



Asian American Studies

NEWSLETTER

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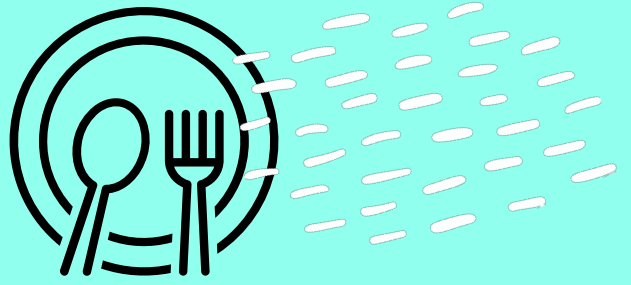
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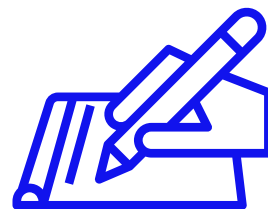


Annual Fall Dinner



Karen Inouye hosted a dinner at her home to bring together the AAST professors, graduate students and undergraduates. It was great to come together to see old friends and meet new ones.

Affrilachian Writers Symposium Organized By Lisa Kwong



As part of Themester 2022: Identity and Identification, the Asian American Studies Program and IU Arts and Humanities Council co-sponsored a symposium on November 4 and 5 featuring the Affrilachian Poets, a collective of diverse writers from Appalachia. Visiting poets included Amy M. Alvarez, Mitchell L.H. Douglas, Kelly Norman Ellis, and Frank X Walker, who coined the term "Affrilachia." The event was organized by Lisa Kwong (Asian American Studies and a member of the collective). The symposium featured a screening and discussion of the documentary *Coal Black Voices*, a creative writing masterclass with Frank X Walker, a panel discussion, and a poetry reading. Each session drew a large and diverse audience from IU (faculty, students, and staff) as well as the Bloomington community. The audience learned about the diversity of Appalachia and about how identity, race, and place informed the authors' writing. Sixteen registrants participated in the masterclass and wrote poems inspired by photographs of themselves or loved ones.



Anti-Asian Violence Sessions

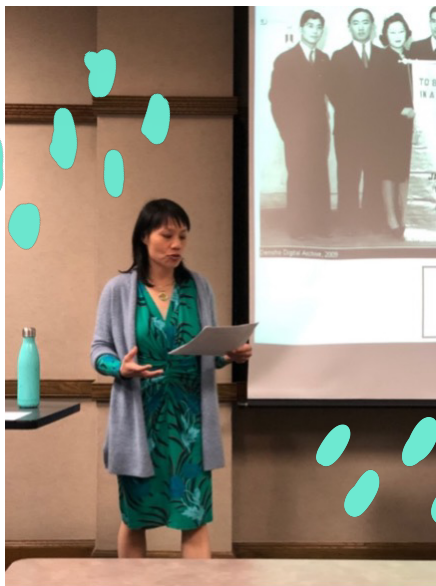
Members of the Asian American Studies Program participated in two public discussions about an 18-year-old Asian American IUB student who was a victim of a violent hate crime. One discussion (Jan. 19) was a “listening session” organized by the College of Arts and Science and the other was a small undergraduate student discussion (Feb. 16) facilitated by Eunice Lee and Karen Inouye. On February 13, Associate Professor Sonia Lee (with support from Asian American Studies) hosted facilitator Yoojin Lee for approximately 10 AAPI faculty to address the stabbing of the Asian American IUB student.



Annual Asian American Studies Symposium

September 29, 2023

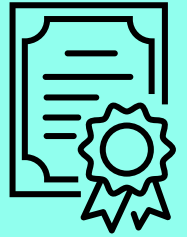
Asian American Studies partnered with the Race, Migration, and Indigeneity Program to host the annual Spring Symposium. Chris Eng, Assistant Professor of English, Washington University, Saint Louis was the keynote speaker. He presented a talk entitled “Getting to the Bottom of Camp: The Queer Taint of Japanese American Incarceration.”



The afternoon was filled with other thought-provoking research talks by local scholars. Cindy Wu, Director of Race, Migration and Indigeneity, presented "East Asian Specters in the United States' Twenty-First-Century Wars on Terror." Hoi Na Stephanie Kung, a doctoral candidate in English, gave a talk from her dissertation research entitled "Malodorous Presence: The Scent and Sex of Asian/American Femininity." Ellen Wu, Associate Professor of History, delivered a presentation entitled "The First Asian American Influencers."

The day ended with a panel that discussed recent Anti-Asian Violence in Bloomington. Panelists included: Karen Inouye, Director of Asian American Studies, Eunice Lee, Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies and American Studies, and Joel Wong, Professor and Chair of Counseling Psychology.

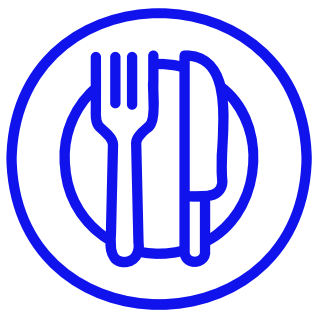
Graduate Student Grants



During Spring 2023, Asian American Studies awarded over \$7000 in travel/research grants to Hoon Lee (English), Lisa Doi (American Studies), Huixin Tian (Anthropology) and Tiffany Vo (Sociology).



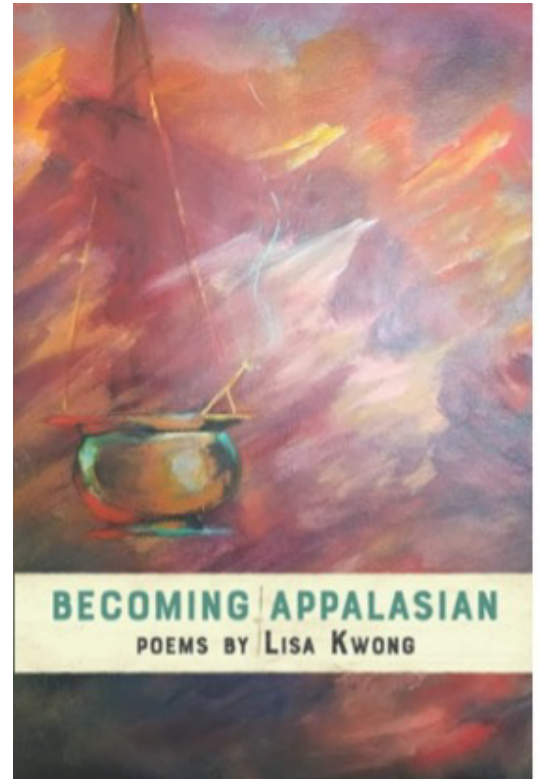
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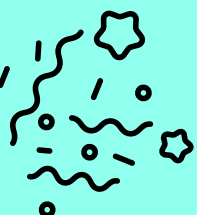
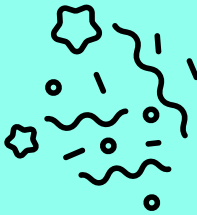
Annual Fall Dinner

September 29, 2023

Karen Inouye hosted a dinner at her home for AAST faculty and graduate students. In addition to tasty food, attendees enjoyed lively discussions about the newest books written by and about Asian Americans. Lisa Kwong treated us to a reading from her new poetry collection, *Becoming AppalAsian*. Each guest took home a bag full of the books we discussed as well as plastic containers full of extra food.



Asian Cultural Center 25-Year Anniversary Celebration



October 28, 2023

Asian American Studies made a generous contribution to celebrate the amazing work of the Asian Cultural Center. Eunice Lee, Lisa Kwong, Ellen Wu, Karen Inouye, Cindy Wu and Jennifer Lee attended the festivities, which included dinner and an awards ceremony.

Indigeneity Conference



On January 26, 2024, Asian American Studies, Latino Studies, and Native American and Indigenous Studies held a conference to examine intersecting research interests. The event was hosted at the First Nations Educational and Cultural Center.



Guest Speaker: Professor Tamara Ho, U.C. Riverside



On January 29, 2024, Asian American Studies partnered with Gender Studies to bring in Professor Ho to present her research on Burmese America. In her titled lecture, "From Sushi Rolling to Meat Packing and Christian Farms", Professor Ho spoke on talk-stories about Burmese refugee resettlement in the United States through a focus on sushi entrepreneurship, corporatized meat processing, and Christian community gardens/ farms. Using a critical refugee studies approach, Ho's current research project tracks how twentieth century immigrants and more recently displaced and resettled refugees from Myanmar/ Burma have participated in U.S. food chains and community-supported agriculture (CSA) programs

Annual Asian American Studies Symposium



April 5, 2025

Asian American Studies faculty and graduate students presented their research on exciting topics ranging from the digitization of Asian American literature to Japanese American pilgrimages. It was thrilling to hear about local AAST projects. The room was packed with audience members from multiple departments. Speakers included:

Dina Okamoto, Professor of Sociology

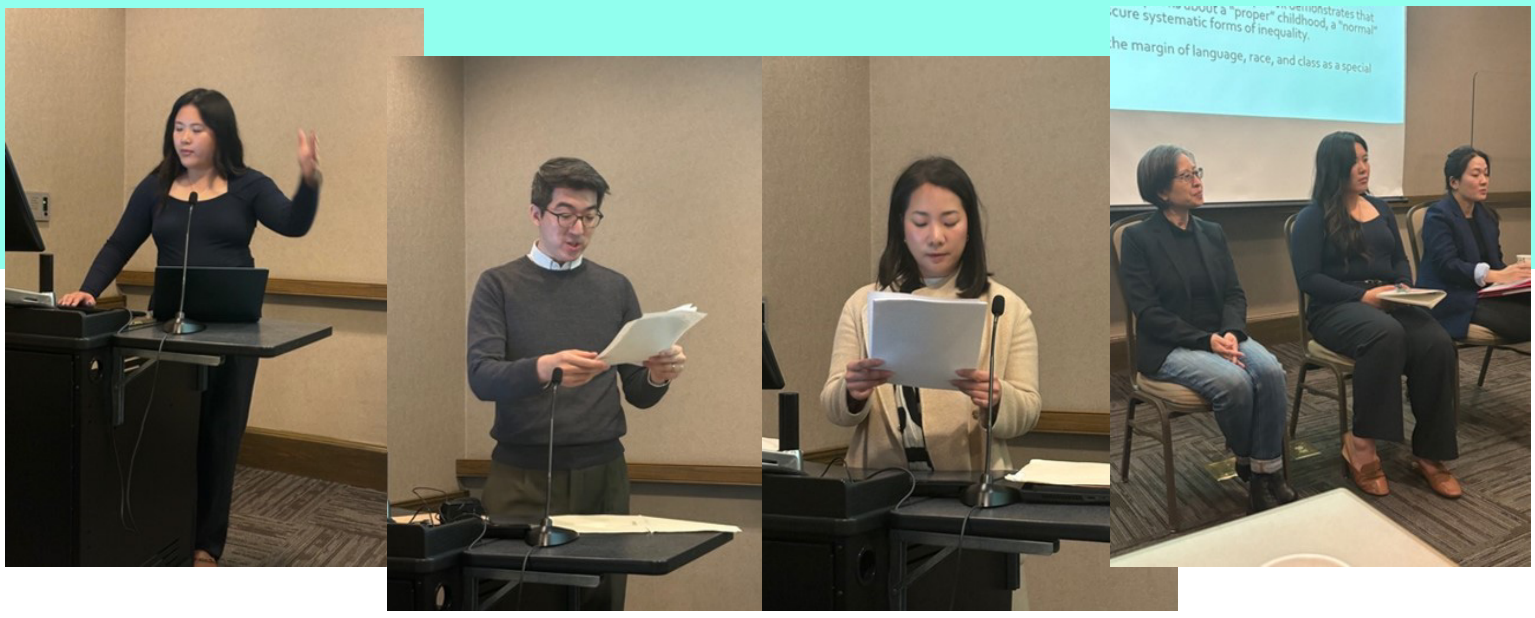
Eunice Lee, Assistant Professor American Studies & Asian American Studies

Joe Wei, CRRES Post-doctoral Fellow

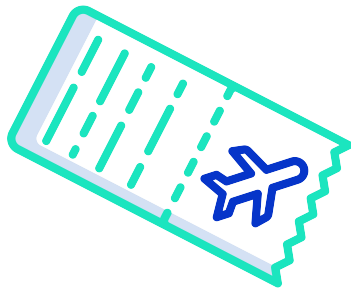
Tiffany Vo, Sociology Graduate Student

Lisa Doi, American Studies Graduate Student

Hyeyoung Kwon, Assistant Professor of Sociology



Graduate Student Awards



During Spring 2024, Asian American Studies awarded over \$15,000 in travel/research grants to our amazing graduate students. Recipients included Miri Kim (English), Lisa Doi (American Studies), Hoon Lee (English), Huixin Tian (Anthropology), Tiffany Vo (Sociology), Jonathan Kang (Education)