



Annual Report 2007-08



**University
of Victoria**

Centre for
Asia-Pacific Initiatives

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Richard King
Director

Director's Message

In the year just past, the Asia-Pacific region has been more than usually in the news, for reasons political, economic, environmental, and athletic. Much of this focus has been on China. It was to be expected that Beijing's hosting all the Olympic Games would provide the government of the People's Republic to showcase the extraordinary progress that the country has made in 30 years of "reform and opening". This was a coming-out party on a grander and more lavish scale than Japan's in 1960, or Korea's in 1988: the city was transformed for the event, superb new facilities were built for athletics and swimming, the opening and closing ceremonies, created with the collaboration of film director Zhang Yimou and expatriate artist Cai Guo-qiang, were the most spectacular yet seen, and the host nation won the lion's share of the medals. Satisfied as the Chinese government must have been with the success of the Games, the press reports of events in China were not all as cheering. The Olympic torch relay coincided with rioting in Tibet, and sparked protests in many Western cities as demonstrators supported the cause of the Tibetan rioters and the Dalai Lama. No such demonstrations were seen as the torch made its way through Asia, and Chinese communities in the west were also overwhelmingly supportive of both the torch relay and the Beijing Olympics.

These events were the catalyst for viewing the very different ways in which China is regarded in Western Europe and North America on the one hand, and other parts of the world on the other. In the west, the formerly communist supplier of copious cheap goods has become regarded as an environmental threat and a competitor for energy and raw materials, and the country which reneged on its promise to increase respect for human rights in its Olympic year. China, meanwhile, presented itself as an emerging economic giant distinguished by its "peaceful rise" internationally and its harmonious society at home. There has been indication through the year, however, that Chinese civil society is unwilling to be as passive as it once was: to the protests in Tibet were added the fury of those in Southwestern China as poorly constructed schools collapsed in the earthquakes that struck Sichuan Province in May, killing the only children of thousands of families.

It was in the crucial period before the Olympics that a group of scholars met at the University in a conference organized by CAPI China Chair Wu Guoguang to discuss "Foreign-Domestic Linkages in China's International Behaviours". It was clear to all that events that take place within China now resonate internationally, affecting both China's diplomatic relations with other countries, and the global economic balance. The papers delivered at this important conference will, like those of other events organized by Dr. Wu, be published in a conference volume.



This year, CAPI has been without a Chair of Japan and Asia-Pacific Relations, but we have done our best to include Japan in our activities. A workshop in January, organized in collaboration with colleagues from the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, looked at cultural relations between China and Japan in the period before World War II. Reports on this and other conferences can be found later in this review, including one on our largest conference in recent years, the annual conference of the Western division of the Association for Asian Studies (Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast), held in Victoria in June. In 2008, Southeast Asian Law Chair Andrew Harding introduced a summer school in Asian Law, held at the Law School. This was preceded by a symposium on Asia-Pacific Constitutional Law organized in collaboration with the Asia Law Center at the University of Melbourne. Professor Harding also took CAPI on the road, with conferences in Kyushu and Siena.

Also this year, CAPI's Program Director Heidi Tyedmers sent our largest ever group of interns into the Asia-Pacific region, including our first two interns in Japan, paid for from the Centre's endowments. A full report on the internship program also follows. We have been fortunate to have had additional support this year from our Student Coordinator, Courtney Robinson; Practicum Student, Atsuko Umeki; and Carla Taylor, who has been assisting Heidi Tyedmers in the internship program as well as working on Centre publications. All in all, this has been a momentous year for the Centre, and for the region with which we are involved. It has been, and continues to be, an exciting and stimulating place to work, and one which world events continue to make our work more important for the University.

Richard King

CAPI's Mission and Objectives

CAPI was established in 1987 as an important element of the University of Victoria's plan to expand and strengthen its links with universities and other institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, especially with China, Japan, Southeast Asia, Korea, and the developing island states of the Southwest Pacific.

The Centre's primary mandate is to conduct and facilitate research on policy issues related to the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, the Centre serves as a regional research facility to the University and to the larger community.

More specifically, CAPI was established to fulfill six functions:

- To organize and administer long-term, cross-disciplinary programs in collaboration with other relevant groups and institutions, on and off campus;
- To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information among interested persons at the University, and to organize and publicize visits by specialists and other visitors with Asia-Pacific expertise;
- To promote publication and public information activities appropriate to the University;
- To organize and conduct short and medium-term teaching, training and research projects;
- To participate in networks of organizations and individuals sharing similar goals and interests; and
- To serve as a clearing house for the collection and dissemination of information regarding activities on campus, and in the community.

To learn more about CAPI visit
our website at: www.capi.uvic.ca



People at CAPI

Director and Staff

Richard King ~ Director
Helen Lansdowne ~ Assistant Director
Heidi Tyedmers ~ Program Director
Stella Chan ~ Secretary
Carla Taylor ~ Program Assistant



Executive Committee

Richard King (Chair) ~ CAPI and Department of Pacific and Asian Studies
Jim Anglin ~ Director, Office of International Affairs
Howard Brunt (Ex-Officio) ~ Vice-President, Research
Philip Dearden ~ Department of Geography
Chris Garrett ~ Department of Physics and Astronomy
Andrew Harding ~ CAPI and Faculty of Law
Peter Keller ~ Dean of Social Sciences
Jeremy Webber ~ Faculty of Law
Feng Xu ~ Department of Political Science

CAPI's Executive Committee advises on policy directions and contributes to achieving the goals and objectives of the Centre.

To learn more about the people at CAPI visit our website at: www.capi.uvic.ca

Associates

Ercel Baker
James Boutilier
Christine Bradley
Connie Carter
Xiaobei Chen
Timothy Craig
Philip Dearden
Derek Ellis
Nicholas Etheridge
Randall Garrison
Guo Guoting
Geoff Hainsworth
Ralph Huenemann
David Lai
Isabel Lloyd
Gordon Longmuir
Lu Ding
Kenneth MacKay
Peter Maidstone
Ted McDorman
Chris Morgan
Catherine Morris
Linda Pennells
Randall Sach
Ivan Somlai
David Strong
Tad Suzuki
Chris Tollefson
Robby Tulus
Stephen Tyler
Art Wright
Francis Yee

CAPI Associates are attached to CAPI through projects and through their involvement in the activities of the Centre. They are drawn from the campus and the community.



Chairs and Program Professors

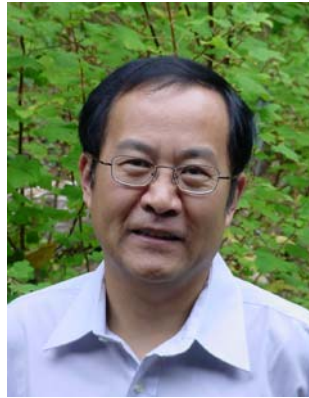
Andrew Harding
Faculty of Law
CAPI Chair in Asia-Pacific
Legal Relations

Wu Guoguang
Department of Political
Science and History
CAPI Chair in China and
Asia-Pacific Relations

Joseph Kess
Department of Linguistics
Emeritus CAPI Chair in Japan
and Asia-Pacific Relations

CAPI Program Initiatives

China Program



Wu Guoguang
Department of Political
Science and History and
CAPI China Chair



In 2008 the China program organized its fifth symposium since the China Chair joined the Centre in 2004. The symposium, "Foreign-Domestic Linkages in China's International Behaviours", was held from April 24 to 25, 2008. The conference was generously funded with \$35,000 by external supporters, and featured the presentation of ten papers by scholars from China, Hong Kong, Australia, the United Kingdom and North America. The China Chair also joined the Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast 2008 Annual Conference, organizing two panels on China's relations with Asia, and legal reforms, and chaired two panels as well.

In the summer of 2008, a volume of papers from the China program's June 2006 symposium, "Zhao Ziyang and China's Political Future", was published by Routledge. Another conference volume based on an October 2006 conference organized by the China program, "Socialist China, Capitalist China: Social-Political Conflicts under Globalization", was also accepted by Routledge for publication. This constitutes three volumes in the past two years to be published under the co-editorship of Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne; and as with past volumes, manuscript preparation was greatly assisted by Stella Chan, CAPI Secretary.

In addition to this, the China Chair published five journal articles, and sat on the editorial board of four International refereed journals of China and Asian studies: *East Asia: An International Quarterly* (University of Durham, UK), *China: An International Journal* (National University of Singapore), *China Perspectives* (Paris and Hong Kong: Contemporary Centre for China Studies) and *Modern China Studies* (Princeton, USA). During the reporting period, the China Chair also served as a referee of article reviews for a number of journals, including: *Journal of Third World Studies*, *Pacific Affairs*, and *East Asia: An International Quarterly*. In addition, the Chair served as a reviewer for an associate tenure application of an associate professor of political science, a research fellow and the appointment of a professor of political science, at the Institute of Sinica, Taiwan.

The China Chair traveled to deliver papers and speeches, participate in conferences and engage in other outreach activities in Taiwan, Vancouver, Toronto, Paris, Brussels, as well as chairing three panels at conferences here at the University of Victoria. The Chair also conducted research fieldwork in China in 2007 and 2008 on China's National Party Congress, with support from a three-year SSHRC grant.

Governance and Asia-Pacific Legal Relations Program



Andrew Harding
Faculty of Law and
CAPI Law Chair

The Law Chair wishes to extend his sincere appreciation for the unstinting and invaluable support he has received from all CAPI staff and colleagues for their work on the Chair's programs and conferences within the past year. During this time, the Law Faculty and CAPI cooperated on a number of projects, including a unique enterprise at UVic, the offering of an Asian Law Summer Program. This program involved the teaching of four Asian law courses to 20 mainly UVic students and the mounting of an international workshop on "New Courts in the Asia-Pacific Region", held from July 13 to 15, 2007. Significant work was also undertaken in the planning of a Thai Judicial Environmental Law Training Program, which was held in July 2008.

In June 2007, the Law Chair acted as the editor for the publication, *Access to Environmental Justice: a Comparative Study* (Leiden by Martinus Nijhoff), which is the 11th volume in the *London-Leiden Series on Law, Administration and Development*, of which the Law Chair himself is a founding editor. This volume presents the first comparative survey of access to environmental justice, and will be of considerable use to lawyers, policy-makers, activists and scholars. The book contains eight chapters, including two written by the Law Chair. In August 2007, the Law Chair together with Professor HP Lee of Monash University published, *Constitutional Landmarks in Malaysia: the First 50 Years, 1957-2007* (Malayan Law Journal/ LexisNexis). The book is a warts-and-all survey of 50 years of intense constitutional activity in Malaysia and examines critically the question why and how Malaysia has kept the same constitution for a remarkable half-century. It contains a foreword by HRH the Sultan of Perak, and was launched on August 8, 2007 in Kuala Lumpur, as part of Malaysia's 50th Anniversary celebrations, by the then Minister for Arts, Culture and National Heritage, Datuk Seri Utama Dr Rais Yatim, who also contributed the opening chapter of the book. Other contributors included noted scholars and legal practitioners from Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and Canada, with the Law Chair contributing two chapters.

In September 2007, the Law Chair visited Australia, delivering a public lecture in Melbourne University Law School's Comparative Law Series, and a staff seminar at the Asian Law Centre, with whom CAPI has a long and fruitful relationship. He then visited Wollongong University to present a paper at a seminar organized around themes of the book, *Globalization and Resistance: Law Reform in Asia Since the Crisis* (Oxford, Hart Publishing), to which the Law Chair contributed a chapter. The Law Chair also visited the UK and Europe from October to December 2007, where he worked on a journal special issue on constitutional courts and a book series, *Constitutional Systems of the World* (Hart Publishing). This tour also involved presentations, seminars and classes on Thai constitutional law and legal history at the School of Oriental and African Studies - University of London, University College London, Leiden University Law Faculty's Van Vollenhoven Institute, Johns Hopkins University/Bologna University in Bologna, and at Bocconi University in Milan where the Law Chair held a brief visiting appointment. The Italian section of the tour continued with a presentation on Malaysian local government at a conference in Rome; the co-hosting of a conference at Pescara Law School on contemporary constitutionalism; and the co-hosting of a conference between CAPI and Siena University's Centre for European and Comparative Law on Asian constitutionalism in transition, at which the Law Chair presented a theoretical paper on the study of Asian law. The Law Chair also attended and presented at conferences in Singapore and Montreal, and took a short-term appointment at the Law Faculty at the National University of Singapore, as a Distinguished Visitor of the University during August 2008, during which time he taught an intensive seminar on "Law, Governance and Development in Asia".

The Law Chair is also happy to report that CAPI and the Law Faculty ran the 12th International Competition for the LLM program at Kyushu University. Sean McGinty, a graduate of the Asian Law Summer Program and graduating law student, obtained a Kyushu scholarship and will proceed to Japan in September 2008. The Law Chair also had the pleasure of attending Kyushu's annual law and development conference in February 2008. Cooperation with Kyushu continues with the joint organization of a conference between CAPI and Kyushu and Royal Roads University's Faculty of Management on the subject of "Special Economic Zones in Asian Market Economies" (SEZAME), which will take place at Kyushu in February 2009.



CAPI International Internship Program

This year brought continued growth and success to CAPI's International Internship Program. With nine placements funded through the Canadian International Development Agency's International Youth Internship Program (IYIP), four through the Students for Development Program, and two CAPI-funded interns in Japan (please see page nine for further details), CAPI had an unprecedented fifteen interns "in the field" in 2008-09. The IYIP interns arrived in Victoria to participate in an intensive four day pre-departure briefing in the third week of July 2008, and then headed off to their placements in Vietnam, Cambodia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Cook Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia. Our interns are based in progressive host organizations working on a range of issues from community development to conservation, migration, HIV/AIDS and human rights. We are very excited to be continuing our partnerships with many great NGOs throughout the Asia-Pacific region and we wish the interns all the best in their placements!

The 2008-09 Interns are:

- Helen Beynon, a graduate of Simon Fraser University in Communications is working as a Program Officer for the Micronesia Conservation Trust in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.
- Kate Duplessis, a graduate of Carleton University in Social Work is working as a Program Officer - Capacity Building and Outreach with the National Centre Against Violence in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- Adam Houston, a UVic Law graduate is working as a Program Officer - Human Rights for the Legal and Human Rights Task Force with the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.
- Anjali Lowe, a UVic graduate of Linguistics is working as a Program Officer with Migrant Forum in Asia, in Quezon City, Philippines.
- Gabriel Rose, a graduate of Simon Fraser University in International Development is working as a Community Development Advisor with the Centre for Marinelife Conservation and Community Development in Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Celeste Shankland, a Law graduate of McGill University is working as a Legal Advisor with the National Centre Against Violence in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- Morgan Slavkin, a UVic graduate of Pacific and Asian Studies is working as a Program Officer with the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.
- Bridgitt Sloan McMullen, a graduate of the University of Alberta in Political Science and Women's Studies is working as a Program Officer with the Mongolian Gender Equality Center in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- Thomas Sullivan, a graduate of the University of Guelph in International Development is working as a Program Officer in Environmental Governance with the Participatory Management of Coastal Resources in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Congratulations to this inspiring group of 2008-09 CAPI interns!



To learn more about CAPI's
Internship Program visit our
website at: www.capi.uvic.ca

Experiential learning at its best...

"Brighton is amazing and this masters program is so stupendously perfect for me...I'm bursting at the seams everyday. First of all, it is ONLY due to my internship that any of this could have happened. In retrospect, the amount of knowledge I amassed during my time in the Philippines on migration has enabled me to approach this masters with a solid base and confidence in the readings and discussions that will come. I hope you know what a concretely positive result it has yielded for me. Hooray for CAPI!"

- Simmi Dixit, Intern with Migrant Forum in Asia, Quezon City, Philippines

"...the chance to participate in this CAPI internship has been a once in a lifetime opportunity. I knew when I left Canada that I would be doing something interesting and exciting, but nothing could have prepared me for the enormity of my experience. I have grown immeasurably as a professional – having had the opportunity to participate in work that is important, relevant, challenging and rewarding. I have also grown immeasurably as an individual – knowing that I am capable of adapting and learning. Words can't express how grateful I am to CAPI and to CIDA for allowing me to participate in this remarkable program. It is so much more than simply a way to gain relevant work experience – it is an opportunity to learn about yourself, about a new culture, about new issues and about the broader world."

- Stacey Lambert, Intern with the Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

"This placement has helped me to start shaping my future career and academic goals – in terms of finally helping me direct my passion for HIV/AIDS issues and research into a specific area of work and study. I feel that it has been invaluable experience to gain a sense of direction for my future work and study. Also, experiencing my first foray into working overseas for an HIV/AIDS NGO, has been both character building and humbling. There is much to learn and be aware of when working in the 'development' field in order to ensure you are able to make valuable contributions to a region's HIV struggles as an 'outsider', with an 'outsider's' perspective. Since PIAF is a regional NGO, it is a perfect place to gain an understanding about the Pacific region, foster regional connections and gain experience in working cross-culturally within and between these island nations."

- Sally McBride, Intern with the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation, Rarotonga, Cook Islands

"I know these internships are about different things to different people, but that at their core they are supposed to set people up in conditions where they can build career skills and networks, contribute to some of the better "development work" that is going on around the world, and do some self-exploration. My placement was right on the mark for me in each of these three respects. I knew that the match with MCD was going to be a good one common interests-wise and it didn't let me down. If I could have planned a seven month career development project of my own, it wouldn't have been much different from the kinds of things I've been allowed to do here. It really was a tailor made career experience that I hope will give me a foot in the door for more of the same...a fantastic experience all in all."

- Peter Rosenbluth, Intern with Centre for Marinelifes Conservation and Community Development, Hanoi, Vietnam



CAPI Students for Development Placements

CAPI is proud to be continuing its Students for Development placements, which began in 2006-07. The program, funded through the Canadian International Development Agency and managed by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada offers funding for students to spend four to six months working on governance projects in developing countries. Two of the four students who were selected for the program were placed with the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation in Rarotonga, Cook Islands: Michelle Reid who is completing her Honours in Anthropology left in May and Hilary Gorman, who is completing her MA in Pacific and Asian Studies, departed in mid September. Sayuri Holman, who is also completing an MA in Pacific and Asian Studies, left in May to work with the Micronesia Conservation Trust, and Lindsay Walton, in her third year of a BA in Political Science and Women's Studies, went to work with the National Center Against Violence in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in May as well. We look forward to continuing to offer placements through the Students for Development Program in the future.



CAPI 2008-09 Students for Development participant and UVic graduate student Hilary Gorman with a colleague at the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation.

Taiwan Study Program

In coordination with UVic, CAPI facilitated a student exchange program with National Sun Yat Sen University (NSYSU) in Taiwan. The program allowed six UVic students the opportunity to study in Hsi-tzi Bay, Kaohsiung, Taiwan for the summer semester. The six students were immersed in an intensive language program at the University. They also participated in extracurricular activities to expose and integrate the students to the local culture. The 2007-2008 participants, Ben Kong, Caitlin Sheen, Naomi Jankovics, Nicholas Van Heyst, Ryman Wong, and Greg Wood left in June and completed the program in August. The participants have reported that they learned an immense amount of Mandarin and really enjoyed the local Taiwanese cuisine and activities.

CAPI UVic Interns in Japan

As part of our ongoing efforts to establish broader linkages with Japan, CAPI sent two interns to Tokyo this year. These placements, fully funded by CAPI, are intended to provide opportunities for young Canadians to live and work in Japan, develop their Japanese language skills, and build relationships with organizations in the region.

The two interns who were selected for the five-month internships are Heidi Wudrick, a UVic Philosophy and Professional Writing student, who will be working as an Information Officer at the Asia-Japan Women's Resource Centre, in Shibuya, Tokyo, and Alison Scott, a Sociology student at UVic who is working as a Project Assistant with the Womens' Active Museum on War and Peace in Shinjuku, Tokyo. We are pleased to be promoting greater knowledge and understanding of Japan among our students and the wider community, and look forward to building on these placements in the future.

Vietnam Legal Reform Assistance Project

Having received a six-month extension from the Canadian International Development Agency, CAPI, under the direction of Assistant Director, Helen Lansdowne, completed the final programming of the Vietnam Legal Reform Assistance Project (LERAP). LERAP, which began in March 2003, focused on strengthening the professional capacity of the Ministry of Justice in Vietnam to handle significant legal change issues facing the country. This included hosting Nguyen Van Cuong, a lawyer with the Vietnam Ministry of Justice, who attended UVic's Law School under the supervision of Professor Jeremy Webber in the fall of 2007 for four months. One of the highlights of LERAP was the seven visitors who came to Canada to work with the Law faculty at the University during the life of the Project. As a testament to the success of such visits, we are happy to report that Cuong will be returning in September to pursue a PhD with the Faculty of Law.



CAPI On-Campus Activities

CAPI's On-Campus Lectures and Events



Islamic Finance in Malaysia

Dato' Dr. Nik Norzrul Thani,
Legal Counsel

Thursday July 3, 2007

*No More Walkabout Long
Chinatown: Asian Involvement in
the Solomon Islands*

Clive Moore, School of
History, Philosophy, Religion
and Classics, University of
Queensland

Thursday September 13, 2007

*Experiences Doing
Ethnobotanical Research in
Yunnan, China*

Ken Marr, Royal British
Columbia Museum

Thursday October 4, 2007

*Politics, Ethics, and the Problem
of Humanitarianism Today*

Adrian McIntyre, Department
of Anthropology, University of
California, Berkeley

Thursday October 11, 2007

Traditional Chiefs, the Methodist Church and Marine Turtle Conservation in Fiji

Kenneth T. MacKay, Institute of Marine Resources, University of the South Pacific

Friday January 18, 2008

Nepal in Conflict: Stakeholders and Proliferation

Ivan Somlai, Director of Global Collaboration and CAPI Associate

Thursday January 31, 2008

Romantic Dreams, Drama Tourism and Japan's 'Hanryu Boom': Exploring Japanese Identity, Gender, Ethnicity and Japan-Korea Relations through Popular Culture

Millie Creighton, Department of Anthropology, Centre for Japanese Research Executive Board, and Centre for Korean Research Executive Board, University of British Columbia

Tuesday February 5, 2008

One Lifeboat: China and the World's Environment and Development

Arthur J. Hanson, Distinguished Fellow and Former President of the International Institute for Sustainable Development

Thursday February 7, 2008

World Systems without History: Indigenous Populations of the Asia-Pacific Region

Christopher Morgan, Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Victoria

Tuesday February 26, 2008

The Blunting of the Keris: Reflections on the Malaysian General Elections 2008

Andrew Harding, CAPI Law Chair, University of Victoria

Friday March 28, 2008

CAPI Student Symposium on Asia-Pacific 2008

Presentations on the Asia-Pacific region by UVic Undergraduate and graduate students

Wednesday February 13, 2008

CAPI Asia-Pacific Film Festival

Films:

Another Western, Adeline Huynh
First Winter Last, Ana de Lara
Sacrifice, Ellen Bruno
Peati and Irene, Ingrid Leary
New Year Baby, Socheate Poeuv

Saturday March 8, 2008



To learn more about CAPI's On-Campus Activities visit our website at: www.capi.uvic.ca

CAPI Student Events

CAPI Student Symposium on the Asia-Pacific

February 13, 2008

CAPI's Student Symposium on the Asia-Pacific 2008 featured presentations on the Asia-Pacific region by a number of UVic undergraduate and graduate students.

Presentations included:

- "Reproductive Rights in Indonesia", Hilary Gorman, Pacific and Asian Studies
- "Untouchability during India's Independence", Lara deBeyer, History and Religious Studies
- "From Chinese Babies to US Children", Morgan Slavkin, Pacific and Asian Studies
- "Politics of Stratified Reproduction in Colonial Fiji", Sayuri Holman, Pacific and Asian Studies
- "Chinese Politeness and Cross Cultural Communication", Jun Tian, Linguistics
- "Arahmaiani's Identity: Deconstructing the Other", Michelle Brunet, History in Art
- "Candi Loro Jomggtant in Cental Java", Heather Mackay, History in Art
- "A Study of Wei An's Deep Ecological View", Yulin Zhou, Pacific and Asian Studies
- "June 4th and the Theme of the Sixth Generations Films", Steven Lo, Political Science
- "East Asian Naval Arms Race", Tom Bruce, History and Political Science
- "The Narrative Co-Constuction of a Chinese Folktales", Ya Lin, Linguistics

CAPI Student
Coordinator
2007-08
Courtney Robinson,
Environmental
Studies



Keep in Touch

CAPI's Distribution List

Join CAPI's e-distribution list online at www.capi.uvic.ca or by emailing capi@uvic.ca. More than 250 people in our community receive email updates about all of CAPI's opportunities and events.

Asia-Pacific News

CAPI's newsletter Asia-Pacific News is produced twice a year in the Spring and in the Fall and contains interesting articles on the Asia-Pacific region as well as updates on CAPI's initiatives and events. Back issues of Asia-Pacific News are available on CAPI's website at: www.capi.uvic.ca or by contacting the CAPI office.

CAPI Online

Visit CAPI online at:
www.capi.uvic.ca

CAPI's website contains up-to-date information on all of our work including: Events, Opportunities, People at CAPI, Programs and Publications.

CAPI Asia-Pacific Film Festival

March 8, 2008

The CAPI Asia-Pacific Film Festival, which was organized by Courtney Robinson, CAPI's Student Coordinator, was held as a fundraiser for CAPI's International Internship Program. The event showcased five films: *AnOther Western* by local filmmaker Adeline Huynh and *First Winter Last* by Ana de Lara; *Sacrifice* by award-winning documentary filmmaker, Ellen Bruno; *Peati and Irene*, two films which won the *Peace and Development in the Pacific Award* and were produced by Ingrid Leary as part of the *Positive Lives* documentary series and the Pacific Islands AIDS Foundation; and *New Year Baby* by filmmaker Socheata Poeuv, which won an Amnesty International *Movies that Matter Award*.

CAPI Sponsored Events

Asian Law Summer Program

June 25 to August 3, 2007

From the 25th of June to the 3rd of August 2007, the Law Faculty and CAPI cooperated on a unique enterprise at UVic, the offering of an Asian Law Summer Program during the second half of the Summer Term. This program involved the teaching of four Asian law courses to 20 mainly UVic students and the mounting of an international workshop, "New Courts in the Asia-Pacific Region", held from July 13 to 15, 2007. The teaching program brought to UVic, Professor Mark Sidel, a noted Asian law scholar; Dr Dan Puchniak from Kyushu University (UVic Law Graduate 2002); and Professor Connie Carter of Royal Roads University; in addition the Law Chair offered a course on Law and Society in South East Asia. Student responses to the program were overwhelmingly positive, and several have gone on to undertake masters programs in Asian law and other Asian-law related projects; for example, Len Statz (UVic Law, 2nd year) obtained a CAPI Internship to work with a domestic violence organization in Mongolia.



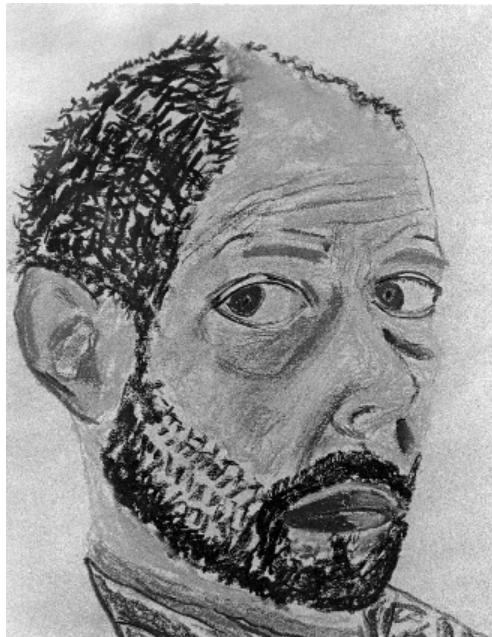
New Courts in the Asia-Pacific Region Workshop

July 13 to 15, 2007

The workshop brought 22 participants from as far afield as the Netherlands, the Philippines and Australia, and was the first scholarly meeting to discuss the phenomenon of new, specialist courts in Asia; it was organized in conjunction with the Asian Law Centre (ALC), Melbourne University Law School. ALC's Dr Pip Nicholson co-convoked the workshop with the Law Chair, and they are now editing the proceedings for publication with RoutledgeCurzon in early 2009. The workshop was funded substantially by SSHRC. Thanks goes to Heidi Tyedmers for her wonderful work on the application, conference website and conference organization, and to Law student Sean McGinty for his assistance in relation to the conference and the teaching program. Several workshop participants contributed classes to the Law School's summer teaching program, and the students were also able to attend the workshop itself.

State Evasion in Mainland Southeast Asia: Why Civilizations Can't Climb Hills The Inaugural Albert Hung Lecture

November 27, 2007



James Scott: Self-Portrait

The Centre launched an annual lecture series named for the University's benefactor and honorary degree holder Dr. Albert Hung Chao-hong. Dr. Hung is an entrepreneur and philanthropist with business interests in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan and North America, and a record of generous gifts to educational and sports foundations.

The Albert Hung Chao Hong Lecture Series provides an opportunity for a distinguished visitor to address a community audience on a topic of current public interest in the Asia-Pacific region.

The first Hung Lecture was delivered on November 27, 2007 by James Scott, Sterling Professor of Political Science and Professor of Anthropology at Yale University. Dr. Scott is an influential scholar of Southeast Asia whose works include: *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance* (1987) and *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed* (1997). In recent years, Dr. Scott has been conducting field research in Burma; his lecture, "State Evasion in Mainland Southeast Asia: Why Civilizations Can't Climb Hills", was both a report on his recent research and a foretaste of his next work. With examples from Asia and other parts of the world, both historical and contemporary, Dr. Scott explored the influence of topography on social and political organization, proposing that marginalized groups find themselves isolated in inaccessible and hilly regions while dominant or conquering civilization enjoy the prosperity of the lowlands.

While at the University of Victoria, Dr. Scott also met with members of the Departments of Political Science, Anthropology, and Pacific and Asian Studies, and spoke with undergraduate and graduate students about their research and his own.

To find out about CAPI's upcoming events and conferences visit our website at: www.capi.uvic.ca

Japan-China Cultural Relations Workshop

January 24 to 26, 2008

In mid-2007 CAPI obtained a SSHRC workshop grant to bring together a group of scholars from a number of disciplines – history, political science, literature, film, and theatre – to consider an important aspect of the relations between the two major powers in East Asia in a time of increased contact and catastrophic conflict. The workshop was designed by CAPI Director, Richard King; Cody Poulton, Chair of the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies; and Katsuhiko Endo, also of Pacific and Asian Studies. The organizers plan to produce an edited volume of papers from the workshop.

For a century, from Western incursions in the mid-nineteenth century to the end of the Second World War in 1945, Japan was the dominant force in East Asia. Portions of China were occupied by Japanese armies for much of the first half of the last century, and during the 1930s, the Chinese Northeast, with its abundant mineral resources, was colonized by Japan. Japanese troops invaded the rest of China in 1937, beginning a war that would last for eight years. The scars of that conflict, and the belief held by the Chinese that Japan has failed to atone for wartime atrocities, continue to cast a shadow over relations between the two nations.

In addition to conflict however, this was also a time of great intellectual and cultural exchange. Chinese intellectuals and diplomats enjoyed poetic exchanges with their Japanese counterparts in the late 19th century. Students of these intellectuals followed their path and learned of Western science, political and philosophical ideas, and popular culture through the Japanese barriers. Both nations' intellectuals defined themselves in part with reference to the other, leading to a close, if fraught, relationship. Panels at the conference were dedicated to poetic exchange, movements of people and ideas, the coming of modernity and the revolt against Confucian tradition, the popular culture of the great city of Shanghai and its Japanese connections, Japanese colonialism in Northeastern China, and the representation by Chinese and Japanese playwrights and filmmakers of their shared history.



Foreign-Domestic Linkages in China's International Behaviours Conference

April 24 to 25, 2008

This one-and-a-half-day symposium was organized by the China Chair, Guoguang Wu, and featured the presentation of ten papers by scholars from China, Hong Kong, Australia, UK, and North America. Among the topics presented were: ideational sources of China's international behaviour, the impact of overseas studies on Chinese perceptions of the outside world, history education and domestic propaganda and their influence on China's international behaviour, bureaucratic behaviours in China's climate policy, and how China's domestic politics and foreign policy interact on the Taiwan issue.

Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast 2008 Crossing Boundaries in the Asia-Pacific: Regional and Disciplinary Intersections

June 13 to 15, 2008

In June 2008, CAPI hosted the 42nd Annual Conference of Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast (ASPAC). ASPAC is the westernmost division of the Association for Asian Studies, the largest organization of academic Asian specialists, with members from British Columbia and Alberta, and the Western United States, from California to Alaska, and Hawaii. This year we were also joined by scholars from Western and Eastern Europe, Eastern Canada, Eastern United States, and Asia Pacific countries including China, Taiwan, Korea, Philippines, Australia and New Zealand.

Over three days, 145 papers were delivered in 42 panels. Presenters included faculty, graduate students, and independent scholars, on a very wide variety of subjects in disciplines that included the humanities and social sciences, fine arts, law, business, and public health from all parts of Asia, and the diasporic communities of these regions in North America. ASPAC's annual award for the best student paper submitted to the conference was given to Di Yin Lu (Harvard University) for her paper, "Collecting China: The Japanese Empire Shops in the Chinese Art Market". A number of UVic faculty including CAPI's Chairs, Director, and Assistant Director, participated as panel organizers, presenters, chairs and discussants. The organization of the conference and the conference website was managed by Heidi Tyedmers, who was assisted at the conference by a small army of staff and student volunteers marshaled by Carla Taylor and Atsuko Umeki.

At the opening ceremony, participants heard a presentation from Yuen-Pau Woo, Chief Executive Officer of the Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada on "Canadian Views on Asia: Results of a National Opinion Poll". The keynote speech at the conference banquet was delivered by Professor Elizabeth Perry, Henry Rosovsky Professor of Government at Harvard University, on "Chinese Conceptions of 'Rights': From Mencius to Mao – and Now". There was also an evening film show in which American film-maker Ellen Bruno presented her film *Sacrifice*, the story of child prostitutes from Burma, and answered questions on her film-making.

This was the first time in many years that ASPAC had held its annual conference in Canada, and the first in Victoria. Next year, the conference will be in California, but we have had requests from the ASPAC Board for a return to Vancouver Island before too long.



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Initiatives
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CAPI Awards and Fellowships

Congratulations!



Student Research Fellowship

Sayuri Holman
MA Student
Department of Pacific and Asian Studies

Project: *Men, matrimony and masculinities: Some implications of changing marriage patterns for Fijian men*



Student Language Fellowship

Nicola Bancroft
BA Student
Department of Pacific and Asian Studies

Project: To study the Bahasa Indonesian Language at Yogyakarta, Indonesia



Student Essay Prize

Morgan Slavkin
BA Student
Department of Pacific and Asian Studies

Title: *Coolies, Containment, and Resistance: Asian Migration and the Indentured System in British Guiana*

CAPI Chairs - Publication Update

Wu Guoguang, CAPI China Chair

- Guoguang Wu, 'From Post-Imperial to Late Communist Nationalism: Historical Change in Chinese Nationalism from May Fourth to the 1990s', *Third World Quarterly*, vol. 29, no. 3 (March 2008), pp. 467-482.
- Guoguang Wu, 'From the Great Rock to the Eastern Islet: The Politics of Citizen Engagement and Local Governance in China', *China Perspectives*, no. 73 (June 2008), pp. 70-78.
- Guoguang Wu, 'Engagement citoyen et gouvernance locale en Chine', *Perspectives Chinoises*, no. 102 (June 2008), pp. 72-80 (translated by Raphael Jacquet).
- Guoguang Wu, 'Hong Kong's Political Influence over China: Institutional, Informative, and Interactive Dynamics of Sovereignty', *The Pacific Review*, vol. 21, no. 3 (July 2008), pp. 279-302.
- Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne eds., *Zhao Ziyang and China's Political Future* (London: Routledge, 2008), 189 + xii p.
- Guoguang Wu, 'Democracy and Rule of Law in Zhao Ziyang's Political Reform,' in Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne eds., *Zhao Ziyang and China's Political Future* (London: Routledge, 2008), pp. 32-57.
- Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne, 'Introduction' in *Zhao Ziyang and China's Political Future* (London: Routledge, 2008), pp. 1-13.
- Guoguang Wu, 'Conclusion: Zhao Ziyang and China's Transition from Communism,' in *Zhao Ziyang and China's Political Future* (London: Routledge, 2008), pp. 164-185.
- Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne eds., *China Turns to Multilateralism: Foreign Policy and Regional Security* (London: Routledge, 2008; released in August 2007), 303 + xiii pp.
- Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne, 'International Multilateralism with Chinese Characteristics: Attitude Changes, Policy Imperatives, and Regional Impacts,' in Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne eds., *China Turns to Multilateralism: Foreign Policy and Regional Security* (London: Routledge, 2008; released in August 2007), pp. 3-18.
- Guoguang Wu, 'Multiple Levels of Multilateralism: The Rising China in the Turbulent World,' in Guoguang Wu and Helen Lansdowne eds., *China Turns to Multilateralism: Foreign Policy and Regional Security* (London: Routledge, 2008; released in August 2007), pp. 267-289.
- Guoguang Wu, 'The CCP's Eighth National Congress and Anti-Rightist Campaign,' *Modern China Studies*, vol. 14, no. 3 (Fall 2007), pp. 4-22 (in Chinese).



Andrew Harding, CAPI Law Chair

- *New Courts in the Asia-Pacific Region* – work is ongoing for the publication of the proceedings of this conference, which was held July 13 to 15, 2007.
- "The Eclipse of the Astrologers: King Mongkut, His Successors and the Reformation of Law in Thailand", which appears as a chapter in a new book edited by Dr Pip Nicholson and Dr Sarah Biddulph of the Asian Law Centre, Melbourne University, entitled *Examining Practice, Interrogating Theory: Comparative Legal Studies in Asia* (Leiden, Martinus Nijhoff, 2009, forthcoming).
- *Constitutional Landmarks in Malaysia: The First 50 Years* – This book was published by the Malayan Law Journal/ LexisNexis in Kuala Lumpur in July 2007 in time for the 50th anniversary independence celebrations on August 31, 2007. CAPI's Law Chair was invited by Malaysia's Minister for National Heritage to participate in these celebrations as a distinguished friend of Malaysia, and the book was launched by the Deputy Prime Minister on August 17, 2007.
- *Hart Series: Constitutional Systems of the World* – This series, co-edited by CAPI Law Chair Andrew Harding along with Professor Peter Leyland has books contracted on Vietnam, China, India, Philippines, Japan, Malaysia and Thailand, with negotiations in train with regard to Indonesia, Pakistan and Singapore.
- *Constitutional Courts: Journal of Comparative Law Special Issue 2008* – This project was greatly assisted by law student Joana Thackeray during summer 2006 as the Fraser Milner Casgrain Summer Fellowship holder, and by the addition of Dr Tania Groppi of the University of Siena, to CAPI Law Chair Andrew Harding and Professor Peter Leyland as an editor of the special issue which will be published by the *Journal of Comparative Law* in 2008. It involves 16 country-studies, including several Asian jurisdictions.
- *Special Economic Zones in Asia* – This project, with CAPI Associate Connie Carter of Royal Roads University, has been under intensive and ongoing planning and is supported by numerous eminent colleagues internationally.

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United Kingdom

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and Cross-Strait Studies

Taipei Economic and
Cultural Office, Vancouver

The Association of Asian
Studies

Asian Law Centre, University of
Melbourne, Australia

International Centre of
Excellence in Asia-Pacific
Studies, Australian National
University, Australia

Office of the President,
University of Victoria

Dean of Law, University of
Victoria

Dean of Social Science,
University of Victoria

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University of Victoria

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