WORKSHOP PROGRAM AS OF 09/24/2019

STUDYING REPUBLICAN VIETNAM: ISSUES, CHALLENGES, AND PROSPECTS

October 14-15, 2019, Redwood Auditorium, Erb Memorial Union (EMU), University of Oregon, Eugene, OR

Sunday, October 13: Participants arrive in Eugene
Workshop Hotel: Phoenix Inn & Suites, 850 Franklin Blvd., Eugene, OR 97403

DAY 1, October 14:

8:00 am: Introductory remarks: Tuong Vu, University of Oregon

Keynote Speaker: Peter Zinoman, University of California, Berkeley
8:30 am-9:30 am

Panel 1: Republican identity formation
9:30 am-10:45 am

Moderator: Olga Dror, Texas A&M University

Martina Nguyen, Baruch College, “The Self-Reliance Literary Group, Colonial Republicanism and the Politics of the Center-Left”

Nguyen Luong Hai Khoi, University of Education, HCMC, “Tran Trong Kim and the Construction of Vietnamese “National Soul”


Coffee break: 10:45 am-11:00 pm

Panel 2: Democracy and the First Republic
11:00 pm-12:15 pm

Moderator: Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox, Western Connecticut University
Nu-Anh Tran, University of Connecticut, “How Democratic Should Vietnam Be? The Debate on Democracy in Saigon (1955)”

Yen Vu, Cornell University, “Tran Van Tung’s Vision of a New Nationalism for a New Vietnam”

Duy Lap Nguyen, University of Houston, “The Other Vietnamese Revolution: Democracy, the State, and the Strategic Hamlet Campaign”

Lunch: 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Linda Ho Pech, independent scholar, “The Oral Histories Project of the Vietnamese-American Heritage Foundation”

Panel 3: Vision & political realities of nation and state-building
1:15 pm-2:45 pm

Moderator: Nguyen Thi Tu Huy, Pacific Ocean University, Nha Trang


Y Thien Nguyen, Northwestern University, “When State Propaganda Becomes Social Knowledge: Legacies of the First Republic”


Christoph Giebel, University of Washington, “Terminology Matters: The Fiction of ‘South Vietnam’ and Representations of the RVN”

Coffee break: 2:45 pm - 3:00 pm

Panel 4: Economy & foreign relations
2:45 pm- 4:15 pm

Moderator: Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen, Monash University

Nguyen Duc Cuong, former RVN official, “Private Sector and Economic Development in the RVN”

Pham Thi Hong Ha, Institute of History, Hanoi, “Reconceptualizing Foreign Aid: The United States’ Commercial Import Program for the RVN (1955-1975)”

Alvin Bui, University of Washington, “Brotherly Fellowship via Sister Cities: Contours of the RVN-ROC Relationship”

Panel 5: Religious contributions to a republican culture
4:15 pm – 5:30 pm

Moderator: Edward Miller, Dartmouth College

Tuan Hoang, Pepperdine University, "Pray the Rosary and Do Apostolic Work’: The Catholic Associational Culture in the RVN"
Adrienne Le Minh Chau, Columbia University, “Buddhist Rural Development in a Time of War: Thich Nhat Hanh and the School of Youth for Social Service”
Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox, Western Connecticut University, “Political Philology and Academic Freedom: A Defense of Thich Minh Chau”

Reception & dinner for speakers: Gerlinger Hall, 2nd floor, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

DAY 2, October 15:

8:30 am: coffee served

Panel 6: Struggle for power & peace -- politics in the Second Republic
9:00 am-10:30 am

Moderator: Nguyen Manh Hung, George Mason University

Edward Miller, Dartmouth College, “A State Born of Civil War: How the RVN Waged Civil War in Ben Tre Province”
Sean Fear, University of Leeds, UK, “Nguyen Van Thieu's Democracy Party and the Twilight of Republican Vietnam”
David Prentice, Oklahoma State University, “‘Everything Depends on US Alone’: President Nguyen Van Thieu’s Vietnamization Strategy”
George Veith, Monash University, “‘All the Communists Must Leave’: The Origin, Evolution, and Failure of Saigon's Peace Demands, 1963-1973”

Panel 7: Education, arts and media
10:30 am-11:45 am

Moderator: Mark Sidel, University of Wisconsin

Olga Dror, Texas A&M University, “Educational and Social Narratives through the Texts from the RVN”


Hoang Duc Nha, former RVN official, “Press Freedom in the RVN, 1955-1975: Limitations and Excesses”

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Lunch: 11:45 am-12:45 pm

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Panel 8: Old & new identities in diasporic literature
12:45 pm-2:00 pm

Moderator: Martina Nguyen, Baruch College

Pham Vu Lan Anh, University of Melbourne/Da Lat University, “Religious Aspects of Diasporic Experience in the Writings of Three Vietnamese-Australian Female Authors: Hoa Pham, Chi Vu and Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen”

Hao (Howie) Jun Tam, University of Pennsylvania, “Diasporic South Vietnam: Literary Nationalism in Novels by Ly Thu Ho and Lan Cao”

Trinh Luu, University of California, Berkeley, “Vietism: Carl Jung and the New Vietnamese”

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Coffee break: 2:00 pm-2:15 pm

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Panel 9: Republican legacies
2:15 pm-3:30 pm

Moderator: Nu-Anh Tran, University of Connecticut

Vinh Pham, Cornell University, “Nation Building from Abroad: Nhac Vang and the Legacy of Republicanism in Overseas Vietnamese Communities”

Nguyen Thi Tu Huy, Pacific Ocean University, Nha Trang, “Vietnamese Anti-Communism and the Question of Understanding”

Nathalie Huynh Chau Nguyen, Monash University, “Intergenerational Perceptions of Vietnamese Veterans and Vietnamese Service Personnel in Australia”

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Coffee break: 3:30 pm-4:00 pm

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Concluding Remarks: Keith Taylor, Cornell University and Tuong Vu, University of Oregon
4:00 pm-4:45 pm

Dinner for speakers (TBA)
7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Wednesday, October 16: Participants depart Eugene