The Sigur Center promotes research and policy analysis on East, Northeast, Southeast, and South Asia through an active program of publishing, teaching, public events, and policy engagement.

The Center draws on the expertise of 60+ world-class faculty members throughout GW to offer the largest Asian Studies program in metropolitan DC. Together with the GW Institute for Korean Studies, the Center supports the East Asia National Resource Center, a Title VI center of academic excellence.

Our faculty and students are consistently recognized for their potential and talent. They have been the successful recipients of Fulbright, Boren, Critical Language Scholarship, and Freeman fellowships, and have received grants from numerous foundations and federal agencies.

Since 2003, the Center has been a GW signature program of excellence and has awarded $3.3+ million to 318 students and faculty for field research, intensive language study, and internships in Asia through its summer and the prestigious Foreign Language and Area Studies awards, which it administers for GW students studying Japanese, Chinese, or Korean.

Our mission is to increase the quality and broaden the scope of scholarly research and publication on Asia; promote US-Asian scholarly interaction; and educate a new generation of students, scholars, and policymakers.

2019-2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Center welcomed 24 scholars from Asia, Europe, and North America
- The Center hosted 70 lectures, book launches, and private briefings
- Faculty published 109 books, book chapters, and articles
- Faculty were in the news 156 times
- Students focusing in Asian Studies received $459k in awards
- Faculty won $827k in awards, grants, and fellowships

"The Asian Studies program helps me expand my horizons about Asian diplomacy, allowing me to know what would have remained unthinkable back in Vietnam. Along the way, I have had the chance to make new friends from such a diverse range of cultures, backgrounds, and ethnicities that I think by the end of it all, the 'old me' would be radically altered in thoughts and perceptions."
Recipient: The Global Leaders Fellowship, Elliott School’s Graduate Fellowship

"Studying at GW brought me lots of opportunities to learn more about Korea, but also about Asia in general. I took courses on the political economy and security of Asian countries and attended campus events where I listened to experts from various disciplines."
Recipient: GW Institute for Korean Studies’ Research Assistant Fellowship

"In the Asian Studies program, I have had the privilege to develop skills that will prepare me for my future career. I have taken classes that are relevant to my area of interest, such as "The Tale of Genji: Love and Politics" and "Japanese Literature 1: Classical Literature." I also have pursued my own research in an Independent Study class."
Recipient: Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Summer '19)
The Sigur Center prides itself on providing intellectual leadership on Asia at large. The Center supports **6 affiliated programs** and has hosted **51 scholars** during Director Benjamin D. Hopkins' tenure since 2016.