

NEWSLETTER 2019

PACIFIC ASIAN
STUDENT SOCIETY



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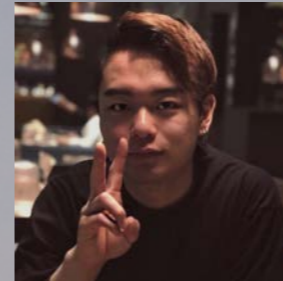
INTRODUCTION

Thank you so much for taking the time to read and appreciate this PASS publication! This newsletter represents our community's ongoing desire to facilitate connections between students, faculty, and the department. This publication will also encourage our growth.

In this publication, you will find news, helpful information, discourse, opinions, and stories shared by your peers. Produced completely by students, this newsletter is your platform, so seize this opportunity to get to know your department and learn how important your voice is to the greater Pacific and Asian Studies community.

Publication of this newsletter is made possible by financial support from the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies and the Associate Dean Research of Humanities, in support of student participation in community discourse. Many thanks to the students and faculty who gave their time to the completion and content of this newsletter. It was a pleasure to work with you.

MEET THE COURSE UNION FOR PASS!



KAI KIKUCHI
• PRESIDENT



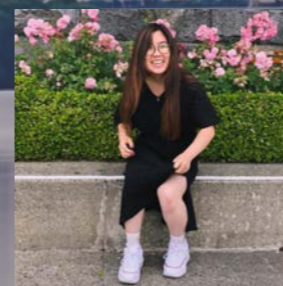
ANNA BRANDFORS
• EXECUTIVE



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• VICE PRESIDENT
• TREASURER
• UNDERGRAD REP



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• EXECUTIVE



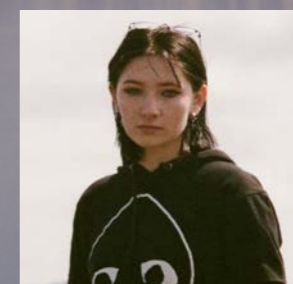
TIA SAKIYAMA
• SOCIAL MEDIA
COORDINATOR
• EXECUTIVE



WAE-SHAN GOH
• EXECUTIVE



QUENTINE DELINE
• EQUITY REP



HOPE CALDWELL
• EXECUTIVE



YU SUZUKI
• EXECUTIVE

NEW MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY!

MAMORU HATAKEYAMA



BEN PIN- YUN WANG



HELLO, EVERYONE! MY OFFICIAL NAME, IN CHINESE, IS PIN-YUN WANG (王炳匀), BUT HERE I AM ALSO KNOWN BY MY ENGLISH NAME, BEN. I AM ORIGINALLY FROM TAIPEI, TAIWAN. BEFORE RELOCATING TO VICTORIA THIS SUMMER, I HAD LIVED IN PENNSYLVANIA FOR EIGHT YEARS. I AM THEREFORE VERY EXCITED TO MOVE HERE AND ENJOY WARMER WEATHER IN THE WINTER AS WELL AS FRESH SEAFOOD!

AT UVIC, I AM MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR TEACHING CHINESE LANGUAGE COURSES FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS. IN THESE COURSES, I AIM TO NOT ONLY ENHANCE THE LEARNERS' COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE IN MANDARIN CHINESE, BUT TO INSPIRE THEM TO APPRECIATE THE BEAUTY AND QUIRKNESSESS OF THE LANGUAGE AS A WINDOW TO CHINESE CULTURE IN GENERAL. WITNESSING MY STUDENTS' GROWTH IN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND IN CROSS-CULTURAL AWARENESS IS AMONG THE BEST PARTS OF MY JOB.

YOU MAY ALSO SEE ME OFFERING COURSES ABOUT SOME SOCIO-CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC ISSUES OF THE CONTEMPORARY CHINESE-SPEAKING WORLD, DEPENDING ON DEPARTMENTAL NEEDS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN SPRING 2020, I AM OFFERING A SPECIAL-TOPICS COURSE IN ENGLISH: GLOBAL TAIWAN (PAAS 395), IN WHICH STUDENTS WILL BE TAKEN ON A JOURNEY THAT EXPLORES—THROUGH READINGS, LITERATURE, FILM AND OTHER MEDIA—THE KEY ASPECTS OF TAIWANESE HISTORY, CULTURE AND SOCIETY. COME JOIN AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE DYNAMIC RELATIONS AND INTERACTIONS THAT THIS MULTI-ETHNIC, MULTI-LINGUAL, AND MULTI-CULTURAL ISLAND HAS WITH COUNTRIES IN ASIA, NORTH AMERICA AND BEYOND!

IN MY SPARE TIME, I LOVE TO TRAVEL AND ENJOY BOWLING (WITH MY SKINNY ARM) VERY MUCH. AS A NEW FACULTY MEMBER, I AM EAGER TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT OUR PAAS STUDENTS ARE INTERESTED IN. FEEL FREE TO DROP BY MY OFFICE (CLE C210) OR WRITE ME AN EMAIL (BENPYWANG@UVIC.CA) WHEN YOU WANT TO HAVE A CHAT ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE AND GOALS!

I GREW UP IN TOKYO AND HAD NEVER LEFT JAPAN UNTIL I CAME TO CANADA IN LATE 80'S. I WAS AN EXCHANGE STUDENT AND WENT TO A HIGH SCHOOL IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE IN SOUTHERN ALBERTA. FACED WITH THE NEED TO USE ENGLISH TO EXPLAIN JAPANESE CULTURE, HISTORY, AND LANGUAGE, I LEARNED NOT ONLY THE MEDIUM (ENGLISH) BUT ALSO THE CONTENT (JAPANESE). BUT, MOST IMPORTANTLY, I WAS FASCINATED WITH HOW CHALLENGING BUT REWARDING IT IS TO EXAMINE AND EXPLAIN WHAT I THINK I KNEW IMPLICITLY. IT WAS THEN I KNEW WHAT I WANTED TO DO WHEN I GREW UP.

AFTER GRADUATING FROM A COLLEGE IN TOKYO, I WORKED AS A "SALARY-MAN" FOR A FEW YEARS AND WENT TO A GRADUATE SCHOOL IN U.S. SINCE THEN I HAVE TAUGHT JAPANESE AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACROSS FIVE DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS RANGING FROM LARGE STATE UNIVERSITY, TO AN IVY SCHOOL, AND A SMALL LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE. I AM VERY EXCITED TO HAVE FINALLY COME BACK TO CANADA TO JOIN PACIFIC AND ASIAN STUDIES AT UVIC.

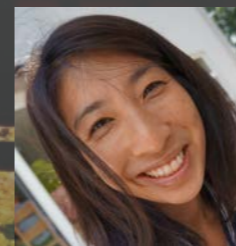
FOR RESEARCH, I AM INTERESTED IN HOW JAPANESE LEARNERS INFER THE MEANING OF UNKNOWN WORDS DURING EXTENSIVE READING AND LEARN SOME OF THOSE VOCABULARY ITEMS WITHOUT INTENDING TO LEARN THEM, IN OTHER WORDS, INCIDENTALLY. ANOTHER AREA HAS TO DO WITH THE INTERACTION OF VOCABULARY, FLUENCY, AND PROFICIENCY DEVELOPMENT IN SPOKEN LANGUAGE.

WHEREVER I TAUGHT, MY OFFICIAL DUTY HAS BEEN TO TEACH JAPANESE LANGUAGE. BUT, IN SOME SENSE, I THINK LEARNING ABOUT OUR OWN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE(S),

EXPERIENCING BEING A LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL MINORITY, AND REALIZING OUR SHARED HUMANITY ACROSS LANGUAGES AS WELL AS NOTICING THE DIVERSITY WITHIN

OUR OWN CULTURE(S) ARE EQUALLY IMPORTANT. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING MY STUDENTS AT UVIC AND EXPLORING THE WORLD THROUGH INTERACTION WITH THE STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM.

QUICK QUESTIONS FOR PROFS



ANGIE CHAU

1)WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR JOB?
WATCHING FILMS AND READING THINGS FOR "WORK" TO FIGURE OUT HOW I CAN USE THEM AS TEACHING MATERIALS IN THE CLASSROOM. ALSO, HEARING STUDENTS' REACTIONS AND PERSPECTIVES THAT ARE TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM MY OWN.

2)WHAT IS THE WORST PART OF YOUR JOB?
HAVING TO CONVINCE STUDENTS THAT HOW THEY DO IN SCHOOL IS MORE THAN JUST ABOUT GETTING GOOD GRADES.

3)WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER 1 ADVICE FOR STUDENTS?
TRY AND FIGURE OUT WAYS TO WORK ON TOPICS OR IDEAS THAT INTEREST YOU IN THE CLASSES YOU TAKE, SINCE IT'S YOUR TIME, AND THIS WILL MAKE ASSIGNMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS MORE MEANINGFUL AND REWARDING!



MIKA KIMURA

1) WHAT IS THE FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR JOB?
THE BEST PART OF THIS JOB IS TO GET TO KNOW OUR STUDENTS AND LEARN ABOUT THEM THROUGH TEACHING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES. I MAY TEACH THE SAME JAPANESE LANGUAGE COURSE TERM BY TERM, BUT THE STUDENTS CHANGE, AND THAT ALWAYS MAKES THE TEACHING CHALLENGING AND FUN.

2) WHAT THE WORST PART ABOUT YOUR JOB?
IT IS HARD TO POINT OUT THE WORST PART OF MY JOB, AS I LIKE MY JOB!! BUT IF I NEED TO SAY ONE, I WOULD SAY TO LOSE CONTACT WITH OUR STUDENTS AFTER THEIR GRADUATION. ONCE STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY, I FEEL LIKE WE BECOME FIGURES IN THEIR PAST. PLEASE DROP A LINE OR VISIT US, SO THAT WE KNOW HOW YOU ARE DOING AFTER YOUR UNIVERSITY DAYS. WE LOVE TO KNOW HOW YOU ARE DOING AFTER YOU GRADUATE!!

3) WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER 1 ADVICE FOR STUDENTS?
IN THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE, THE WORD UNIVERSITY IS WRITTEN AS "大学 (DAIKGAKU)." THESE CHARACTERS INDICATE THAT THE UNIVERSITY IS A PLACE "TO LEARN IN A LARGE WAY." SO, EXPLORE AND ENJOY YOUR UNIVERSITY YEARS. THE TIME IN UNIVERSITY IS FOR YOU TO GET INTO ISSUES YOU WANT TO STUDY AND EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE. BUT ALSO IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO MEET AND MAKE MANY FRIENDS, GET TO KNOW YOUR PROFESSORS, AND EXPERIENCE AND BE INVOLVED DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES. "LEARN IN A LARGE WAY!!"



CODY POULTON

1) WHAT IS THE FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR JOB?
TEACHING OR WRITING! -IT'S A TOSS-UP

2)WHAT THE WORST PART ABOUT YOUR JOB?
MARKING AND GRADING

3) WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER 1 ADVICE FOR STUDENTS?
READ THE ASSIGNMENTS AND BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THEM!

COURSES

WHAT ARE STUDENTS SAYING ABOUT THEIR CLASSES?

PAAS238



My favourite PAAS course is PAAS 238 (Intensive Beginner Japanese II). Through this course, my Japanese improved a lot and my interest in the language and the culture increased. Professor Kimura was excellent at explaining complicated concepts and was very patient and helpful.

- Anna

PAAS181



Acquiring Japanese as a third language has always been on my dream list. Taking PAAS 238 -Intensive Beginner Japanese II allows me to put words into actions. Various practicing opportunities, such as; Japanese video contest and skit presentation were given in this course and highly encouraged by Kimura Sensei.

Even though it might be a fairly intensive course, understand that learning a different language requires patients and active involvements is crucial for me as well. Overall, it was a rewarding journey and I enjoyed all the challenges and fulfillment that came along with it.

-Juno Liu

PAAS181



One of my favourite PAAS classes I've taken at UVic would be PAAS 181: Modern Japanese Culture, because it was the first class I took in the department and it really jump started my interest in Pacific and Asian Studies."

- Hannah

PAAS338



수년간 유빅에 다니면서 여러 가지 마음에 들고 재미있는 수업들이 있었지만, 그 중에 하나를 꼽는다면 역시 일본어 수업이 빠질 수 없습니다. 개인적으로는 새로운 언어를 배우는 것이 좋았고, 또 유빅의 일본어 수업 프로그램이 타 학교에 비해서 잘 짜여 있기 때문입니다. 교수님들 역시 모두 친절하시고 열정이 넘치십니다. 좋은 경험이었다고 생각합니다.

-Chanhee

What is Offered in PAAS?

100 Level Courses

- 100 Introduction to Pacific and Asian Studies
- 101 Text, Manipulation, Propaganda
- 103 Global Wars in Asia and the Pacific
- 118 Intensive Beginner Chinese I
- 120 Introduction to Indonesian-Malay I
- 121 Introduction to Indonesian-Malay II
- 138 Intensive Beginner Japanese I
- 150 Premodern Chinese Culture
- 151 Modern Chinese Culture
- 152 Essentials of Chinese Civilization (in Chinese)
- 170 Premodern Southeast Asian Cultures
- 171 Modern Southeast Asian Cultures
- 180 Premodern Japanese Culture
- 181 Modern Japanese Culture

300 Level Courses

- 300 Social and Economic Issues in the Asia-P...
- 301 Social Theory and Analysis in Pacific and A...
- 302 Literary and Cultural Theory in Pacific and A...
- 304 Asian Aesthetics and Poetics
- 305 Religions of East Asia
- 306 Tibetan Buddhism
- 307 Globalization and Religion
- 309 Human Rights and Cultural Expression in...
- 318 Intermediate Chinese
- 338 Intermediate Japanese
- 340 Integrative Intermediate Japanese
- 341 Advanced Readings in Japanese I
- 342 Advanced Readings in Japanese II
- 343 Advanced Comprehension and Conversation in Ja...
- 344 Advanced Composition in Japanese
- 345 Japanese through Popular Culture
- 351 Contemporary Chinese Society
- 353 Survey of Classical Chinese Literature
- 354 Masterworks of Chinese Fiction
- 355 Modern Chinese Literature and Society 1900-1949
- 356 The Literature of the People's Republic of China 1949..
- 357 Chinese Cinema from Text to Screen
- 358 Screening the Nation: Nationalism, Ideology, and Polit...
- 363 The Buddhist Tradition I
- 364 Indigenous Societies and Colonial Relations in Oceania
- 366 Gendering India from Empire to Bollywood
- 367 Gandhi and the Ethics of Nonviolence
- 372 Southeast Asian Cinema
- 373 The Theatre of Indonesia
- 380 Japanese Economy, Politics and Culture
- 385 Love Sex in Japanese Culture
- 386 Premodern Japanese Literature in Translation
- 388 Modern Japanese Literature in Translation
- 393 Humanism in Japanese Cinema to the 1960s
- 394 Pre-modern Japanese Theatre
- 395 Intermediate Topics in Pacific and Asian Studies
- 397 Field School in Pacific and Asian Studies
- 398 Asia-Pacific Experience Research Project
- 399 Sociolinguistic Issues in Japanese

200 Level Courses

- 200 Introduction to Theories and Methods in Pacific and Asian Studies
- 202 Topics in Asian Cinema
- 204 Introduction to Asian Religions
- 206 Comics and Graphics Novels in Asia and the Pacific
- 207 Ghosts and Spirits
- 208 Family and Gender in the Pacific
- 209 Introductory Special Topics in Pacific and Asian Studies
- 218 Intensive Beginner Chinese II
- 220 Intermediate Indonesian-Malay I
- 221 Intermediate Indonesian-Malay II
- 238 Intensive Beginner Japanese II
- 262 Introduction to Oceania
- 279 Introduction to the Chinese Language and Linguistics
- 280 A Taste of Japan
- 299 Experimental Learning

400 Level Courses

- 400 Advanced Research Seminar
- 403 Capitalist Economy and the Asia-Pacific
- 404 Asian Horror Cinema
- 406 Ideology and Cultural Conflict in the Asia-Pacific
- 409 Globalization, Cosmopolitanism and Asian-Pacific Cultures
- 410 Advanced Mandarin for Native Speakers of Chinese
- 411 Directed Readings in Chinese Language
- 412 Understanding Chinese Media
- 413 Effective Communication in Chinese
- 418 Classical Chinese Prose
- 420 Chinese Narrative
- 430 Seminar in Modern Japanese Literature
- 432 Directed Readings in Japanese
- 451 Asian Mega-Cities and Urban Regions
- 452 Acquisition of Chinese as an Additional Language
- 455 Authors in Contemporary Chinese Literature
- 456 Thematic Study of Contemporary Chinese Literature in Translation
- 457 Authors in Classical Chinese Literature
- 458 Themes in Classical Chinese Literature
- 459 Directed Readings in Chinese Linguistics
- 464 Topics in Studies of Australasia
- 484 Identity in Animated Japanese Cinema
- 485 Seminar in Japanese Language, Literature and Culture
- 486 Modern Japanese Theatre
- 487 Trends in Japanese Cinema, 1960 to Present
- 488 Japanese Fantasy
- 493 Seminar in Buddhism in English
- 494 Special Topics in Translating Asian Languages
- 495 Advanced Topics in Pacific and Asian Studies
- 496 Directed Studies in Pacific and Asian Studies
- 497 Special Topics in Asian Languages
- 499 Honours Thesis

500 Level Courses

- 500 Theories of Pacific Region Societies
- 501 Cultural, Linguistic and Literary Theories in Asia-Pacific Studies
- 520 Special Topics in Pacific Studies
- 521 Special Topics in Asia-Pacific Literature, Linguistics and Culture
- 550 Research Methodologies
- 580 Advanced Readings in Japanese, Chinese or Indonesian
- 590 Directed Studies
- 599 MA Thesis

The department of Pacific and Asian Studies is made up of all kinds of courses, whether they are offered every term, every year, or very rarely. If you ever feel like a course is missing, make that opinion heard! Contact the PAAS Undergraduate Representative at uvicpass@uvic.ca to ensure that the department knows what you want.

PAAS Professors



RICHARD FOX

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SUJIN LEE

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CODY POULTON

- PROFESSOR
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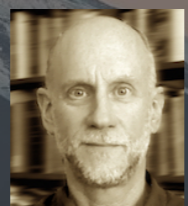
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Events & Important Dates

September 10

PAAS BBQ Event

September 11&12

Club Day @ SUB

September 27

SouthEast Asia Event

October 25

Japan Event

November 29

Taiwan Event

December

Exams

January 31

Lunar New Year Event

February 28

Korean Valentines Day

February 29

Language Showcase

Application Deadline

March 27

(Final Event) Language Showcase



Language Showcase

Submit your application by February 29 to show off the results of your tireless studying! Do a 3-5 minute speech, skit, or sing a song! Any learners of Asian languages are welcome to perform! Application forms will be available via Course Spaces or email us and we will send you one!



Monthly Culture Event

We will be hosting monthly events rather than having weekly gatherings! So come celebrate the cultures, histories, and traditions of the continent we study here in the PAAS department! More details will be posted on our facebook and Instagram page!

STUDY ABROAD

PARTICIPATE IN FIELD SCHOOLS AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS TO EXPERIENCE AND LEARN ABOUT DIVERSE CULTURES WHICH UPON COMPLETION WILL COUNT TOWARDS YOUR DEGREE! DON'T MISS THESE AMAZING OPPORTUNITIES AT UVIC TO ENHANCE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND CREATE NEW CONNECTIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD!



The field school **PAAS397** with Noro-sensei to Kinosaki was an unforgettable experience. Firstly during the pre-departure classes I was able to review the Japanese I learned in previous classes as well as learn more Keigo. I was very happy that we were able to learn Keigo since I believe it's an important part of Japanese, especially if one is wishing to go work in Japan. Secondly, since the project during this field school was a group project I learned the importance of working together as a team. Working in a team setting can be very difficult since everyone has different work ethics, but it is an important skill to have! Thirdly, and I think most important, is that I was able to visit a town in Japan which I have never heard of, with people who enjoy learning Japanese and experiencing Japanese culture first hand. While on the field school I was able to learn about the history of Kinosaki and go on tours which explained important and interesting events which moulded Kinosaki into the town it is now. Since this program was run with the help of the Toyooka city we were able to meet lovely and hard working members of the municipality. These people were what made the trip unforgettable! Though learning about the history is very important the most memorable memory was the host family experience. Even though it was a short visit, my group and I were able to become really close with our host sister, and I still keep in contact with her! All the things we did together I will never forget, and I look forward to being able to go visit her and Kinosaki again soon!

-Hanako Woodward



I like **PAAS397** because it was an extremely unforgettable experience. We travelled around Japan for two weeks and experienced a lot of things that we could not learn from a book. Also we have a chance to visit places that are not really famous compare to other tourist spot which gave us a better understanding about Japan

-Constance Wu

During my time in the **PAAS397** Field School I learned a lot about effective cultural communication, I greatly improved my Japanese language abilities and I made new friends that I hope I'll stay in contact with after graduation. I learned about the local area and also how to combine a local attitude with a global vision.

My favourite memory from the trip was when we presented our findings on the final day of the trip. All of our host families, as well as city officials and the deputy mayor, came to see us. I'm sure everyone else was just as nervous as I was but everyone practiced a lot and it was satisfying to be able to articulate myself effectively in presenting our results in Japanese.

-Mason Van-Dyk



How was your time at Uvic?

SHOMA FUJIKI

• FROM: KONAN UNIVERSITY, JAPAN

1)WHAT WAS THE BEST PART OF YOUR EXCHANGE AT UVIC?

THE BEST PART OF MY EXCHANGE IS THAT I COULD MAKE FRIENDS AND NEW CONNECTIONS WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIFFERENT CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS. I AM JAPANESE AND JAPANESE PEOPLE ARE KNOWN TO BE BASICALLY CONSISTED OF ONE ETHNIC GROUP. THEREFORE, THERE IS VERY LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO MEET DIFFERENT PEOPLE IN JAPAN. THAT'S WHY THIS EXCHANGE WAS VALUABLE TO ME.

2)WHAT WAS THE MOST CHALLENGING PART ABOUT UVIC?

THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF MY EXCHANGE WAS TO KEEP UP WITH CLASSES. COMPARED TO MY UNIVERSITY IN JAPAN, THERE WAS MORE HOMEWORK AND PAPERS PROVIDED AT UVIC. I THINK THERE WAS 5 TIMES MORE THAN MY HOME UNIVERSITY. HAVING IN CLASS DISCUSSION WAS ALSO HARD FOR ME.

3)WHAT CAN PAAS DO TO IMPROVE THEIR FACULTY?

I'M VERY SATISFIED WITH THE CURRENT PAAS SITUATION BECAUSE THERE IS A LOT OF EVENTS THAT I COULD ENJOY LIKE SPEECH CONTEST, FOOD PARTY, AND SO ON. I THINK MANY EXCHANGE STUDENT FROM ASIA WILL ENJOY STUDYING PAAS. IT WAS ALSO VERY HELPFUL TO HAVE SIMILAR HOMEWORK AND HELP EACH OTHER.

Chonnam National University's summer

session for international students had a lot of effort put into it and it showed.

There were a variety of trips and dinners that helped me build long-lasting friendships and gave me a new appreciation for spicy food. My time at Chonnam brought me closer with people from around the world; going out for the cheap but high quality food, learning about Korean culture and language was what made the summer a very rewarding experience.

-Quentin Deline

Student-Faculty Discourse



RICHARD FOX

- PROFESSOR & CHAIR
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PASS interview, revisited

I wanted to thank Kai for the opportunity to revisit these questions at the start of this new academic year. We initially discussed them in an interview following my arrival in the Department last year. It's still early days. But, in my view, things are definitely moving in the right direction!

What are the unique strengths of this department?

Having taught at a number of older, more traditionally-oriented institutions, I would have to say one of the department's unique strengths is its relative youth and potential for innovation. In the past two years alone, PAAS has appointed five new faculty members—bringing fresh and exciting ideas to the classroom. Looking ahead, we're poised to add at least one more regular faculty member this year, and as many as two more the following year. With the addition of new voices comes a new conversation—and increased opportunity for student involvement. To be sure, this is a challenging moment for the University, and for the Humanities in particular, with budgetary and related pressures making things more difficult than we'd prefer. But here, much like the Asia-Pacific region itself, PAAS's greatest strength will be our ability to respond creatively, and to change with the times.

Please sum up your goals for the department.

I want to see PAAS situated at the heart of the Humanities, drawing students and faculty alike into sustained engagement with the issues and ideas that link our experience at UVic with the histories, cultures and societies of the Asia-Pacific—which, of course, now extend far beyond the boundaries of the region itself. For students in particular, my goal is for the department to provide a world-class education that encourages critical enquiry and constructive intervention, equipping our graduates with the skills, experience and connections they will need to achieve their goals.

Could faculty be doing more to engage students?

Here my answer remains the same: Yes. Absolutely. Last year we ran a series of conversations between PASS and myself, as Chair. It's my hope these conversations will continue, and that we'll be able to carry forward building bridges between students and faculty. As a preliminary step, this year will mark the first annual PAAS Student Barbecue. This will be an excellent opportunity for students and professors to meet and get to know one another in a more relaxed setting. The BBQ will take place in the Clearihue atrium on Tuesday, September 10 (2:30-4:30pm). I hope to see you all there!

What would you like to see improve?

As I suggested in our conversation last year, I'd like to see PAAS engaged more fully with the complexities of day-to-day life in Asia and the Pacific—both on the contemporary scene and historically. This is going to require breaking down some of the artificial boundaries – regional, disciplinary, linguistic – characteristic of a traditional Area Studies approach. If PAAS hopes to do something new and innovative, we must have the courage to lean forward and rethink the field afresh. I believe we've already made considerable progress in this respect, though there's still much to be done. And, once again, student involvement will be crucial to our success—encouraging the faculty as both teachers and scholars to engage challenging questions and to think in new directions.

How do you respond to students' desire for more diverse studies, like Korean culture/language?

How do we respond? As quickly and effectively as possible. Next year we will begin a comprehensive renewal of our curriculum, with an eye to creating a new and more diverse range of course offerings. Student input will figure centrally in this process. In the meantime, with the help of our visiting scholar of Korean history and culture, Dr. Mihyun Jang, we'll be exploring the possibility of adding courses in Korean language—quite possibly before the end of next year. We're also looking forward to an informal discussion group on Korean history, culture and society planned for the Spring semester.

Thank You!

What did you think of this

experiment in community building? If you have any complaints about the presentation or messages conveyed, that's great! Contribute your own views to this ongoing conversation, and we'll continue using this newsletter format to connect and inform every member of our PAAS community.

Want to make changes to this publication?

Do it. Join PASS, open your laptop, interview your classmates and profs, and assemble it all into a cute little newsletter. The PAAS office has expressed an interest in supporting student publications meant to support community building, and we MUST make the most of that!

Quentine Deline is your equity rep this year!

What if you have a problem and don't want the whole world to know about it? "That's what our Equity Rep is for! Get in touch if you notice anything unfair, discriminatory, or otherwise inequitable going on around you, whether it be classmates, profs, or course content, and he will pass your concerns on to the people who can deal with it while maintaining your anonymity. We are here for you, and we'll work hard!

Quentin's email address: qdeline@uvic.ca

How to contribute?

The Pacific-Asian Students' Society (PASS) is always looking for people to join us and help out with event planning, community building, and other such things. Membership in PASS can involve any amount of commitment that works for you!

We absolutely need your feedback and participation to achieve great things in PAAS. With your help, we can make this department the most exciting, active, interesting, and engaging community possible. More events, more funding, more snacks, more games, more friends, more fun, more every- thing you could ever want from your time here in PAAS!



uvicpass



PASSUVIC



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