

## Asia-Pacific News

At the beginning of this year a major change took place when Andrew Harding left CAPI as Director. Before Andrew assumed the position of Director he had already been CAPI's Law Chair for 5 years, a position in which he remained during his time as Director. Before he joined CAPI in 2004 Andrew served as Head of Department and Professor of Law at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London, and Chair of SOAS' Centre of South East Asian Studies.



Our sincerest thanks go to Andrew for all his work during his 8 years at CAPI. His extensive knowledge on Asian legal studies and comparative constitutional law and his witty humour are sorely missed. Not only has Andrew left CAPI and UVic, he also changed rainy Victoria for hot Singapore to assume the position of Director, Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALs), Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore.



We asked him a couple of questions via email about his new life in Singapore and his time at CAPI.

Andrew, first of all, how are you dealing with the climate in Singapore?

*Well, I suppose having spent eight years previously living in Singapore, and having visited here regularly, I knew what to expect. In fact it's been pretty wet and cloudy the last four months, and most things, including buses, are air-conditioned.*

What does your new position entail?

*A lot of work! In addition to being Director of a new Centre in the process of being set up, I am Director of the Asian Law Institute (ASLI), which is a consortium of 36 mainly Asian law schools and some others with Asian law specialization. CALS is already pressing full steam ahead. We have programming for year one, including an important new project on the legal reforms in Burma, and a workshop on socio-legal research in SE Asia. We are now working on programming for years two and three. This work is creative and very enjoyable. We have a fantastic collection of mainly younger scholars at NUS, including UVic graduate Dan Puchniak who is a member of our Executive Committee and is very well known at CAPI and UVic Law. The CAPI community may like to know that, apart from the annual ASLI conference 31 May-1 June, our first CALS-sponsored project is with CAPI - the conference on Legal Histories of the British Empire, on which I am working with, amongst others, John McLaren of UVic Law, CAPI's Helen Lansdowne, and UVic grad student Qian Jing.*

What do you think is the main difference for a (South-East) Asia scholar when you are actually located directly in the region?

*Obviously the geographical location is highly advantageous as we are right at the edge of both continental and archipelagic SE Asia, as well as handily placed between India and China. This makes it easy to keep in contact with people across Asia and to get people to come to Singapore. More than that, every day you see evidence of the buzz that Asia's rise is creating and the increasing contact and integration across the whole region.*

Looking back at your 8 years at CAPI, what are the memories that come into your mind first?

*Watching CAPI move into action whenever there was a major event was fantastic. I enjoyed in particular the two Asian Law summer programs and accompanying workshops we ran in 2007 and 2011. The three training programs for Thai judges were pretty special. And the constant flow of excellent speakers and events was a tribute to our ability to attract good Asia specialists, many of them from UVic itself or the Victoria community. Most of all just working with the great CAPI crowd was unforgettable.*

What are the main challenges you faced at CAPI?

*I think the main challenge for me was fulfilling the remit of the Law Chair while acting as CAPI Director. Both of these are demanding positions. There are many things I would have liked to do that there was really not enough time for, especially working on longer term issues.*

Among all your many achievements and memorable programs and events, what are you most proud of?

*It's too kind of you to say 'many'! I think the workshop we did with Melbourne Law School's Asian Law Centre in 2007, which led to the book 'New Courts in Asia', was special. The judicial training programs, especially the 2008 program on environmental law, were also creative and productive.*

Thanks so much Andrew for taking the time to answer these questions. We miss you.

*It's my pleasure. I miss being at CAPI and look forward very much to working with you all and with my successor in due course. It was a great experience being at CAPI. I learned a lot and enjoyed everything. There was never a dull moment and the CAPI people are always special.*

## **What's new at CAPI?**

### **CAPI Welcomes New Japan Chair**



CAPI is pleased to announce that the Centre's new Japan Chair, as of July 2012, is Mary Yoko Brannen, Ph.D. A well-known international scholar in multinational affairs, Mary Yoko Brannen received her M.B.A. with emphasis in International Business and Ph.D. in Organizational Behavior with a minor in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

The new chair position, to be shared by the Gustavson School of Business and the Centre for Asia Pacific Initiatives, came into existence as a result of a \$1-million gift from Canadian financier, businessman and philanthropist Stephen Jarislowky.

Having taught at various Universities in the United States, Japan, China and France, Professor Brannen's consulting specialty is in helping multinational firms realize their global strategic initiatives by aligning, integrating and deploying critical organizational resources. Born and raised in Japan, having studied in France and Spain, and having worked as a cross-cultural consultant for over 20 years to various Fortune 500 companies, she brings a multi-faceted, deep knowledge of today's complex cultural business environment. As Jarislowky/East Asia (Japan) Chair Brannen will have plenty of opportunities to apply her culturally specific skills and develop a Pacific Asia program that connects the university community - across campus, cultures and countries.

We welcome Mary Yoko to her new role at the Centre and with the Gustavson School of Business, and we look forward to working with her in the coming years.

(Thank you to the [Gustavson School of Business](#) for photos and other promotional material.)

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### **New Secretary**

When Doug Thompson left CAPI in October 2011 to pursue a new opportunity at the School of Public Health & Social Policy the Centre was left without a secretary for almost three months. But **Liana Kennedy** was worth waiting for. When she started her position as CAPI's secretary in January 2012 a busy Winter semester was about to start with event organisation in full swing.

With her wealth of experience in the public and non-profit sector and a good deal of practical let's-do-it attitude Liana managed to pick up what was left undone for months, reorganised the CAPI office and got everyone back on track. Furthermore, Liana is a Board Member (Secretary) of CUPE 951. She has since become an integral part of the CAPI team, and we don't know how CAPI ever survived without her.

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### **CAPI Professorship in Asia-Pacific Relations**

CAPI is very pleased to announce that [Dr. Leslie Butt](#), Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, will be joining us for the Fall semester 2012 as CAPI Professor in Asia-Pacific Relations.

Her project will take a multidisciplinary approach to the growth of cross-border health care in Southeast Asia. This Professorship seeks to bring together experts from the fields of sociology, bioethics, health, social policy and anthropology to explore experiences of cross-border care from the viewpoint of regional clients and health care workers. The broader objectives are to build a long-term inter-disciplinary research project.

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### **Visiting Research Fellowship on Migration and Mobility**



A familiar face is coming back to CAPI. We are happy to welcome **Karen Campbell** as Visiting Research Fellow on Migration and Mobility in the Fall 2012.

As part of CAPI's 2010-11 International Youth Internship Program Karen worked for five months as a Project Officer with [Migrant Forum in Asia](#) (MFA), in Quezon City, Philippines. Following her internship she accepted a one-year contract with MFA. She is a graduate of the MA Migration Studies program at the University of Sussex in Brighton, UK, specializing in current issues of labour migration in Asia, and is working at establishing a career in migrant rights advocacy.

Karen's project at CAPI will focus on "*Emerging Discourses on Smuggling, Trafficking, and Undocumented Labour Migration: Developing Critical Interdisciplinary Analyses for Transnational Advocacy*".

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### **CAPI Japan Program Visitor Winter 2012**

From January until May 2012 **Madhumita Bhattacharya** was CAPI's Japan Program Visitor. She organised an [evening symposium](#) at the end of March and a two day conference on "[Innovations in Learning and Technology](#)" in April 2012. The conference was a great success, and not only drew in a diverse audience from all around the world, but initiated a follow-up conference in Brazil later next year. For more details see "Conferences, Events and Publications".

## Focus on... Joseph Kess, CAPI Service Award winner



Since 2002 CAPI's Executive Committee has been awarding the Asia-Pacific Service Award to members of the Campus Community in recognition of exemplary service in fostering knowledge of, and experience with, the Asia-Pacific region. This includes teaching, research, scholarship, collaborative programs, international education, student support and service to the University community. During his 40-year academic career and many years at CAPI Joseph Kess has done all that, and much more. His Asia-Pacific Service Award in 2011 was long overdue.

CAPI was very lucky to have Joseph Kess as Japan Chair for seven years, from 2000 until 2007. While at the Centre, he organized numerous conferences, roundtables, symposia and workshops, the most notable of which have been the 2002 Conference on *Changing Japanese Identities* and the 2004 *Japan Studies Association Conference* for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Japan/Canada relations. The anniversary year of 2004 celebrated important trade and diplomatic milestones in the official Japan-Canada relationship such as the 75th Anniversary of a diplomatic presence for Canada in Japan and also the 100th Anniversary of Canada establishing a trade commission in Japan. Taking place in March 2007 Joseph Kess planned and organised a major international symposium at the University of Victoria on the evolving state of Japan-China relations.

But his range of activities reached well beyond the University community: He was part of Victoria's delegation to visit its twin city, Morioka; and he was appointed to the Japan Market Advisory Group of the Asia-Pacific Trade Council for the Province of British Columbia, by Gordon Campbell. On a national level, Joseph Kess is active in the Race Relations Foundation where he also published "*Changing Japanese identities in multicultural Canada*".

During his career one of Joseph Kess' main priorities has always been to bring Japan and Canada closer together. In 2008 he received the *Order of the Rising Sun* from the Japanese government, the highest honour bestowed by Japan on foreign nationals.

Academically, his main applied interests have been in the sociolinguistic dimensions of language policies and language legislation; theoretical interests have focused on psycholinguistic aspects of language processing and language performance. In this context he analyzed the structure and use of languages as diverse as Tagalog in the Philippines, Motu from Papua New Guinea, Kuanuan/Tolai from New Britain, Haida in British Columbia, Serbian in the former Yugoslavia, and many more.

But overall, especially during his time at CAPI, there has always been a special love towards and involvement with Japan and bringing this country and its culture to the forefront of the Canadian mind. His special fascination lies in Japan's rule of law, its business practices, and its

unaggressive stand to world events, which includes not taking advantage of other countries. Due to his extensive knowledge and experience he always managed to bridge cultural and commercial interests. Thinking back he remembers that he must have hit half of Japanese universities, lecturing or presenting in Osaka, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kobe, at Meiji University, Vasada University Tokyo, Tohoku University, etc. promoting the interest of UVic and CAPI.

When asked about the interest he received in both countries Joseph Kess states that in Japan with its rate of only 1% foreigners there is an immense amount of interest and sympathy towards Canada, whereas from a Canadian side there is certainly room for growth in this matter.

Joseph Kess is Professor Emeritus of Linguistics in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Victoria. But while officially retired he is still on his mission to bridge Japanese and Canadian culture through various speaking engagements and numerous trips to the region. This year he already visited Doshisha University in Kyoto and Osaka University to talk about multilingualism and multiculturalism. We hope to have him at CAPI for many more years to come.

## Awards and Recognition

### CAPI Student Photo Contest 2012



International Experience in Focus was CAPI's motto during the [2012 UVic IdeaFest](#). Students who had taken part in an international CAPI program in the past could submit their best photos. During [CAPI's Open House on March 7th](#) these entries were displayed and the winners awarded with great prizes.

Congratulations to **Peter Rosenbluth** for winning the first prize - an iPod Touch - with his photo "Tokyo Umbrellas"

And below are the winners of the other categories:



**Furqan Asif (People and Culture)**



**Gabriel Rose (My home away from home)**



**Alicia Lawrence (Landscapes)**



All contest entries can be viewed [here](#).

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## CAPI 2012 Faculty Development Research Grant



CAPI is pleased to announce the recipient of the [CAPI Faculty Development Research Grant](#). **John Price**, Associate Professor at the Department of History, received the award to support his research project "Asian Canadian Studies and the Pacific World". This project will help UVic develop its particular niche (as a partner with the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia), that is, to determine the most appropriate way to bring Asian Canadian Studies into universities in Canada such as UVic, where the size of the university and student demographics do not necessarily lend themselves to the immediate creation of a major Asian Canadian Studies program.

*CAPI offers up to three [Faculty Research Development Grants](#) each year to support research activities focused on the Asia-Pacific region.*

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## CAPI 2012 Student Essay Prize Winner



Congratulations to **Brittney O'Neill**, CAPI's 2012 Student Essay Prize winner! Brittney's essay, *Urban Aliens: The Alienation of Migrant Workers in China and the Complicit Chinese State*, was written for PAAS 351 as Brittney is about to complete her undergraduate degree in Linguistics. The essay addresses an important and timely issue in an original way, demonstrates strong argumentation, cites excellent sources in a professional way, and in general is an excellent piece of scholarly work.



This year's runner-up essay prize goes to **Ellen Chen** for her essay *Beyond the Historic Gates of Chinatown: Exploring the Development and Role of Canadian Chinatowns in Shaping Chinese-Canadian Identity*. Ellen's essay targets an issue that is of great relevance to Victoria and Canada in general. It is well documented and extensively argued. Congratulations!

*CAPI offers a [Student Essay Prize](#) valued at \$500 each year, to encourage and support excellence in student research on the Asia-Pacific region at UVic.*

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## CAPI Student Fellowship Awardees



CAPI is pleased to announce the winners of the [CAPI Student Fellowship Competition](#) for 2011-12. **Connor Bildfell**, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Bachelor of Commerce student, was awarded CAPI's Student Language Fellowship to support him in his international student exchange at Peking University in China in the Fall semester 2012.

The winners of CAPI's Student Research Fellowship are **Caitlin Wake** (2011), **Ruji Auethavornpipat** and **Jing Qian** (2012). **Caitlin**, a Doctoral student, Social Dimensions of Health, will be using her \$2500 award to fund part of her research project "Exploring the Social Determinants of Health Among Urban Refugees in Malaysia" which emerged from her internship at with the United Nations High

Commission for Refugees in Malaysia. **Ruji**, a MA student in Pacific and Asian Studies, whose research looks at "The Teaching and Learning of Mandarin Chinese in Thailand" is currently on a field trip in Bangkok, Thailand. **Jing**, a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Law, will use the award towards his field trip to China to support her research project "People vs. People's: A Socio-legal Study on Gap Problems within Administrative Litigation in China".

**Congratulations** to all the winners for their excellent work!

*CAPI offers four [Student Fellowships](#) valued at \$2500 each year, to encourage and support student research and study in the Asia-Pacific region.*

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## Report from Feng Xu, recipient of the CAPI Faculty Development Research Grant 2011



I used the CAPI travel grant to conduct field research for my new proposed research tentatively entitled *Developing Regional Economies, Governing Migrants and Building a Harmonious Society in China*. In January 2011, I made a trip to the Chinese research centre in the Chinese University of HongKong to conduct documentary research. In June 2011, I went to Chengdu, Sichuan province (one of the main migrant-sending provinces) to conduct interviews with migrants. In May 2012, I went to Henan province (one of the main migrant-sending provinces) to interview migrants who returned and peasant households

who have migrants. The CAPI travel grant thus enabled me to start my field research and travel to places which I have not been to before. My immediate plan is to finish an article at the end of the summer.

## Student and Intern Stories

### CAPI Internship Program



2012 has been an exciting year for our internship program. CAPI has been awarded funding for two three-year projects through the [AUCC Students for Development Program](#). Our first round of interns left in January 2012 for placements in the Philippines and Bangladesh.

[Mikaela Robertson](#), a UVic law student has been interning with the [Centre for Migrant Advocacy](#) in Quezon City, Philippines, [Haydn Shook](#) also a UVic law student has been in Quezon City as well, interning with [Migrant Forum in Asia](#), and [Kelly Lindsay](#) was our first intern in Bangladesh with [WARBE Development Foundation](#).

Our next interns left in June for their 5-6 month placements as follows:

[Adam Tran](#) of Political Science will be spending 5 months in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, India with Migrant Forum in Asia working with some of their Indian partners, [George Benson](#) also of Political Science is following Kelly's footsteps in Bangladesh with WARBE, [Cate Lawrence](#) who is completing her MA in Dispute Resolution is replacing Haydn at Migrant Forum in Asia and will be preparing for the World Social Forum on Migration to be hosted by MFA in Manila in November 2012, and [Chandra Merry](#) who just completed her degree in Literature is following Mikaela at The Centre for Migrant Advocacy in Quezon City. Keep an eye on our [intern blogs](#) to find out more about what our interns are up to in the Asia-Pacific!

The three-year SFD funding also includes an opportunity for a visiting graduate student from our partner countries to spend a term at UVic. Mahmudul Haque, a PhD student from Rajshahi

University in Bangladesh, will be our first visiting graduate student and will be arriving in September 2012 to spend the fall term pursuing his research in Community and Urban Planning. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Haque in September.

Our next round of internships will be confirmed in the fall, deadline for application is October 12, 2012. We will be offering six placements in India, Bangladesh and the Philippines starting in January. Please see the [internship opportunities page on the CAPI website](#) for more information or contact [Robyn Fila](#), the Internship Program Manager at 250 721 7022 or [rfile@uvic.ca](mailto:rfile@uvic.ca).

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### **A Note from CAPI's 2011 Student Language Fellowship Recipient, Chany Chea, Department of Asian and Pacific Studies**

Two years ago I was given an opportunity that has forever changed my perspective on international development. Working in Quezon City, Philippines or any foreign country for that matter is an experiment in flexibility and patience, and often comes with a steep learning curve. I learned that development and "change" come at a slow pace and only with lengthy commitment to the issues at hand. It's fascinating yet frustrating. Every day overseas brings something new - some complicated process, new social standard you weren't aware of or way of handling a situation that would never go down back at home. But most of all my internship was enriching to my being and I can only hope that my work contributed to the efforts of CMA and other organizations that have been advocating for migrant rights for countless years.



I have found myself once again in Southeast Asia, this time in Indonesia. At the moment I am at the end of what has been a great semester. It's hard to put into words feelings that can express my appreciation of the city, country and people here. I can only hope that my words will encourage those interested in immersing themselves in Indonesian language and culture to take that leap and begin an unforgettable adventure. This may sound cliché but most learning really does occur outside the classroom, soaking in the surroundings and getting involved in the community has been the most amazing experience. I can confidently say

that my Indonesian language skills have vastly improved, the landscape, the people, the temples, and the culture are an added bonus.

I have loved living in both the Philippines and Indonesia, and I can't say enough about the great friends I have made throughout my time abroad. I don't think there is any better way to supplement your education than to go out into the world and explore! I am grateful to have the support of CAPI in both my internship and language studies; I would have never experienced what I have without the staff of CAPI investing in me when I was just a student with more passion than experience.

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Two [CAPI Student Fellowships](#) are available on an annual basis to support student research and study in the Asia-Pacific region. To encourage excellence in research on the Asia-Pacific region, CAPI offers a **Student Research Fellowship**, and to support the study of languages of the Asia-Pacific region, CAPI offers a **Student Language Fellowship**. If you are a UVic student who is interested or if you need more information, we would love to [hear from you!](#)

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## UVic Talent Shines at CAPI's Annual Student Symposium on the Asia-Pacific



In February 2012 CAPI hosted another successful [CAPI Student Symposium on the Asia-Pacific](#). Six graduate and undergraduate students presented their work from a diverse range of research areas. The symposium not only gave students valuable presentation experience and provided an excellent opportunity for students to meet each other and to network, but also showcased the top-notch student research on the Asia-Pacific being carried out at UVic. The following excerpts are from papers presented at the symposium:

**John Yehambaram** *Malaysia 1 Campaign*

**Galen Poor** *Reimagining the Past at the Beijing Olympics*

**Erin Lofting** *The Early Works of an Avant-garde Japanese Artist: Terayama Shuji's Radio Plays*

**Alicia Lawrence** *Indigenous Writing in Indonesia and Australia*

**Ruji Auethavornpipat** *Neoliberalism as State Intervention: The Thai State and the Creation of the OTOP Enterprise Society*

**Yuanfang Zhang** *Nosaka Sanzo and his Comprehension of Japan's "Two Stage Revolution" Between 1927 and 1945*

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### **Malaysia 1 Campaign**

*Excerpted from a paper presented by **John Yehambaram**, MA student in the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, at CAPI's 2012 Student Symposium*



The primary focus of this research project is to analyze the 1 Malaysia campaign that was first introduced by Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak in 2008, amidst political dissent and economic recession. I will analyze the 1 Malaysia campaign as a political technology and a problematization of ethnic and religious pluralism and an effort to improve government efficiency. It will be compared to the Wawasan 2020 (Vision 2020) nationalist campaign which was an important nationalist objective during the early 1990s. The goal of this earlier political project was that the Malaysian state would achieve developed nation status by the year 2020. I will highlight a shift in efforts to manage ethnic and religious relations. Lastly, this thesis will offer insight into political protest and opposition towards the ruling Barisan Nasional (National Front) party and the 1 Malaysia campaign. Wawasan 2020 sought to shift Malaysia from an agricultural base to an industrial economy and has also created a more knowledge-based society with a large middle-class population that is beginning to demand more liberal rights. I will also analyze how the dawn of the internet and social media has created avenues in which opposition towards the state could express itself in various creative forms that would have been unprecedented in the past.

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### **Reimagining the Past at the Beijing Olympics**

*Excerpted from a thesis presented by **Galen Poor**, MA student in the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, at CAPI's 2012 Student Symposium*

This thesis examines the 2008 Beijing Olympics Opening Ceremony, which was an unprecedented effort by the Chinese Party-state to reinvent Chinese national culture for consumption at home and abroad. Director Zhang Yimou delivered a spectacular event - three-thousand chanting Confucian scholars, two-thousand Ming Dynasty sailors, a grid of giant dancing printing blocks and an endless display of fireworks presented a sensational spectacle of Chinese culture and history. How should we interpret these symbols representing a romantic Chinese past? I argue that the "ancient" history on display in the Opening Ceremony is actually a product of China's recent past: its interactions with the West, revolution, nationalism and communism, and the turn toward capitalism and authoritarianism. This thesis pulls the Opening Ceremony back into this historical context, closely examining three of its most prominent symbols: Zheng He and his voyages to the Indian Ocean, the Four Great Inventions, and Confucius. My results show that, 1) far from being a product of China's history alone, these symbols are a co-production of China and the West, in which both identities were mutually constituted; 2) they are created in the context of political power, and take on different meanings in response to political shifts; 3) they suggest a state desire for power and status rather than simply a revival of cultural heritage. This research will contribute to an understanding of the modern political uses of Chinese history.

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### ***The Early Works of an Avant-garde Japanese Artist: Terayama Shuji's Radio Plays***

*Outline of a presentation made by Erin Lofting, MA student in the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, at CAPI's 2012 Student Symposium*



Terayama Shuji was a prolific and influential avant-garde Japanese artist whose works included: poetry, photography, theatre, and film. Although Terayama was most active during the 1960s and 70s, his name remains well-known in Japan today, and he has recently begun to receive considerable attention from English-speaking scholars.

Terayama's works are simultaneously fascinating and challenging. I do not believe it is possible to understand Terayama's goals by looking at any one of his texts, or even by examining just one of the mediums he worked with. My project aims to complement existing English-language scholarship on Terayama. Between dropping out of prestigious Waseda University and starting his own theatre troupe in 1967, Terayama wrote a number of radio plays. Under the supervision of Dr. Cody Poulton, I am working on translations of these early radio plays, and examining them with a focus on why Terayama wrote them, and elements of them that reappear in Terayama's later stage plays and films. Meaningful understanding of Terayama's methods and goals becomes possible by looking at his work over time and across mediums.

My presentation will explore some of the issues of translating Terayama's work, reasons radio plays were an attractive option for young writers in Japan at the time, and techniques and themes that Terayama experimented with in his early radio plays. I invite you to my presentation, and to learn more about one of the twentieth century's most important avant-garde artists.

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## Indigenous Writing in Indonesia and Australia

*Excerpted from a paper presented by Alicia Lawrence, MA student in the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, at CAPI's 2012 Student Symposium*

Ideas of Indigenous identity are developed through the expression of a communal and cultural relationship with a local environment; therefore, representations of Indigeneity in Indonesian and Australian literature holds significance in terms of both Indigenous identity and environment.

In this comparative literature project, I will focus on literature by Indigenous authors in Indonesia and in Australia. In the case of Indonesia, I will also consider works that include significant content relating identity to environment, though not necessarily overtly described as Indigenous literature. Whenever possible, I will emphasize the literary voices of women and Indigenous women in order to more completely present an articulation of the subaltern voice. I will contextualize my literary analysis by providing background information on the global contexts of Indigenous identification and environmental issues.

The political circumstances surrounding the articulation of Indigenous identity are different in Australia than they are in Indonesia, but both are influenced by political and environmental concerns such as environmental preservation, land claims issues, access to resources, social disparity and issues of equality, and community solidarity.

Indigenous identity is defined in a variety of ways, and these are rarely consistent across countries, regions, or circumstances. Michael Dodson asserts that, "The right to self-representation includes our right to draw on all aspects of our sense of Aboriginality, be that our blood, our descent, our history, our ways of living and relating, or any element of our cultures." (40) Dodson appeals to the United Nations definition of Indigenous peoples as the basic foundations for identification, with self-identification high on the list of criteria (31). However, the UN definition does not take into account the necessity of circumstances conducive to self-identification of Indigenous identity. I will consider this issue in my examination of the ways that Indigenous identity is constructed and challenged in different situations and environments.

The link between cultural and communal identity, and local natural environment, is significant to Indigenous identification on many levels - from experience and understanding of nature in the development of individual identity (Janke), to the significance of Indigenous identity to mobilization of communities around issues of environment (Bayet-Charlton, Li). Indigenous identity and environment are related both emotionally, and practically. Selfhood, home, and community as a source of Indigenous identity is tied to cultural development through interaction with the natural environment (West 133-5). This identity is also the basis for claims against colonial government control of land and natural resources (Li). The representation in literature of Indigenous identity as articulated in ways that are interconnected with environment can be contextualized through case studies of Indigenous land claims struggles.

Through literary analysis of texts by Indonesian authors such as Leila Chudori, Nukila Amal, and Korrie Layun Rampan, and Australian authors such as Oodgeroo Noonuccal and Terri Janke, I hope to show that dialogue around Indigenous identity corresponds to environmental issues, and

that the struggle for a coherent discourse around Indigeneity correlates to the persistence of serious environmental concerns. Through my analysis of selected texts, I will argue that Indigenous identification is motivated by struggle in political environments that are not conducive to, or do not encourage articulation and assertion of identity. I will explore the ways that text contributes to, and undermines the construction of Indigenous identities, and show that challenges to static concepts of Indigeneity add complexity to issues affecting Indigenous peoples, and strengthen the significance of identification within political and environmental contexts.

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Neoliberalism as State Intervention:

The Thai State and the Creation of the OTOP Enterprise Society

*Excerpted from a paper presented by Ruji Auethavornpipat, MA student in the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, at CAPI's 2012 Student Symposium*

This paper argues that state intervention in Thailand after the 1997 economic crisis is a form of neoliberal practice which is intended to create a functioning market economy at the grassroots level. Whereas most scholarly work on neoliberalism emphasizes it as a form of corporate power, I argue that neoliberalism accepts new practices of state intervention. The administration of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra established diverse small- and medium-sized enterprises across Thailand under the One Tambon One Product (OTOP) program. This nationwide campaign was initiated in 2001 with the objectives of alleviating rural poverty and reversing the worsening effects of the 1997 economic crisis. The OTOP program stresses the specialization and utilization of local resources in the community for the production of commodities that are unique to the local. The Thai government has been extending its assistance in all stages of the program including providing initial microcredit of one million baht (\$28,000) to every village, offering advice on the production process, and organizing domestic

and foreign OTOP product outlets. In collaboration with other ministries and government institutions, the Community Development Department (CDD), Ministry of Interior, is actively involved in the functioning and success of the OTOP program. In 2011, the annual sale of all OTOP products was expected to exceed 70,000 million baht. This paper argues that on the one hand, the OTOP program is an introduction of economic rationality into rural Thailand that greatly resembles the characteristics of German neoliberal enterprise society and on the other hand, the Thai state intervention targeting the rural sector of the economy leads to a new form of neoliberalism called populist neoliberalism.

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### *Nosaka Sanzo and his Comprehension of Japan's "Two Stage Revolution" Between 1927 and 1945*

*Excerpted from a paper presented by Yuanfang Zhang, MA student in the Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, at CAPI's 2012 Student Symposium*

This paper discusses the origin of the theory on Japan's two-stage revolution in 1927, and its development by a member of Japan's communist party, Nosaka Sanzo. The International Communist stipulated the task of Japan's two-stage revolution in 1927. In the following years Nosaka Sanzo creatively developed the connotation and the nature of the two-stage revolution theory in Japan based on his comprehension of the economic and political features of imperial Japan. I will begin my narrative on how Nosaka came to understand the labourer problem in Japan's imperial economy, and how he used this theory as a critique on the Japanese empire from 1927 to 1945. The research will contribute to the advancement of the understanding the communist movement in the imperial Japan.

## Conferences, Events, and Publications

### Upcoming Conferences and Events



This year's prestigious Hung Lecture is titled "[Histories and Competitive Societies: Temporal Foundations for Global Theory](#)". It will be presented by world renowned scholar **Prasenjit Duara** on August 2nd. Prasenjit Duara - Raffles Professor of Humanities, Director of the Asia Research Institute, and Director of Research in Humanities & Social Sciences at the National University of Singapore - is also the keynote speaker of the [Demcon conference "De-parochializing Political Theory"](#) which takes place August 2-4, 2012.



During [UVic's 50th Anniversary Festival](#), CAPI will host an open house in our offices on September 29th. CAPI interns who have returned from their placements in Bangladesh and the Philippines will hold 20-minute presentations about their experiences, photos from our 2012 Photo Contest will

be displayed, and of course we'll have snacks, beverages and an anniversary cake. Come by and join us between 11am and 4pm!



["The Flowers of War"](#).

November 16/17th, 2012 CAPI will host a symposium on the 75th anniversary of the entry of the Japanese army into Nanjing. The symposium will explore what the events that followed mean today, including their resonance in the histories and cultures of both nations. We are very pleased to welcome **Diana Lary** as keynote speaker and [Lansdowne lecturer](#). The symposium will finish with the showing of



"The Governance of Religious Diversity in China, India and Canada" is the title of a conference hosted by CAPI and the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, November 22-24, 2012. The event will draw together numerous international scholars and graduate students along with invited guests from local religious/cultural organizations, media, government and business for a multidisciplinary discussion to explore issues and challenges related to the governance of religious diversity. Check back [here](#) for more info to come.

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## Recent Conferences and Events

CAPI had a busy and engaging season of [Lunch and Learn Lectures](#) as well as evening talks and conferences. All of this season's lectures are available in video format, [on CAPI's website](#) and on [Vimeo](#). For photos please check CAPI's [Flickr site](#) and find us on [Facebook](#).

## Conferences and Workshops



On June 10/11 CAPI hosted a Workshop on [Post-311 Challenges and Opportunities: Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming in the Priorities and Planning of Tohoku Reconstruction, 2012-2015](#). Organised by **Jackie F. Steele**, CAPI's Visiting Japan Chair and Associate Professor at the Institute of Social Sciences, University of Tokyo, the workshop provided a forum for leading Canadian and Japanese scholars from a wide range of disciplines: **Hiroko Hara**, **Mari Osawa** and **Kumiko Hagiwara** (University of Tokyo), **Sunhee Lee** (Tohoku University), **Yoshi Kawasaki** (Simon Fraser University), **Millie Creighton**, **David Edgington** and **Shigenori Matsui** (University of British

Columbia), **Caroline Andrew** (University of Ottawa), **Sikata Banerjee** and **Natasha Fox** (University of Victoria).

CAPI's Japan Program Visitor, **Madhumita Bhattacharya**, organized a two day conference in early April on [\*Innovations in Learning and Technology: Asia-Pacific Perspectives\*](#), with a pre-conference symposium two weeks before which focused on [\*Progress in Technology: Educational and Social Changes\*](#).



The [conference on April 10-11, 2012](#) brought together researchers from the Asia-Pacific and other parts of the world to discuss innovations in learning and share their experience in incorporating technology into education, a highly relevant topic as complex interactions of people and technology and their impact on society is becoming increasingly visible in today's world especially in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Conference Opening Address was given by **Reeta C. Tremblay**, Vice President Academic and Provost, University of Victoria. **Hiroshi Kato** from the Open University of Japan gave the keynote "*Emergent Division of Labor - Source of learning opportunities in collaborative learning*". Other distinguished guest speakers included **Shelley Young**, National Tsing Hua University (NTHU), Taiwan; **Susan A. Kelly**, University of South Pacific, Fiji; **Madhulika Kaushi**, Commonwealth of Learning, Canada; **Mahnaz Moallem**, University of North Carolina Wilmington, USA; **Alan Pence** and **Allison Benner**, University of Victoria, Canada; **Valerie Irvine**, University of Victoria, Canada. In addition, scholars from Canada, India, Israel, Brazil, USA, Australia, New Zealand and Japan presented their research: **Kalyanamalini Sahoo**, **Robert Aucoin**, **Michael Haim**, **Beatriz Pacheco & Eliani Kfour**, **Thamarai Selvi Somasundaram**, **Virginia Vandall-Walker**, **Rita Santillan**, **Hengameh Kermani**, **Yayoi Anzai**, **Siew Mee Barton**, and **Suhaimi Abd Latif**. A follow-up conference is planned in Sao Paolo, Brazil, in September 2013.



The [symposium on 28 March, 2012](#) involved three presentations looking at using traditional tools and new media technology in learning environments and associated socio-cultural changes. Presenters discussed how natural disasters and technological progress are shaping our educational scenario. This symposium was organized to commemorate the one year anniversary of the triple disaster that hit Japan in March 2011.

Madhumita presented a session on 危機 (kiki) = *With crisis comes the opportunity: Unveiling knowledge using constructivist approaches to learning*. The other two presentations were: *Emerging changes in educational and social scenario in Japan* by **Satoru Fujitani**, Mejiro University, Japan; and *Characteristics comparison of Paper, PCs and iPads as learning devices* by **Kanji Akahori**, Hakuoh University, Japan.

## Lunch & Learn Talks



initiative in this regard.

Along with organising a fundraiser to support a newly initiated trade union of informal workers, [Supriya Routh](#), PhD candidate at the Faculty of Law, also gave a lecture on March 19th titled "[Revolution on post-Red Bengal: Informal Workers fight back](#)". In this talk he discussed his work towards the formation of a trade union of informal workers in Kolkata (Calcutta), West Bengal, India, in order to argue that it is possible for a trade union of informal workers to realise constitutionally guaranteed dignified life for their members in absence of state



On March 6th, 2012 [Feng Xu](#), Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Victoria, introduced her recently published book "[Looking for Work in Post-Socialist China: Governance, Active Job Seekers and the New Chinese Labour Market](#)". In this book she explores unemployment as one of the most politically explosive issues in China, a topic which gained further prominence as a result of the present global financial crisis.



describe the complicated avenues to freedom for Papua's indigenous peoples.

On February 20th CAPI hosted Eben Kirksey, post-doctoral fellow at the City University of New York Graduate Center, who introduced his soon to be published book "[Freedom in Entangled Worlds](#)". Usually CAPI's Lunch and Learn lectures are scheduled for one hour. This one, however, had to be extended to almost two hours because a captivated audience kept asking question after question. Eben answered them all, in a very knowledgeable, eloquent way, after he had brought together stories from activists and his own experiences to



After his first lecture had to be cancelled due to heavy snowfall in Victoria, Grant Hayter-Menzies came to UVic on February 8th to talk about "[The Empress and Mrs. Conger: The Uncommon Friendship of Two Women and Two Worlds](#)". Showing unpublished letters, diaries,

photographs and many other treasures Grant Hayter-Menzies traces the parallel lives of Empress Dowager Cixi and American ambassador's wife Sarah Pike Conger, which converged to alter their perspectives of each other and each other's worlds.

## Evening Events



February 28th, CAPI hosted a panel on "[Robots, Theatre and the Future of Humanity](#)". On a stormy and rainy evening, people gathered to hear Brazil-based electronics artist and robotics researcher [Zaven Paré](#) and UVic Japanese theatre specialist [Cody Poulton](#) discuss recent collaborations between playwright Oriza Hirata and roboticist Hiroshi Ishiguro in theatrical productions using robots and androids.



In the evening of January 31st, 2012, over 130 people gathered at UVic to listen to [Koko Tanimoto Kondo's](#) informative, captivating, and very emotional account of a life overshadowed by the first atomic bomb. One of the remaining survivors of the Hiroshima atomic bombing, Ms. Kondo has spent many years working for peace. She has made it a priority to share her perspective on the effects of the bombing that reverberate through her life and the lives of others and to bring a greater understanding of how we can make a difference in the world.

The lecture was presented together with the [Neil Burton Commemorative Fund](#), with the co-operation of [Satoko Norimatsu](#) and the [Peace Philosophy Centre](#).

## Student Events



On February 24, 2012, UVic's up-and-coming researchers shone at the annual "[CAPI Student Symposium on the Asia-Pacific](#)". Six graduate students presented their work from a diverse range of research areas. The symposium not only gave students valuable presentation experience and provided an excellent opportunity for students to meet each other and to network, but also showcased the top-notch student research on the Asia-Pacific being carried out at UVic. For more details and excerpts see "Student and Intern Stories".

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## Publications



[CAPI's 2010-11 Annual Report](#) is now available on our website. The report includes highlights of all of CAPI's events and activities over the past academic year, as well as reports from our Chairs and Director. All of [CAPI's Annual Reports](#), dating back to 1995, are available electronically on the [CAPI website](#).