

**ASU** Center for  
**Asian Research**  
Arizona State University

*January Newsletter*

## Message from the Interim Director, James Rush

Hello friends and colleagues,

Welcome to the new semester, which we launched last week with our colleague Aaron Moore's lunch-time talk based on research partially funded by an A.T. Steele grant from the Center. Many thanks, Aaron. There will be three more Steele talks this spring: by Huaiyu Chen, Heewon Kim, and Indulata Prasad. Faculty members, keep in mind that a new Steele Grant competition is now underway. The deadline is March 15.



On Thursday, January 31 at noon, in Coor 6615, we invite everyone to come to the Center to meet Keri Orcutt, the 2018 Sage Scholar. Keri is the 11th ASU student sponsored by our friend and benefactor Bill Sage (ASU '68) to travel and study in Laos over the summer. She will make a brief presentation about her travels. Our new competition for the Sage Scholarship is now underway. Look for more information below.

Also, we invite everyone to attend the lecture by Professor Mikihiro Moriyama of Nanzan University in Japan on Monday, February 4. (See below.) Moriyama is a leading scholar of Indonesia in Japan and will be sharing his research on the evolution of language policies from colonial times to the present.

Finally, I want to remind everyone of the Foreign Language and Areas Studies FLAS scholarship competitions now underway. FLAS scholarships provide generous funding for undergraduate and graduate students studying Asian languages. Announcements below.

Have a good semester, everyone.

JR  
Interim Director

# RESEARCH & FELLOWSHIPS

## SAGE FAMILY SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP

**DUE February 15, 2019**

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 2019 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.

If you are interested in this opportunity this year, please see the link below. You will need to submit the application materials no later than **Friday February 15, 2019**. Please see the application form for details. A faculty committee will make the final selection.

For questions, contact James Rush at [james.rush@asu.edu](mailto:james.rush@asu.edu).

[More info](#)

## ACADEMIC YEAR FLAS FELLOWSHIP

**DUE March 1, 2019**

The AY Foreign Language and Area Studies award provides eligible undergraduate students with a \$5,000 stipend and up to \$10,000 in tuition and fees. Eligible graduate students will receive a \$15,000 stipend and up to \$18,000 in tuition and fees.

Applicants must have 2 letters of recommendation, language evaluation, and a statement of purpose. Applicants must have at least 2nd-year knowledge of the language in which they are applying for.

[More info](#)

# LECTURES & EVENTS

## SAGE TALK & INFO-SESSION

JANUARY 31, 12 PM

There will be an informational session with this year's Sage scholar on Thursday, January 31, 2019 at noon in COOR 6615. Keri Orcutt is an undergraduate student and the 2018 recipient of "The Sage Family Southeast Asian Studies Scholarship. She is majoring in Public Relations and has travelled to Laos and backpacked throughout the region.



RSVP

## STEELE LECTURE SERIES

### SPRING LECTURES

Our first A.T. Steele Lecture was provided by Dr. Aaron Moore on Dams as Assemblages of Power. It was an engaging talk where many of you have attended. For more information and the abstract, please visit [\(here\)](#).

We would like to invite you to the rest of the Spring 2019 A.T. Steele Lecture Series. These lectures will be held once a month at noon in COOR 6635, and will be provided by ASU faculty members who have received A.T. Steele Faculty Grant. Lunch will be provided to those who RSVP one week prior to the lecture.

**February 20, 2019** – Buddhist Monumentality and Its Paradox: The Rise and Fall of Stone Lanterns in Medieval China – Dr. Huaiyu Chen

**March 19, 2019** – Unleashing Voices through Anonymous Communication: Power Disparities, Workplace Free of Speech, and Organizational Dissent in South Korea – Dr. Heewon Kim

**April 17, 2019** – Women in the Bodhgaya Land Movement: Mainstreaming Gender in Social Mobilization in Bihar, India – Dr. Indulata Prasad

RSVP

# LECTURES & EVENTS

## MULTILINGUAL SOCIETIES AND LANGUAGE POLICY IN INDONESIA

February 4, 3 pm

There will be a presentation by a guest speaker, Professor Moriyama, at 3:00 pm to 4:00pm on February 4, 2019 at the MU 224, Gila. It will cover the language situation from Dutch colonial period and go through the 21 st century by paying attention to language policy.

[More info](#)

## JAPANESE HEALTHCARE AND AN AGING POPULATION

February 4, 4:30 pm

There will be a presentation by a guest speaker, Professor Takakazu Yamagishi, at 4:30 pm to 5:30pm on February 4, 2019 at the MU 207, Gold. In his lecture, Dr. Yamagishi will discuss the history of the Japanese healthcare system and analyze the current problems Japan faces.

[More info](#)

## Student Spotlight: PhD Student, James Edmond

James Edmonds is a Ph.D. Candidate at Arizona State University in the Anthropology of Religion tract in the Religious Studies Department. His dissertation, "Hunting Baraka: The Spiritual Materiality and the Material Spirituality Reconfiguring the Indonesian Islamic Landscape," views the devotional singing performances of Habib Syech bin Abdul Qadir Assegaf across Indonesia and other parts of Asia as spaces in which reconfigurations of piety, identity, and strategies for living Islamically are indexed to baraka, often translated as blessings.



[Click here](#)