March Newsletter

Message from the Director, Juliane Schober

Dear Colleagues, Students, and Friends,

How quickly things can change in this globally connected world we live in. I hope that all of you are healthy and largely sheltered in place. For most of us, our professional activities have moved to virtual contexts where students continue to learn, graduate students take comprehensive exams, and many faculty members meet their teaching and service obligations via zoom. It is good that we have these coping mechanisms available to us so we can continue our work and lives as much as possible the way we have before the virus became a global epidemic.

Actual travel, of course, has been largely restricted and that has several consequences for all of us. Summer FLAS award recipients have been asked to identify US-based institutions providing appropriate language instruction. There may also be options for summer teaching online, and we will share details once a clear direction emerges. We remain in contact with our summer FLAS recipients to help them navigate suitable options.

We are making progress with our evaluation of Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships for the coming academic year. We have a very strong pool of applicants and are looking to make combined awards of a total of $400,000 to both undergraduate and graduate students. And although the total available fellowship funds for next year are exceptionally high, we anticipate funding one out of every three applications. Next month’s newsletter will announce all of the new FLAS recipients.

The deadline for A.T. Steele Faculty Travel Awards has also been extended to May 1 in the hope that we will have greater certainty and capacity to plan by then. Applications are being accepted now, and forms can be downloaded at A.T. Steele Faculty Grant.

I want to direct your attention to several Asia related Facebook sites described in this newsletter, some of them are substantive and possibly of interest to you and your students. Please take a look. Also, please share with us other sites you would like us to highlight.

In keeping with the COVID 19 theme and perhaps also to encourage us all to be empathic and look for the light at the end of the tunnel, I encourage you to watch a documentary YouTube video that Beiyin Deng, doctoral student in Religious Studies, shared online: The Lockdown: One Month in Wuhan.

Stay healthy and hopeful,

Juliane Schober
Director
Opportunities

Freeman-ASIA Study Abroad Scholarship
Various Due Dates
Freeman Awards for Study in Asia (Freeman-ASIA) provides scholarships for U.S. undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need to study abroad in East or Southeast Asia. This is a need-based funding to assist with tuition, living costs and travel expenses. Click on the box below for more information.

AAIS Fellowship Competition
Due July 1, 2020
The American institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) invites applications from scholars from all disciplines who wish to conduct their research in India. Junior fellowships (up to 11 months) & Senior fellowships (short term and long term) are available. Creative and Performing Arts fellowships are available to practitioners of the arts of India. Applications can be downloaded from the web site: www.indiastudies.org. For more information, please contact the American Institute of Indian Studies (773) 702-8638 or email aais@uchicago.edu.

A.T. Steele Faculty Grant Applications
March 27, 2020
The Center for Asian Research invites your applications for travel funds to Asia under the A.T. Steele endowment program. The travel funds can be up to $4,000 each. These funds will be available to use in 2020-2021 Academic Year. For applications and the past recipients projects, please click on the link below.

The Aaron Stephen Moore Fund
Last September, we unexpected lost our colleague and friend Aaron Moore. Professor Moore is a scholar of modern Japan and East Asia. Dr. Moore's family have graciously established a gift to honor his memory and scholarly career, the Aaron Stephen Moore Fund. The fund will be used to provide grants and awards in the study of Asia to undergraduate and graduate students at ASU, as well as to faculty members. We would like you encourage you to consider making a contribution to the fund in Aaron's honor. Please click on the link below to give online.

Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute
Due April 6, 2020
Join the Southeast Asia Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) hosted by University of Wisconsin - Madison. SEASSI is an eight-week intensive language training program for undergraduates, graduate students and professionals. Instruction is offered for academic credit in eight languages at the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year levels. FLAS scholarships (see the announcement above), SEASSI scholarship, and WISLI tuition scholarships are available. For more information about the program, please visit the link below.
Events

A.T. Steele Lecture Series
Postponed until Fall Semester

Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, the 2020 A.T. Steele Lecture Series will be postponed until Fall Semester. We hope that you will be able to join us when we resume our normal operations.

A.T. Steele Lecture
Soekarno & Lopez Mateos
Canceled

Unfortunately, Professor Chris Lundry's talk which is scheduled for next Thursday will be canceled. Please see the abstract on the left for a fascinating history and foreign policy of the two countries.

Social Media Links for Asia Studies Resources

As we migrate to online classes and virtual meetings, we would like to share a few resources related to Asian Studies. These include websites, social media pages and groups where scholars and students can network academically and professionally. Please click on the link below for a list of these resources.

Web Resources

Past Events
National Differentiation and Imagined Authenticity
By Dr. Sangmi Lee, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Center for Asian Research would like to thank Professor Lee for providing the talk on National Differentiation and Imagined Authenticity: The Hmong New Year's Celebration in Multicultural Laos and the United States. It was a very interesting and interactive event. We would like to extend our gratitudes to those who have attended the event as well.