

THE ASIAN CONNECTION

Sigur Center for Asian Studies

Fall 2014

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I want to let you know about several changes in the Sigur Center. After three years of vigorous leadership, **Ed McCord's** term as director has ended. Under his leadership, the Sigur Center reached new highs of activity, visibility, and support for faculty and student research. We all owe him an immense thank you for his energy and dedication. He will now begin a much deserved sabbatical.

I have the unenviable task of following in Ed's footsteps. This will be my second stint as director of the Sigur Center, and it is a much different place than the one I moved into 16 years ago. There are more events, more faculty who are members of the center, and more faculty who have offices in the center. Across the different schools and colleges at GW, it is remarkable how many faculty have research and teaching interests that include Asia. When I directed the center before, there were only a handful of faculty members, all in the social sciences and humanities. Now the center has over 90 members across ESIA, CCAS, and the schools of business, education, law, and public health.



Sigur Center Director Bruce Dickson

As I begin my time as center director, I will continue the activities it has become known for:

- Offer an array of public events, including talks, roundtables, workshops, and conferences
- Provide support for faculty and student research
- Host a diverse set of visiting scholars

I hope to see you at the center's upcoming events, and welcome your advice and suggestions concerning the center's activities.

Bruce Dickson

Director, Sigur Center for Asian Studies

Professor of Political Science and International Affairs

THE ANNUAL GASTON SIGUR MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies held its 18th annual **Gaston Sigur Memorial Lecture** on June 24, 2014. The lecture, which is held in honor of **Gaston Sigur** each spring, features guest lectures from a wide range of scholars and policy-makers. This year's lecture featured **Dr. Chi Su**, a Senior Advisor to the President of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and Chairman of the Taipei Forum. His presentation was entitled **"Taiwan's Place in the International Community: 35 Years after the Taiwan Relations Act"**. A full audio recording of the lecture can be found [HERE](#).

Dr. Su began his talk with a brief synopsis of Taiwan's current political and strategic situation. Taiwan, he states, is unique in the sense that it is situated in a neighborhood where it is surrounded by big powers. Taiwan has always been historically, linguistically, ethnically and culturally part of China. However, politically, Taiwan's destiny has been shaped by three big powers: the U.S., China and Japan. He then described the **three upsides and three downsides of Taiwan's current situation**.

In terms of upsides, Taiwan has never experienced large scale casualties in war like most of its neighbors did during WWII. In fact, Taiwan benefitted from WWII because of the resources that Japan pumped in to the island. **Second, Taiwan is in a position to benefit from its strategic situation as long as it manages its relations with the three powers in a responsible manner.** Dr. Su mentioned that more people speak Japanese in Taiwan than in any other country except for Japan. **Third, even though Taiwan has little space to maneuver from a geo-strategic perspective, this means that whatever Taiwan does truly counts and is given weight by the other powers.**

As for the three downsides of Taiwan's current situation, the first is a "fear factor" that exists inside Taiwan and is stronger than in other societies. **Second, from a diplomatic standpoint Taiwan is very lonely and isolated.** **Third, Taiwan is strategically important to the three powers to the point that whatever it does domestically or abroad is closely scrutinized by all three capitals.** The result is a narrowing of Taiwan's strategic room for maneuver as well as very little room for mistakes to be made. Essentially, Taiwan must be more careful than any other country when crafting and executing policies.

In explaining what this means for Taiwan, **Dr. Su divided modern Taiwanese history into three periods.** The first is that of being an **"underdog."** Since 1949, the three powers have determined what Taiwan was and what it could do. The second period was referred to as **"the tail wagging two dogs."** In this metaphor, Taiwan is the "tail" and the two "dogs" are the U.S. and China. Dr. Su recalled that beginning with Taiwan's opening to China, it has taken all sorts of initiatives that have forced the two powers to react to Taiwan. He then argued that because of this opening, the Taiwan Strait is now the only calm spot in East Asia.

However, according to Dr. Su **we are now entering a third**



Dr. Chi Su presenting at *The 18th Annual Gaston Sigur Memorial Lecture* (6/24/2014)

period where one of the "dogs" (China) will no longer allow itself to be "wagged." Chinese President Xi Jinping has begun to take more initiatives regarding cross-Straits relations. There are several factors that help to explain this development. One is that there are now two opposing tendencies in the cross-Straits issue. On one hand, there is a subjective trend toward independence, with polls showing that Taiwan's identity is moving almost irreversibly toward Taiwan and away from China. On the other hand, there is an objective trend where we are witnessing the two governments move further in favor of unification and away from independence.

A second factor is that **China and Taiwan are becoming much more closely integrated, with red (P.R.C.), blue (Nationalist), and green (DPP) coming in to much closer contact than before.** There are now three sets of bilateral consensus: blue and green agreeing that Taiwan should be defended, blue and red agreeing that independence should be avoided and green and red basically hoping that the "Republic of China" will go away. What is striking is that there is no trilateral consensus to be found.

Dr. Su concluded by expressing concern at these domestic tensions between the blue and green camps and asking how Taiwan can deal with a rising China in a state of such domestic discord. As a result, he has proposed the **"Greater One China Framework" which aims to bring about blue-green reconciliation which in turn, will hopefully result in some sort of trilateral consensus.** Dr. Su stressed that Taiwan's democracy is still a very valuable and successful thing, but that it is also in trouble. Taiwan must wake up and reform its flawed politics lest the future of the country be decided by China, not Taiwan.

RISING POWERS INITIATIVE



Dr. Deepa Ollapally and Associate Professor Dr. Nguyen Thai Yen Huong



GWU delegation at the 2014 Nuclear Power Asia conference

On January 22, the **Rising Powers Initiative (RPI)** joined with the **University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University—Hanoi** to host a day-long workshop in Hanoi, Vietnam. As part of RPI's **“Nuclear Debates in Asia”** project, the workshop convened prominent members of the GW academic community and the **Council on Foreign Relations**. The **“Nuclear Debates in Asia”** project is generously supported by the **MacArthur Foundation**.

Before the workshop, the GW delegation attended the 2014 Nuclear Power Asia conference, a major two-day gathering in Hanoi of nuclear energy suppliers and clients from around the globe, to provide a critical perspective on the role of nonproliferation considerations in regional nuclear energy debates.

In addition to USSH leadership, the workshop engaged prominent members of Vietnam's diplomatic, think tank, and government bodies, including the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam and the Vietnam Atomic Energy Agency within the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Participants exchanged views on the rapidly changing nuclear energy and non-proliferation policies in Vietnam and the region as a whole. The timing of the trip — right after leaders in Ho Chi Minh City announced a delay in their ambitious nuclear energy plans to further study safety issues — was particularly advantageous.

The workshop enlightened the attendees on these domestic debates, enhanced the quality of the project's research findings, and informed the GW delegation before they briefed senior U.S. government and industry officials on regional nuclear developments in Asia. The GW trip to Vietnam was sponsored in part by the Dean's Office, Elliott School of International Affairs.

The Full Conference Agenda can be Found [Here](#).



New Years Celebration in Hanoi, Vietnam

The “Nuclear Debates in Asia” project tracks the domestic debates and discussion on nuclear power and nonproliferation in eight countries in Asia at varying stages of nuclear power planning and acquisition: China, India, Japan, Pakistan, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

More information on the project can be found at [here](#).

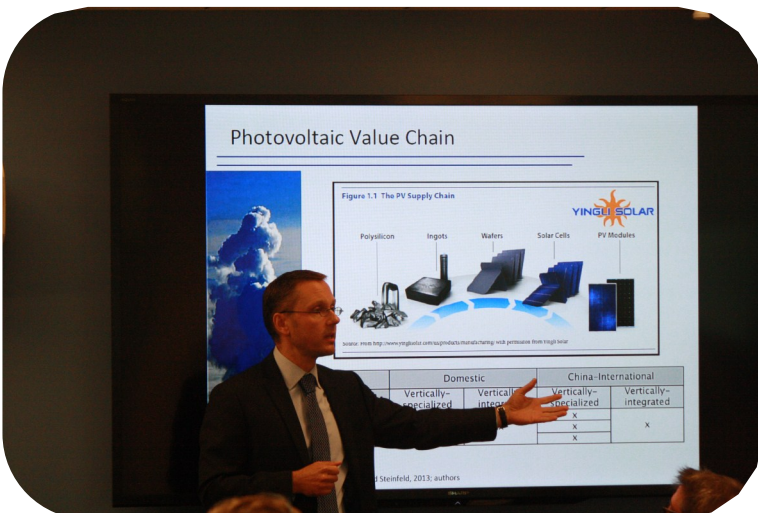
RISING POWERS INITIATIVE



Expert panelists at the RPI Seminar *Asia's Economic Challenges: Research Findings and Outlook* (5/7/14)

On May 7, the RPI hosted a seminar for **Asia's Economic Challenges project** scholars to present their findings on Asian overseas oil investment, responses to China's growing solar exports, understanding China's evolving monetary policies, and the complex India-China Relationship. The seminar, entitled **Asia's Economic Challenges: Research Findings and Outlook**, featured four panelists from GWU. Panelists included:

- ♦ **Robert Weiner**, Professor of International Business, Public Policy and Public Administration, and International Affairs, GW
- ♦ **Llewelyn Hughes**, Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, GW
- ♦ **Jiawen Yang**, Professor of International Business and International Affairs, GW
- ♦ **Deepa Ollapally**, Research Professor of International Affairs and Associate Director, Sigur Center for Asian Studies, GW



Assistant Professor Llewelyn Hughes presents on "Responses to the Rise in China's Solar Exports - Europe and Japan Compared" (5/7/14)

The project – made possible through the generous support of **GWU's Centers and Institutes Facilitating Fund** and the **Carnegie Corporation of New York** – will release additional research and reports in the coming months. The project's findings demonstrate to policymakers that there is a greater degree of complexity in how countries respond to Asia's economic challenges than previously assumed.

A full Asia Report on the seminar can be read [here](#).



Attendees listen to panelist presentations at the RPI Seminar *Asia's Economic Challenges: Research Findings and Outlook* (5/7/14)

RPI's Asia's Economic Challenges project examines the regional and global economic impact and challenges of aspiring Asian powers, with a focus on the economic policies of China, Japan, India, Indonesia and South Korea. In particular, this project will investigate the growth of resource nationalism and competition for energy; the external impact of China's economic and financial policies; India's global investment policies; and the strategic implications of regional economic interdependence.

More information on the Rising Powers Initiative can be found at:

Website: <http://www.risingpowersinitiative.org>

RECENT EVENTS

“SPOTLIGHT TAIWAN” EVENTS

In Fall 2013 the Sigur Center for Asian Studies was awarded a grant from the R.O.C. (Taiwan) Ministry of Culture for a “**Spotlight Taiwan Program**.” The purpose of this program is to introduce different aspects of traditional and contemporary culture in Taiwan to GW students as well as the general public. Following the inaugural concert by **A Moving Sound** in the fall, the Sigur Center held two “Spotlight Taiwan” lectures during the Spring 2014 semester.



Students and the general public pose questions at *Chinese Philosophical Traditions and Contemporary Taiwanese Political Culture* (1/27/14)

January 27, 2014: *Chinese Philosophical Traditions and Contemporary Taiwanese Political Culture*, with **David Lorenzo**, Associate Professor, the College of International Affairs, National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan.

April 23, 2014: *Music as a Herald of the Future in Taiwan*, with **Nancy Guy**, Ethnomusicologist and Associate Professor of Music, The University of California, San Diego.

TAIWAN EVENTS

February 27, 2014: *Taiwan Conference - "Cross-Strait Political Dialogue: Challenges and Opportunities,"* co-sponsored by the **21st Century Foundation (Taiwan)**, with **Su-Po Kao**, Executive Director, the 21st Century Foundation; **Teng-Chi Chang**, Associate Professor, National Taiwan University; **Joseph Bosco**, Senior Associate, Center for Strategic and International Studies; **Fu-Kuo Liu**, Research Fellow, the Institute of International Relations; **Chih-Chieh Chou**, Professor, National Cheng Kung University; **Robert Sutter**, Professor of the Practice of International Affairs, GW. **Read the Asia Report [here](#).**

April 1, 2014: *Taiwan Conference - "Taiwan and the World: Challenges and Opportunities,"* co-sponsored by the **College of International Studies, Tamkang University (Taiwan)**, with **Banning Garrett**, Strategic Foresight Senior Fellow for Innovation and Global Trends, Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security, Atlantic Council; **Da-Jung Li**, Associate Professor, Tamkang University; **Edward I-hsin Chen**, Professor of Political Science, Tamkang University; **Robert Sutter**, Professor of the Practice of International Affairs, GW; **Wan-chin Tai**, Dean, College of International Studies, Tamkang University; **Alexander Chieh-cheng Huang**, Professor of Strategy & Wargaming, Tamkang University; **Joyce Juo-Yo Lin**, Associate Professor, Tamkang University; **Michael Yahuda**, Visiting Scholar, the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, GW.

TRANSNATIONAL AND SUBNATIONAL LECTURE SERIES

February 14, 2014: *China in the Middle East: An Expanding Footprint*, Co-sponsored by GW's **Institute for Middle East Studies**, with **Pan Guang**, Professor and Academic Director, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences.

February 26, 2014: *Companionable Objects, Companionable Conscience: Reflections on Sunaryo's Titik Nadir*, Co-sponsored by GW's **Department of Anthropology**, with **Ken George**, Professor of Anthropology and Director of the School of Culture, History and Language, Australian National University.

March 6, 2014: *Japan's Diplomatic Catastrophe after Yasukuni: Is There a Way Out?*, with **Kazuhiko Togo**, former Japanese Ambassador to the Netherlands.



Dr. Fu-Kuo Liu at *Taiwan Conference - "Cross-Strait Political Dialogue: Challenges and Opportunities,"* (2/27/2014)

March 24, 2014: *China's Foreign Aid and the International Aid Regime*, Co-sponsored by GW's **Institute for Global and International Studies**, with **Shino Watanabe**, Associate Professor, Saitama University, Japan.

March 31, 2014: *Contestation and Adaptation: The Politics of National Identity in China*, with **Enze Han**, Lecturer at the Department of Politics and International Studies, SOAS, University of London.

April 1, 2014: *Japan's Security and Reconciliation with its Asian Neighbors: Rectifying the Past and Promoting Trust*, Co-sponsored by the **Sigur Center's Memory & Reconciliation in the Asia-Pacific Program** and the **US-Japan-South Korea Legislative Exchange Program**, with **Satsuki Eda**, Former President of Japan's House of Councillors; **Yukihisa Fujita**, Member of Japan's House of Councillors; **Takashi Ezaki**, Member of Japan's House of Councillors.

April 2, 2014: *Collateral Damage: Sino-Soviet Rivalry and the Termination of the Sino-Vietnamese Alliance (1964-1991)*, with **Nicholas Khoo**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Politics, University of Otago, New Zealand.

April 2, 2014: *Communicating India's Soft Power: Buddha to Bollywood*, Co-sponsored by the **East-West Center**, with **Daya Thussu**, Professor of International Communication and Co-Director of India Media Centre, Westminster University, London.

April 3, 2014: *Rocky Rise: China's East Asia Policy (2009-present)*, with **Nicholas Khoo**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Politics, University of Otago, New Zealand.



Dr. Enze Han giving a presentation at the event, *Contestation and Adaptation: The Politics of National Identity in China* (3/31/14)

April 8, 2014: *The East German 'Stasi' and Vietnam: Between 'Fraternal Solidarity' and Distrust*, Co-sponsored by GW's **Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies**, with **Martin Grossheim**, Residential Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars.

April 9, 2014: *The Museum Boom in China: Today and Then*, Co-sponsored by GW's **Confucius Institute**, with **Pan Shouyang**, Professor of Anthropology and Museology, Central University for National Minorities in Beijing, China.

April 23, 2014: *Film Screening: Assignment China: Tiananmen Square*, Co-sponsored by GW's **School of Media & Public Affairs**, with **Dan Southerland**, Executive Editor, Radio Free Asia and **Jim Mann**, former Beijing correspondent, *Los Angeles Times*.

May 3, 2014: *The 22nd Hahn Moo-Sook Colloquium in the Korean Humanities in Honor of Young-Key Kim Renaud: Language Power and Ideology in the Koreas: Honorifics and Politeness*, Co-sponsored by GW's **Department of East Asian Languages & Literatures**.



Visiting Scholar Talat Shabbir presents his research at the Visiting Scholar Roundtable: *"Pakistan-China Relations in the Post-Cold War Period: Regional and Global Implications"* (2/15/2014)

VISITING SCHOLAR ROUNDTABLE SERIES

January 15, 2014: *Pakistan-China Relations in the Post-Cold War Period: Regional and Global Implications*, with **Talat Shabbir**, Lieutenant Colonel, Pakistan Army and PhD Candidate, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

January 24, 2014: *The US Policy of American Armed Forces in Qingdao (1945-1949)*, with **Weizhen Zhang**, Associate Professor, Department of History, Jinan University, China.

PISA PARTNERSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES IN ASIA

"Creative responses to global concerns..."

Partnerships for International Strategies in Asia (PISA) is hosted by the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. Directed by **Linda Yarr**, PISA prepares leaders for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century and mobilizes networks of scholars, policy makers, and advocates on both sides of the Pacific to address urgent national and transnational concerns. This year marks PISA's 30th anniversary, an exciting milestone.

Established in 1984 as the Committee on International Relations Studies with the People's Republic of China (CIRSPRC), the program has grown and morphed over the last three decades to meet the changing needs of the Asia-Pacific region. More recently, PISA has focused many of its activities on the challenges associated with climate change. It has organized leadership training institutes on the topic in Hanoi, Washington, DC, and Bangkok. In 2013, Myanmar's Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Forestry invited PISA to help enhance its capacity for dealing with climate change.

MYANMAR CLIMATE INITIATIVE

PISA is preparing to welcome 12-15 participants from Myanmar's next generation of civil society and government leadership to participate in the Myanmar Advanced Leadership Institute on Climate Change (MALICC). The conference will be held on GW's campus from November 2-15, and will offer an interdisciplinary curriculum focused on a wide range of climate change topics, expert-led discussions, simulation exercises and experiential learning through off-site visits.

MALICC follows a strong legacy of previous Climate Institutes. "Because the country had been so cut-off, the government isn't that up to speed on various UN climate change conventions and all the provisions in those conventions, and even regional frameworks for dealing with environmental issues," said Elliott School Professor Christina Fink, who works with PISA on its Myanmar initiatives.

CLIMATE-WISE DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE SERIES

The **PISA-ASEAN Climate-wise Development Roundtable**, presented thanks to generous support from the Chino Cienega Foundation, convenes personnel from the ASEAN member embassies in Washington, DC together with specialists from the NGO, think tank and academic communities, as well as interested members of the public in off-the-record sessions to discuss the ways in which ASEAN nations are innovating in the realm of climate-wise or "green growth" development strategies. PISA facilitates and hosts these discussions with invited experts in the climate, security, energy, and development fields.



Honorable Minister Ariel Peñaranda discusses Disaster Risk Relief and Reduction

February 27, 2014: *Climate and Development: The Imperative for Sustainability and Resilience in Myanmar and ASEAN*, with Dr. Nay Htun, Chemical Engineer, Research and Visiting Professor in a number of leading Universities in the US, Europe and Asia, Founder and Hon. Patron of the Green Economy Green Growth, GEGG Myanmar (not for profit) Association, and Chairman of the Board of the Peconic Institute.

July 24, 2014: *Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery in the Asia Pacific*, featuring the Honorable Minister Ariel Penaranda, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Philippines to the United States.

GLOBAL CITY IN WORLD AFFAIRS PROGRAM

PISA was delighted to welcome the fifth cohort of Global Cities in World Affairs participants to campus on August 25, 2014. The ten participants are officers of the **Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Civil Service**. This two-month program will introduce participants to innovative approaches to managing agencies in global cities. The curriculum covers a wide array of issues from environmental sustainability and climate change resiliency to transnational security threats and international trade issues.



Delegates from the Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences meet with GW Professors and staff for an informal discussion on Vietnamese-U.S. relations, at a luncheon facilitated by PISA.

FEATURED ALUMNUS - PITMAN POTTER



Dr. Pitman B. Potter is Professor of Law at UBC (University of British Columbia) Law Faculty and HSBC Chair in Asian Research at UBC's Institute of Asian Research. His teaching and research focus on PRC and Taiwan law and policy in the areas of foreign trade and investment, dispute resolution, property law, contracts, business regulation, and human rights. Dr. Potter has published several books, including most recently *The Legal System of the People's*

Republic of China (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2013). He has also published over 100 articles and essays. He earned his B.A. in Chinese Studies from GW in 1978. He also received an Ph.D. in Political Science and his JD from the University of Washington.

"My initial interest in China revolved around Chinese art and culture," recalls Dr. Potter. "My undergraduate experience at GW certainly refined my approach to studying China and my appreciation for the country. Right around the time I completed my undergraduate work at GW and decided to pursue my Ph.D., the Third Plenum of the 11th Central Committee was held in Beijing, which began the reform period which saw both economic and legal reforms take place. So this seemed to be an invitation to me to begin understanding legal developments in China from both a policy and political science perspective, but also a comparative and international law perspective."

"I approach studying law from a social science perspective in that I try to understand the state's relation to society and interpret law as an expression of policy choices. This is a useful approach because since 1978 the regime in China has been explicit about law being an instrument of policy. So law is an excellent resource for understanding how state-society relations are changing in China." Dr. Potter points out that one of the sources of great frustration for him and other lawyers focusing on China is "the rule of law, or lack thereof. For instance, even in light of Xi Jinping's anti-corruption campaign, it's debatable whether the state even follows the law. Furthermore, the law is used for nefarious purposes such as the imprisonment of Nobel Prize winner Liu Xiaobo."

Concerning the issue of integrating business relations and human rights in China, which Dr. Potter has done substantive work on, he explains that "human rights are often thought of only in terms of civil and political rights (e.g. freedom of religion and speech). These are all important," he emphasizes. However, "it is also important to recognize that there is another category of human rights that includes economic and socio-cultural rights which are embedded in the international framework and need to be paid attention to. Contrary to Chinese policy pronouncements, they are not a substitute for civil and political rights. However, it is fair to say that the two categories exist alongside each other and are complementary to some degree." Dr. Potter concludes that "if we are going to look at how best to integrate business and human rights, we need to look more broadly and recognize both categories of human rights in China."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT - DIOGO LEMOS

Diogo Lemos is a fourth year PhD candidate in Political Science at GW. Diogo recalls applying to GW because "it was a natural choice both for its privileged location and its excellent faculty in fields relevant to my interests, such as Professors Emmanuel Teitelbaum, Henry Hale and Nathan Brown." Diogo was awarded the Sigur Center Summer Grant for Asian Field Research this past summer. He used the grant to travel to India where he pursued research on the topic, "Competing for the Neighborhood: Explaining the Urban Poor Vote for Elite Ethnic Parties." "I think it's no exaggeration to say that it took me four years in grad school to arrive at this research topic – it's the topic of my dissertation," says Diogo. "In broad lines, I'm studying why the urban poor in India's largest cities vote for right-wing ethnic parties. This is counterintuitive since the policies espoused by these parties are typically opposed to the material interests of the urban poor."

Diogo arrived in India with the chief aim of finding demographic data on the population of India's largest cities – namely, Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata. Diogo recalls that "after some setbacks, particularly with the available data at the major archives in Delhi, I had a major breakthrough." A chance encounter at the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities in Delhi introduced him to electoral rolls by wards for each of these cities in each election. These rolls include the name and basic demographic information of all the citizens that are

enrolled to vote in a specific election. "Matching this data with the actual electoral results by wards will enable me to construct a fairly accurate picture of how demographic factors may or may not influence elections" he explains. "This information is crucial since the main independent variable for this project is wards' ethnic homogeneity. Thus, I am proposing that the urban poor vote for right-wing ethnic parties increases with the homogeneity of wards."

Following the completion of his doctoral work at GW, Diogo hopes to pursue a career in academia as a professor and to continue researching issues related to political identity, namely nationalism and ethnicity within a democratic context.



FACULTY FOCUS - EDWARD MCCORD



Edward McCord is Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at GW's Elliott School of International Affairs. He is a specialist in Chinese history, having spent five years studying in Taiwan and the People's Republic of China. Dr. McCord earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in history from the University of Michigan. He is currently director of the Taiwan Education and Research Program, and recently completed a three-year term as director of the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. In addition, he published a new book last spring entitled *Military Force and Elite Power in the Formation of Modern China* (Routledge, 2014). He is also the author of the book *The Power of the Gun: The Emergence of Modern Chinese Warlordism* as well as articles that have appeared in *Modern China*, *Republican China*, and *Modern Asian Studies*.

Dr. McCord traces his interest in China to his general interest in history as an undergraduate. "I had taken a lot of U.S. history, but was feeling restless with what seemed to be a very crowded field of study for a very short period of time, historically speaking," he recalls. After a summer spent reading through histories of other countries in an effort to expand his horizons, he settled on China. "I got to China and fell in love with the richness of its culture; and the length of its history seemed to promise that I would never get bored. So I stopped my exploration there and never looked back."

Dr. McCord's specific interest in the military history of China arose in part from his participation in the anti-Vietnam War movement of the early 1970s. He states that "this raised questions for me as to the proper role of civil-military relations as a general topic." Applying this interest specifically to China, he "was immediately drawn to the issue of the dysfunction of civil-military relations that arose in China with the emergence of warlordism. My original interest was in how warlordism was ultimately brought under control, but as with many historians I was drawn backwards in time to see how this condition emerged in the first place (which became the subject of my Ph.D. dissertation). This interest in civil-military relations also took on a life of its own and has been the focus of most of my research ever since."

In addition to his prolific research on this topic and Chinese history in general, Dr. McCord has contributed his teaching and administrative skills to the classroom and Sigur Center. In fact, he was the 2013 recipient of the Harry Harding Teaching Prize, a prestigious award given annually to a member of the Elliott School faculty who has demonstrated sustained excellence in teaching and who has made extraordinary contributions to the education of Elliott School students. In addition, last spring he was one of the three recipients of prestigious George Washington Award. Recipients were nominated by members of the university community and selected by the Joint Committee of Faculty and Students for their academic and extracurricular achievement, integrity and goodwill and investment in the university community.

remarking on his demonstrated effectiveness not only as a teacher, but as a scholar and administrator, Dr. McCord states that he ultimately enjoys teaching more than research or administration. "It is the teaching that makes it all worthwhile. It is a thrill when a student is excited about the subject that you are teaching. On another level, there is the satisfaction of seeing a student improve over the course of a semester or hearing from students years later about how their education at GW really helped their careers and lives. Ultimately, my teaching is connected to my love of history and research is what keeps that interest alive." At the same time, Dr. McCord emphasizes that while he never imagined he would be so heavily involved in administration, "it is also crucial to the whole university enterprise and I found that I had something of a knack for it, as much as any academic can, I suppose!" Furthermore, "my service as an administrator has given me a chance to understand how the university works, to meet and work with many interesting people across the campus, and in the end to feel some satisfaction in being able to contribute to the constant transformation in education that occurs at every great academic institution."



SPRING - SUMMER 2014 VISITING SCHOLARS

In Spring and Summer of 2014, the Sigur Center hosted visiting scholars from four countries. Visiting scholars continue to be a valuable part of the Sigur Center as they conduct research on a wide variety of issues, present their findings at Visiting Scholar Roundtables and participate in activities such as Sigur Center language tea times. The Sigur Center is proud of the quality and variety of its visiting scholars as they help to distinguish the Center in numerous ways. **Here is a list of visiting scholars from January 2014 to August 2014:**



Min Ho CHOI, South Korea
Email: cmh78@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Major, ROK Army
Research topic: **"The possibility of applying R2P (Responsibility to Protect) to North Korea"**



Satoru MORI, Japan
Email: smori@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Professor, Hosei University, Japan
Research topic: **"U.S. Regional Strategy in Asia since 1971"**



Kum Loul HA, South Korea
Email: haki2277@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Chief Professor, Gachon University, South Korea
Research topic: **"U.S.-Korea Relations"**



Satoshi NAKANO, Japan
Email: stnakano@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Professor of History, Hitotsubashi University, Japan
Research topic: **"Bridging and Integrating Asia-Pacific War History and Genocide Studies: General Comparative Studies of Justice, Reconciliation, and Memory"**



Jongkeon KO, South Korea
Email: kojongkeon@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Lieutenant Colonel, ROK Army
Research topic: **"The Study of North Korea's Sudden Collapse and Unification of Korea"**



Yasuyo SAKATA, Japan
Email: ysakata@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Professor of International Relations, Kanda University of International Studies, Japan
Research topic: **"The Strategic Value of the U.S.-ROK Alliance in Asia Pacific Security: Exploring Historical and Contemporary U.S. Perspectives"**



Jung-Chul LEE, South Korea
Email: rheeplan1@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Associate Professor, Soongsil University, South Korea
Research topic: **"After Sanctions: What Next for the Korean Peninsula?"**



Michael YAHUDA, United Kingdom
Email: yahuda@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Professor Emeritus, London School of Economics
Research topic: **"Sino-Japanese Relations: Bridging the Gap"**



Kyung Soo LEE, South Korea
Email: sky04lks@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Major, ROK Air Force
Research topic: **"China's Anti-Access/Area Denial Strategy and its Implications for East Asian Security"**



Kailei YAN, China (P.R.C.)
Email: yankailei2014@gwu.edu
Affiliation: Associate Professor, The College of Art and Communication, Tongji University, China
Research topic: **"Study of Contemporary Documentary Filmmakers in China and the U.S."**

SUMMER 2014 STUDENT FELLOWS

In 2014 the Sigur Center was pleased to offer two new categories of summer language grants: The Estelle Sigur Grant for Japanese Language Study in Japan and the Zhou Qiuguang Fellowship for Chinese Language Study in China. The former is provided on behalf of Mrs. Estelle Sigur, the wife of the late Dr. Gaston Sigur. The latter is named in honor of Professor Zhou Qiuguang, a renowned scholar of modern Chinese history at Hunan Normal University.

In 2014, the Sigur Center for Asian Studies awarded \$64,389 for fellowship support to 12 students to travel to five Asian countries. The following Students received field research and language study fellowships:

- **Chunhua Chen** (*PhD - Political Science*). Field Research on “Living in the Gap: Popular Nationalist Organizations in Contemporary China” - China
- **Aaditya Dar** (*PhD - Economics*). Field Research on “Does Political Background of Legislators Matter for Development?” - India
- **Stephen Dutton** (*MA - Asian Studies*). Zhou Qiuguang Fellowship for Chinese Language Study - China
- **Emily Eitzen** (*MA - Asian Studies*). Chinese Language Study - Taiwan
- **Brian Franchell** (*M.I.S. - International Affairs*). Chinese Language Study - Taiwan
- **Andrew Francis** (*MA - Asian Studies*). Chinese Language Study - Taiwan
- **Jacqueline LaReau** (*BA - Asian Studies*). Estelle Sigur Grant for Japanese Language Study - Japan
- **Diogo Lemos** (*PhD - Political Science*). Field Research on “Competing for the neighborhood: explaining the urban poor vote for elite ethnic parties” - India
- **Brennan Murray** (*BA - International Affairs*). Zhou Qiuguang Fellowship for Chinese Language Study - China
- **Adena Peckler** (*BA - Asian Studies*). Korean Language study - Korea
- **John Ryan** (*MA - Asian Studies*). Field Research on “Indian Foreign Policy in India-China-US Strategic Triangle” - India
- **Marguerite Wedeman** (*BA - International Affairs*). Chinese Language study - Taiwan

APPLY FOR FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS!

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies is a excellent resource for students wishing to conduct language study or field research in Asia. For more information and to apply, visit our website at:

<http://www.gwu.edu/~sigur/academics/fellowships.cfm>.

You can also check out video and blog posts from our student fellows at asiaonestreet.blogspot.com. Some snapshots of their adventures abroad can be found below:

KOREA - LANGUAGE STUDY



Adena Peckler experiencing local cuisine in Seoul, South Korea.

JAPAN - LANGUAGE STUDY



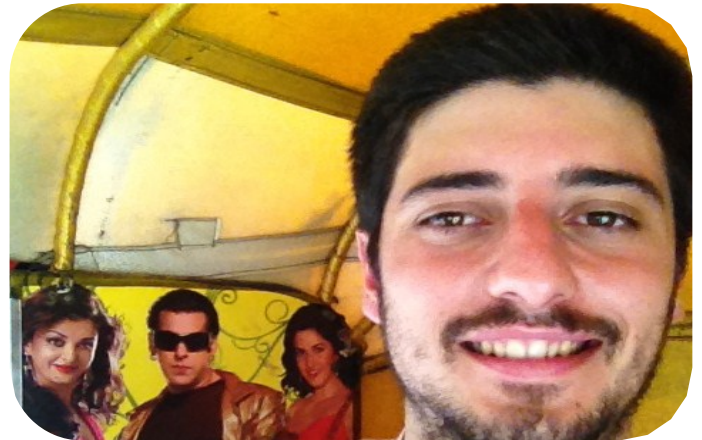
Jacqueline Lareau (left) at Kyoto's Arashiyama bamboo forest in Japan.

CHINA - LANGUAGE STUDY



Brennan Murray at The Bund area of Shanghai, China.

INDIA - FIELD RESEARCH



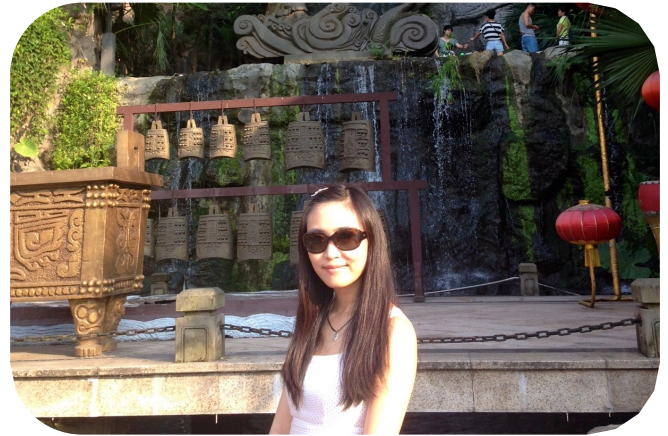
Diogo Lemos in a rickshaw with background images of Bollywood stars (Aishwarya Rai, Salman Khan and Katrina Kaif) in India.

TAIWAN - LANGUAGE STUDY



Emily Eitzen at the top of Elephant Mountain (象山, Xiàngshān) with a view of Taipei at sunset.

CHINA - FIELD RESEARCH



Chunhua Chen at Hongyadong, a re-created old Chongqing-style village that clings to the side of a mountain. Chunhua's research topic was "Living in the Gap: Popular Nationalist Organizations in Contemporary China."

2014 FACULTY FELLOWS

In 2014, the Sigur Center for Asian Studies funded seven faculty members with a total of \$42,191 to travel to four Asian countries and to conduct research. Awardees include:

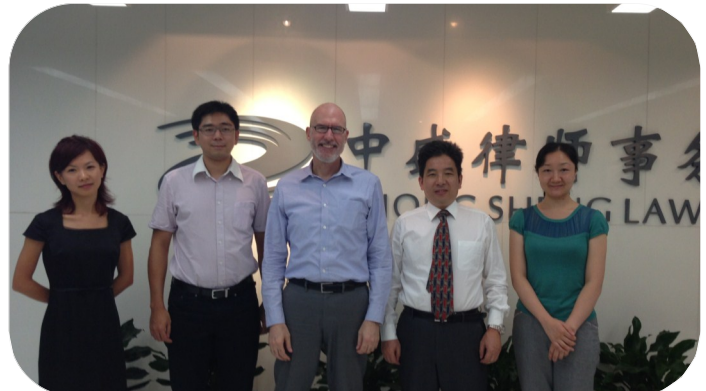
- **Eyal Aviv** (*Religion*). "Ouyang Jingwu's Search for Authentic Buddhism" - China
- **Steven Balla** (*Political Science*). "Online Consultation, Citizen Participation, and Governance Reform in China" - China
- **Donald Clarke** (*Law*). "Chinese State Capitalism" - China
- **Hongyuan Dong** (*East Asian Languages & Literatures*). "Linguistic Nation-building in Modern China" - China
- **Xiaofei Kang** (*Religion*). "Gender and Revolution Modernity: Yan'an Anti-Superstition Campaign" - China
- **Jisoo Kim** (*History*). "The Emotions of Justice: Gender Status and Legal Performance in Early Modern Korea" - Korea
- **Janet Steele** (*Journalism*). "Muslim Brotherhood Publications" - Indonesia, Malaysia

INDONESIA, MALAYSIA – JANET STEELE



Janet Steele in Indonesia at *Republika* newspaper's Halal bihalal, an event of mutual forgiveness traditionally held at the end of Eid.

CHINA – DONALD CLARKE



Donald Clarke with several lawyers from the Zhongsheng Law Firm in Beijing

CHINA – EYAL AVIV



Eyal Aviv giving a keynote speech to students from all over China in the World Youth Buddhist Society in Hong Kong.

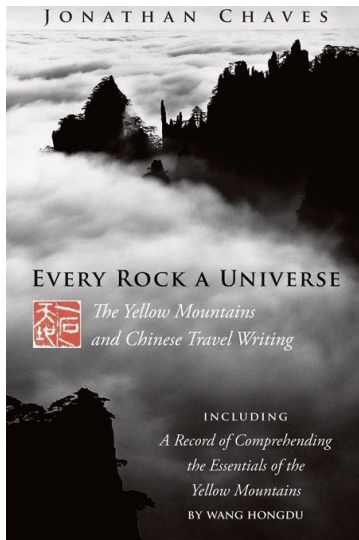
CHINA – STEVEN BALLA



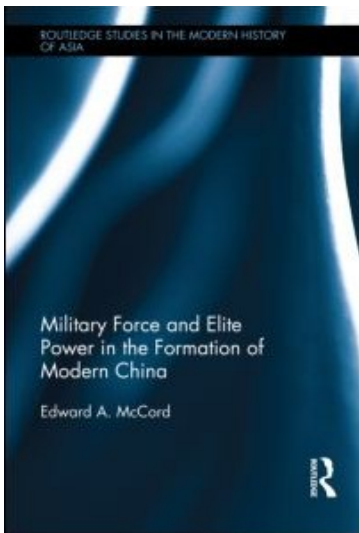
Steven Balla at Yeungnam University, meeting with Professor Sungsoo Hwang and a group of students.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

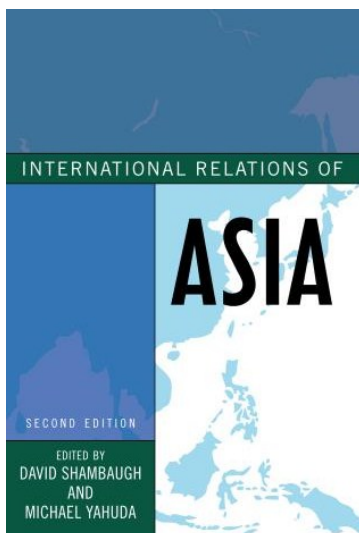
BOOKS



Jonathan Chaves. *Every Rock a Universe: The Yellow Mountains and Chinese Travel Writing.* Floating World Editions, 2013.



Edward McCord, *Military Force and Elite Power in the Formation of Modern China,* London and New York: Routledge, 2014.



David Shambaugh and Michael Yahuda, eds, *International Relations of Asia (Asia in World Politics),* Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Second Edition, 2014.

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Donald Clarke. "Online Consultation and Citizen Feedback in Chinese Policymaking." *Am. J. Comp. L.*, vol. 62, no. 2 (Spring 2014): 323 - 366.

Bruce Dickson. "Who Wants to Be a Communist? Career Incentives and Mobilized Loyalty in Contemporary China." *China Quarterly*, no. 217 (March 2014), pp. 42-68.

Edward McCord, "Military Atrocities in Warlord China." In *Civil-Military Relations in Chinese History. From Ancient China to the Communist Takeover.* Edited by Kai Filippiak. Routledge (December 10, 2014).

Deepa Ollapally. "The India-China Divergence? Economic Ties and Strategic Rivalry." *Orbis*, Summer 2014.

Deepa Ollapally. "China and India: Economic Ties and Strategic Rivalry," *Orbis*, Vol. 58 Iss. 3. May 2014.

David Shambaugh. "Is China a Great Power?" *The National Interest*, (July-August 2014).

Janet Steele. "Ramadan in the Newsroom: Tempo, Malaysiakini and the State," in Chiara Formichi, ed., *Religious Pluralism, State and Society*, New York: Routledge, 2014, pp. 197-215.

Robert Sutter. "The United States and Durable Leadership in Asia," in *International Relations of Asia (Asia in World Politics),* Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Second Edition, 2014.

Robert Sutter. "China and America: The Great Divergence?" *Orbis*, Vol. 58 Iss. 3. May 2014.

Daqing Yang, "Whatever Happened to Historical Reconciliation between Japan and China: Reflections over the New Millennium." *Gakushuin Journal of International Studies*, 1.1 (March 2014), 1-11.

GIFTS AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies is grateful for support from the individuals, foundations, and corporations for its activities. Gifts to the Sigur Center for Asian Studies support our students, our special events, and our research. Even more importantly, gifts to the Sigur Center help us carry out our mission — to increase the quality and broaden the scope of scholarly research and publications on Asian affairs, promote U.S.-Asian scholarly interaction and serve as the nexus for educating a new generation of students, scholars, analysts, and policymakers.

If you wish to make a donation to the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, please contact Deepa Ollapally at deepao@gwu.edu OR follow our donation link below:

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Give us a call or send us an email for more information about our various programs and opportunities. Also, we are always delighted to hear from our alumni and we would love to learn about the interesting things you have been up to since leaving the Sigur Center.

Please don't be a stranger!

Sigur Center for Asian Studies
1957 E Street, N.W., Suite 503
Washington, D.C. 20052

(202) 994-5886

gsigur@gwu.edu

Visit us on the web at:
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EDITED BY:

Michael Bouffard,

Sigur Center Program Coordinator