (SILC) on the publication of her new book, *Linguistic Tactics and Strategies of Marginalization in Japanese*. Professor Kroo’s volume, co-edited with Kyoko Sato of Yokohama City University in Japan, was published by Palgrave MacMillan in March.

**Overview:**
This edited book brings together studies on different aspects of marginalization in Japanese, creating a framework for studying marginalization which can also be applied in other linguistic and international contexts. The chapters in this book look at both marginalization of others and self-marginalization, examining the pragmatic strategies used to achieve marginalization, and investigating situations where it acts as an agentive tactic of speakers, in addition to a strategy of broader social structures. This book will be of interest to students and scholars of sociolinguistics, pragmatics, linguistic anthropology, and East Asian languages and cultures.
Fall Asia-Course: Contemporary Art of Southeast Asia

Interested in Southeast Asia? Register for ARS 394 for Fall semester. ARS 394: Contemporary Art of Southeast Asia will explore the contemporary art of Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines in all the various media including painting, sculptor, installations, performance, and video. The course will focus on the art of the late twentieth century (1980s on) and twenty-first century. This course will be taught by Professor Ralph Gabbard and will be available on both iCourse and ASU online.

PAST EVENT

2021 Annual Staley Lecture
An Art of Listening: Murakami Haruki & the Structure of Literature

Presented by Professor Michael Emmerich (UCLA)

April 6 & April 12, 2021 at 4:00pm

For more information & to access recommended reading, please click on the link below.

Toward Canon-Building in Pansori, Korean Traditional Storysinging

Presented by Emeritus Professor Chan E. Park (OSU)

April 14, 2021 at 3:00 pm

For more information & an abstract, please click on the link below.
Summer 2021 Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellows

Congratulations to our Summer 2021 FLAS Fellows who will be studying various languages domestic and abroad.

- Brigham Blackhurst (Chinese)
- Armando Hernandez (Chinese)
- Jamaica Murray (Chinese)
- Samantha Rettig (Chinese)
- Emma Strouse (Chinese)
- Kobe Walker (Chinese)
- Pui See Wong (Japanese)

AY 2021-2022 Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellows

Congratulations to our AY 2021-2022 FLAS Fellows who will be studying various languages domestic and abroad.

Graduate Fellows
- John Billing - PhD Candidate (Chinese)
- Emily Creasman - Master's Student (Korean)
- Sarah Gossett - PhD Candidate (Japanese)
- Blayne Harcey - PhD Candidate (Nepali)
- Antonella Morgillo - PhD Candidate (Japanese)
- Trixy Struck - PhD Candidate (Chinese)

Undergraduate Fellows
- Eleanor Barden (Korean)
- Mckenzie Biondo (Korean)
- Brigham Blackhurst (Chinese)
- Danielle Brister (Chinese)
- Dylan Brooks (Chinese)
- Sarah Leever (Japanese)
- Rebecca Lynn Cabral (Korean)
- Sarah Cichomski (Chinese)
- Jeremy Parker (Chinese)
- Jaydi Ramirez (Korean)
- Noah Sanderson (Japanese)
- Lorena Solorzano (Korean)
- Bronson Soza (Chinese)
- Kobe Walker (Chinese)
- Sophia Weinzinger (Chinese)
- Madeleine Zheng (Chinese)

To see the profiles of current FLAS Fellows, please click HERE to access their biographies.

Contact Information
If you have questions about the content of this newsletter or want information about classes offered in Asian Studies, please contact us at Asia@asu.edu.

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