

Issue 4, February 20, 2017



News

**Asia Mediated Lecture Series:
Big Data in China:
Big Dreams, and Big Brother
Dr. Wenhong Chen
Friday, February 24, 12:30-2 PM
Coor 4403**

Big data are having a big time in China, demonstrating many contradictions and complexities of Chinese society: the world's largest market of Internet and mobile users with persistent digital divides, rapid economic development and tightening political control, new forms of civic engagement and pervasive surveillance. The Chinese state has set big data as the top national strategy to achieve the Chinese dream. Big data have generated great expectation and concerns in the developed world, challenging conventional modes of social formation and knowledge production. Yet, research on big data practices and politics in China remains underdeveloped. Drawing on the political economy approach of media sociology, this research critically examines how political and technological forces affect government and corporate construction and exchange of big data in China. Using publicly assessable government and corporate documents, media coverage, and digital data, it illustrates the emerging big data regime and industry in China and makes visible the powers in and on big data, especially how the party state uses big data to reproduce and repurpose its institutional logics. Wenhong Chen is assistant professor in the Department of Radio-TV-Film and the Department of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Toronto and was a SSHRC postdoctoral fellow at Duke University. Her research focuses on digital media technologies in multiethnic, entrepreneurial, and civic settings.

**Lecture: Martyred Patriarchs, Institutionalized Virtues,
and the Gendered Republic of Twentieth-Century China**

Linh Dam Vu

University of California, Berkeley

Tuesday, February 21, Coor 4403, 1:30-3PM

**Conference: Voicing Alterity:
East Asian Texts in the Languages of Others
February 24-25**

The School of International Letters and Cultures presents a two-day conference on Voicing Alterity: East Asian Texts in the Languages of Others. The conference will take place in the Social Sciences building room 205 from 9AM to 5:30PM on February 24 and from 9AM to 4:30PM on February 25, and features speakers from ASU, University of Arizona, University of Puget Sound, and Ohio State University. The event is free and open to the public. For more information please go to: <https://asuevents.asu.edu/content/voicing-alterity-east-asian-texts-language-others>.

Internships at Phoenix Art Museum

Summer 2017 and Fall 2017 internship applications are open! Phoenix Art Museum offers 13 internships during the Summer Session and 14 internships in the Fall Session. Summer 2017 internships begin Monday, June 5, 2017 and end Friday, August 4, 2017 (9 weeks). Fall 2017 internships begin Monday, September 11, 2017 and end Friday, December 8, 2017 (12 weeks). Applications for both internship sessions are due Friday, March 17, 2017. Apply online at <http://www.phxart.org/education/interns>.

AAR Religion in Southeast Asia: Call for Papers

The American Academy of Religion welcomes paper proposals on religion in Southeast Asia for the AAR annual conference in Boston in November, including contributions on any topic pertaining to religion in the region. They are particularly interested in papers and sessions that explore the varying media and means through which people create and maintain, as well as question and challenge, religiously-laden vulnerabilities. Possible topics and formats might include, for example, a roundtable discussion on inclusiveness and diversity in the academy, with specific reference to religion in Southeast Asia. Another possibility would be an organized panel on queer spiritualities, or the mounting challenges faced by LGBTQIA scholars in religious studies—or, again, new forms of religious bigotry and persecution in Southeast Asia, with a comparative eye to developments in Europe and America. For more information see: <https://papers.aarweb.org/content/religion-southeast-asia-unit>.

Study Abroad in Laos: 2017 Sage Scholarship Announcement

ASU offers an annual scholarship of \$3,000.00 for an undergraduate student to spend several weeks traveling in Laos, ordinarily (but not necessarily) over the summer. The recipient must be a full-time undergraduate student during the Spring Semester 2017 and have completed 56 hours, or four semesters, of study. Recipients of the Sage Scholarship are expected to spend at least three weeks in Laos but are free to travel elsewhere in Southeast Asia during their trip. After returning home, they will make an informal presentation about what they have seen and learned and submit a final project report. To date, ten ASU undergraduates have traveled to Laos as Sage Scholars. The application deadline is March 6, 2017, and an application form can be downloaded from: <https://car.clas.asu.edu/news-and-events/2017-sage-family-southeast-asian-studies-scholarship-accepting-applications/> For questions, contact Professor James Rush at james.rush@asu.edu. Our 2016 Sage Scholarship awardee was Brynn Szukala. Brynn recorded her travels and made a wonderful video available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hAKUamxe60>.

The Pattana Kitiarsa SEAC Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper

The Association for Asian Studies Southeast Asia Council's annual prize recognizes emerging scholarship in the field of Southeast Asian studies, from any disciplinary perspective. Graduate students at any stage, enrolled at the time of submission, are eligible and welcome to apply. The committee invites papers that fit the definition of "conference papers," i.e. of a length and scope that can be presented on an AAS panel, and that make an intellectual and/or methodological contribution to the study of Southeast Asia. The prize honors the memory of Pattana Kitiarsa who was Associate Professor in the Department of Southeast Asian Studies, National University of Singapore. Please submit your 2017 conference paper, proof of current doctoral program registration, and panel abstract in PDF format up until March 19, 2017 to Tom Pepinsky at seacpaperprize@gmail.com. Submissions should be approximately 7,000 words maximum. Any questions regarding the prize can be sent to the same email address. The award of \$500 and a certificate along with up to \$400 in travel funds to attend the AAS Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in 2018 will be presented at the 2018 AAS Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

10th Annual Korea-America Student Conference

February is the final month to apply for the 10th Korea-America Student Conference (KASC) to take place in Summer 2017 in the United States. KASC is a student-led month-long academic and cultural exchange that includes delegates from the United States and South Korea. As it is student-led, delegates take an active role and contribute towards the success of the program. Student participate in spirited discussions throughout the conference as they work towards strengthening U.S.-Korea relations. The application deadline is March 1, but applicants are chosen on a rolling basis. for more information, please see <http://iscdc.org/kasc/>.

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships

The Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship Program provides opportunities to doctoral candidates to engage in full-time dissertation research abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies. The program is designed to deepen research knowledge of languages and cultures not generally included in U.S. curricula. More broadly, Fulbright-Hays programs aim to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through educational and cultural exchange. More information is available here: https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsddrap/applicant.html?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=; the deadline is March 14, 2017.

Fellowship for Graduate Students from CHIBS

The Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies has launched an annual fellowship program for graduate students who are working on pre-modern Chinese Buddhism. This fellowship is to support MA thesis research, PhD dissertation research and PhD dissertation writing. For MA students the fellowship will be awarded to students at two stages of research for thesis writing for a grant of up to US \$3000. For PhD Students the fellowship will be awarded to students at three stages of research: pre-generals reconnaissance research (up to US \$4,000); post-generals dissertation research (up to US \$10,000); dissertation writing (up to US \$10,000). An applicant can only apply for one fellowship at a time. Deadline for submission of application materials is March 1st 2017. Applications will only be considered for projects that begin on or after March 1st each year. For more details, see http://www.chibs.edu.tw/eng_html/index_eng00_08.html or write to grant@chibs.edu.tw.

AIPS Short Term and Summer Grants

The American Institute of Pakistan Studies is delighted to announce Short-term/Summer Research Grants to Pakistan for 2017. This grant is open to those who are affiliated with an academic institution in the US, regardless of citizenship. AIPS strongly encourages graduate students enrolled in a US university to apply. US citizen applicants will be required to conduct research in either Islamabad or Lahore. All research must be conducted by December 31, 2017. It is assumed that grantees will spend one to three months in Pakistan conducting research on this award. In order to apply, you must be an AIPS Individual member. Please see the AIPS website for more information on how to apply: <http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/short-termsummer-research-grants-pakistan>. Application Deadline: February 15, 2017.