Not-So-Crazy Rich: Elite Asians & the Re-Worlding of American Racial Hierarchy

by Professor Aihwa Ong, Robert H. Lowie Distinguished Chair in Anthropology (UC Berkeley)

In an age of unsurpassed mobility, the meaning of "Asian" is mutating within global mediascapes that entangle images, narratives, and norms.

March 16, 2021 at 4:00 pm

https://asu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Uw-qRLWoRf2Y93insBEp1A

Registration is required to join. For more information and an abstract, please click HERE.
NEWS

A Message from the Director

Dear Colleagues, Students and Friends,

As you already gleaned from this newsletter's front page, The Center for Asian Research is delighted to welcome Professor Aihwa Ong, Robert H. Lowie Distinguished Chair in Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley who will represent the 2021 Lecture on Asia. She conducts ethnographic research at the intersection of socio-culture anthropology, urban studies, science, technology & medicine, and contemporary art, all themes that are of interest to multiple audiences at ASU. She is the 2020 SSRC Fellow and a former recipient of the McArthur Award.

**Not-So-Crazy Rich: Elite Asians & the Re-Worlding of American Racial Hierarchy** is the title of Professor Ong’s zoom lecture on **Tuesday, March 16 at 4 pm**. She argues that "In an age of unsurpassed mobility, the meaning of 'Asian' is mutating within global mediascapes that entangle images, narratives, and norms." A full abstract can be found [here](#). Please share this invitation to her talk widely with colleague and students.

Her second ASU engagement on Biopolitics: The Construction of the Human is a transdisciplinary and transregional discussion with ASU faculty and graduate students of her recent work on biopolitics, post-genomic theories and governance in Asian and Western context. You can access excerpts of her writing and register for both events [here](#).

But wait, there is more! Blayne Harcey, doctoral candidate in Religious Studies is presenting his work on diverse historical constructions of Lumbini, the birth place of the Buddha, this Friday, March 5th. In April, we look forward to Michael Emmrich’s (UCLA) presentation of the 2021 Robert Staley Lecture on modern Japanese literature and translation. A third lecture supported by the Korea Foundation is planned for later in April.

And please take another look at our ever-changing and always updated website, now with a new vanity url: [asianstudies.asu.edu](http://asianstudies.asu.edu). You can access recent keynote lectures from the SILC graduate students’ conference on Chinese literature. The site now features a new section on pertinent news about Asia and we invite you to send us poignant reports that capture recent events. The site also boasts interview with FLAS Fellows and some outstanding student projects.

A special note of thanks to the member of our FLAS Selection Committee and also to Chan Lwin for their dedicated work on the FLAS applications. We've received a large number of fellowship applications and look forward to sharing more news about the awards soon.

Last but not least, I'd like to ask you to consider making a donation to the Center for Asian Research on Sun Devil Giving Day, Thursday, March 18. Your generosity will help facilitate the activities of the Center for Asian Research, our students, and faculty. Thank you for your support.

With my best wishes,
Juliane Schober

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.

The Center for Asian Research
Lattie F. Coor Hall
Room 3355
Tempe, Arizona
Website: [car.clas.asu.edu](http://car.clas.asu.edu)
Undergraduate Diversity Fellowship

Due: March 28, 2021

The Undergraduate Diversity Fellowship at The National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR) offers four-month summer fellowships to extend educational, professional, and mentorship opportunities to freshman and sophomore college students interested in pursuing a career in international affairs or Asia policy. After an orientation period in May, fellows spend the summer gaining experience in project management, research, writing, and editing to build skills for future careers. NBR provides a stipend during both the orientation and immersion portions of the fellowship. Due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Undergraduate Diversity Fellowship will be entirely virtual in 2021. For more information and to apply, please click on the link below.

Undergrad Diversity Fellowship

Graduate Research Seminar

Locating Lumbini: Theravada and Modernity on the Frontier of Nepal

by Blayne Harcey, PhD Candidate, Religious Studies

Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 at 12:00 pm

For a link to join or an abstract, please click on the link below.

Locating Lumbini

Biopolitics: The Construction of the Human

A Faculty Discussion with

Aihwa Ong, Professor and Robert H. Lowie Distinguished Chair in Anthropology (UC Berkeley)

Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 4:00 pm

Professor Ong's recent work on biopolitics, post-genomic theories and governance in Asian and Western contexts will provide points of departure in this transdisciplinary and transregional conversation with ASU faculty and graduate students.

Register HERE
Desi Tunes, Arizona's longest running Indian music radio show, has been nominated for an Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS) Award in the Best Foreign Language Program category! The show, which airs on KASC Blaze Radio, is produced and hosted by Ranjani Venkatakrishnan, a graduate student at Walter Cronkite and a FLAS fellow for Japanese. To read more, please click on the link below.

Sun Devil Giving Day

Your secure online gift to the Center for Asian Research represents an investment in the center's success today - and in the future. Funds will be deposited with the ASU Foundation, a separate non-profit organization that exists to advance ASU as a New American University. We thank you for your generous support. To give, please click on the link below to be redirected to ASU foundation.

SILC Graduate Conference Keynote Speeches

Video links for the keynote speeches by Professor Michael Berry (UCLA) and Professor Katherine Alexander (UC Boulder) are available now. To access the videos, please click on links below.

- Professor Berry, Title: Translation and the Virus: COVID-19, Cyber Politics, and Fang Fang's Wuhan Diary
- Professor Alexander, Title: "What Times are These?": Confronting Crisis with Literature During the Taiping War