

# CKS Newsletter

Spring 2025

Committee on Korean Studies, AAS NEAC

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## AAS 2025 in Columbus, Ohio

- Words from the **AAS President Hyaewool Choi** in the Conference Program

Warmest welcome to the 2025 Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies in Columbus, Ohio!

Thanks to your enthusiastic response to the call for proposals, more than 3,300 participants—the largest number of participants we have ever had at an in-person annual meeting—gather here in Columbus to share innovative research ideas that address compelling issues relevant to Asia.

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This year's Distinguished Contributions to Asian Studies awardee is Professor Bruce Cumings. His ground-breaking work on the origins of the Korean War and U.S.-East Asian relations has had a huge impact on the research of many students and scholars, including myself as a college student in South Korea in the 1980s. He has also contributed as a public intellectual to enhancing the awareness and knowledge of Korea and East Asia among the general public.



## Message from the Chair

– By **Sixiang Wang**, Chair, Committee on Korean Studies  
Associate Professor, Asian Languages and Cultures, UCLA

Dear Members of the Committee on Korean Studies,

The Committee was founded in 1968 to support and advocate for Korean Studies within the AAS. Throughout its history, CKS has adapted to the field's changing needs. Since 2018, it has redefined and expanded its mission into a community-building organization, with program initiatives that focus on teaching, mentorship, and professionalization.

The Committee also manages critical resources for the field. Every year, the Committee also publishes this newsletter to keep our members informed about ongoing research, conferences, and exciting opportunities worldwide. I thank Publication Director Pil Ho Kim for putting the Newsletter together. Last year, we launched CKS online forum (<https://groups.google.com/g/committee-korean-studies>) as a moderated email list server for the Korean Studies academic community and refreshed the website (<https://koreanstudies.org>) to better serve the community's needs. My gratitude goes to Ann-Marie Villarose for helping make this possible.

In anticipation of this year's AAS, Vice-Chair CedarBough Saeji launched an initiative to recruit Korean Studies scholars from countries not normally represented to participate in the conference. Three scholars from South America submitted their abstracts and were matched with three different panels; two panels were accepted and the Luce Foundation generously committed to support travel costs for both of these participants. The panel "Asian Diasporic Cultural Engagements and the Role of Racial and Ethnic

Imagineries in the Americas" on Friday, March 14, 2025 (9:00 AM–10:30 AM) was made possible by these efforts. Travel to the AAS has always been prohibitive for under-resourced colleagues, and providing reimbursements is not always a realistic solution for scholars flying to the US from abroad. This remains a structural challenge for building an inclusive field.

Looking forward to 2025-26 and beyond, CKS will likely play a greater role in the Korean Studies community beyond the annual AAS meeting. Recently, the Association of Asian Studies has sought to clarify its relationship with the various entities under its fiscal sponsorship. In January 2025, the AAS Board voted to refer to committees such as CKS as a "Sponsored Group." This affirms our status as one of the "independent organizations sponsored fiscally by the AAS." There will be an AAS member vote in Fall 2025 to ratify these changes. Regardless of the outcome of these votes, CKS will continue working with AAS and the Northeast Asia Council, to support and advocate for Korean Studies at the AAS annual meeting and beyond. CKS remains one of the few institutions in North America that represents Korean Studies as an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary area field, crossing the humanities and social sciences.

For those of you planning to attend this year's AAS conference in Columbus, Ohio, the Committee on Korean Studies would like to invite you to a special film screening organized in collaboration with Ohio State University's Korean Performance Research Program (KPRP) and Institute for Korean Studies (IKS). The event, *Body and Text in Motion: Korean Contemporary Dance, Theatre, and Animation on Screen* will feature three

film screenings and will be held from 11:00-3:30 pm on Thursday, March 13 at the Columbus Metropolitan Library Northside Branch (see next page). We hope you will be able to join us there. My gratitude to my fellow CKS committee member Pil Ho Kim for making this event possible.

Please also join us for our annual meeting on Saturday, March 15. It will be held from 12:15-1:45 in the Roman Johnson room of the Hilton Hotel (see below). We will discuss issues mentioned as well as other matters in the formal agenda. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely Yours,

Sixiang Wang  
Chair, Committee on Korean Studies

## Annual Meeting of the Committee on Korean Studies

**Date and Time:** 12:15-1:45pm, Saturday, March 15

**Venue:** Roman Johnson Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Level Hilton

### Meeting Agenda

- 12:15 - 12:45 Buffet luncheon
- 12:45 - 12:55 Greetings and introductions
- 12:55 - 1:30 Discussion items
- 1:30 - 1:45 Open floor and reports

### Discussion Items

- Website update
- Call for syllabi
- Relationship with AAS
- Mini-conference ideas
- A second book prize
- In memoriam: Carter Eckert
- Bylaw revision

## AAS Pre-Conference Film Screening Event



Committee on Korean Studies, in collaboration with Ohio State University's Korean Performance Research Program ([KPRP](#)) and Institute for Korean Studies ([IKS](#)), proudly presents:

Body and Text in Motion: Korean Contemporary Dance, Theatre, and Animation on Screen

**Date and Time:** 11:00am-3:30pm, Thursday, March 13

**Venue:** Meeting Room 1, Columbus Metropolitan Library Northside Branch ([google maps](#))

If you arrive in Columbus early for the [AAS Annual Meeting](#), which begins late Thursday afternoon, please join us for a free pre-conference film screening event co-sponsored by CKS, KPRP, and IKS. We will show three films that highlight Korea's performance culture: a musical animation by director Ahn Jaehuun, [The Shaman Sorceress](#), a staged reading of playwright Kim Eunsung's [Sister Mok-Rahn](#) translated into English, and a short documentary film about the Korea National Contemporary Dance Company's performance, [Listen to Your Body](#). Here is the screening schedule:

11:00 - 12:30	<i>The Shaman Sorceress</i>
12:30 - 1:00	<i>Listen to Your Body</i>
1:00 - 1:30	<i>Sister Mok-Rahn</i>
1:30 - 3:00	<i>The Shaman Sorceress</i>
3:00 - 3:30	<i>Listen to Your Body</i>

Columbus Metropolitan Library Northside Branch is about a [25-minute walk/6-minute bus ride](#) from the Greater Columbus Convention Center. No registration is required, and you may join any time during the event. Let us get together and celebrate the vibrant performing arts from Korea!

For more information, please contact the organizer, Pil Ho Kim ([plateaux@gmail.com](mailto:plateaux@gmail.com)).

## AAS Special Events, Awards, Meetings

### OPENING CEREMONY AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Thursday, March 13, 5:00 PM-6:30 PM

Hilton, Aminah Robinson Grand Ballroom, 5th Floor

### SPECIAL PERFORMANCE

#### Welcome Pansori, Korean Epic Storysinging

수궁가 Sugungga, Song of the Water Palace, is one of the 오바탕 Obatang, the five canonical songs of the pansori tradition. The story is an allegory of survival of the weak amidst the powerful. According to the Confucian worldview, the weak or subjugated are to sacrifice themselves for their betters. The supreme ruler of all watery realms, the Dragon King, has fallen alarmingly ill, and no doctor or medicine can cure him. A mystic healer divines his only cure: the liver of a wild mountain hare. Who will venture to Land for the hare that will save the King?



Chan E. Park

#### Biography of Chan E. Park

Chan E. Park is Professor Emeritus of Korean literature and performance in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures at the Ohio State University. Park's literary work is informed by her training in theater and 국악 or traditional performance. She studied under the late Master Chung Kwonjin, National Preserver of the Gangsanche Boseong tradition of pansori. The monograph *Korean Pansori as Voice Theatre: History, Theory, Practice* (Methuen Forms of Drama Series, Bloomsbury, 2024) is among her most recent publications. For performance presentations, she renders archaic pansori text through original translations to be accessible to audiences around the world.

### 2025 AAS PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS & AWARDS CEREMONY

Friday, March 14, 5:30 PM – 7:15 PM

Hilton, Aminah Robinson Grand Ballroom, 5th Floor

#### Food and Gendered Life Politics in Global Korea

In 2019, in the context of my long-term project on American women missionaries in Korea at the turn of the twentieth century, I came across a curious little book: *The Art of Korean Cooking* (1945/1959) by Harriett Morris, an American Protestant missionary and a professor of home economics in Korea (1921-1940). This serendipitous encounter set me off on a continuous stream of questions about gender and domesticity in the context of the transpacific flow of people, ideas, and materials, and the impact of the intersecting forces of modernity, colonialism, the Cold War, and globalization. In this presentation, I will share some food stories experienced and narrated by ordinary women whose lives and work shed new light on existing and emerging gender dynamics in the context of geopolitical, economic, and cultural changes. In doing so, I aim to illustrate how the most intimate and mundane practices of cooking and eating provide a useful vantage point from which one can examine the confluence of the private, public, and global.



Hyae-weol Choi, AAS President, 2024-2025

## AWARDS CEREMONY

Friday, March 14

Hilton, Aminah Robinson Grand Ballroom, 5th Floor

Join us for the **AAS 2025 Awards Ceremony** as we celebrate excellence in Asian Studies. This special event will honor the outstanding achievements of scholars in the field, showcasing their contributions to advancing knowledge and understanding of Asia. Along with the 2025 Book Prizes, please join us as we present the AAS special recognition awards.

### PRIZES AWARDED

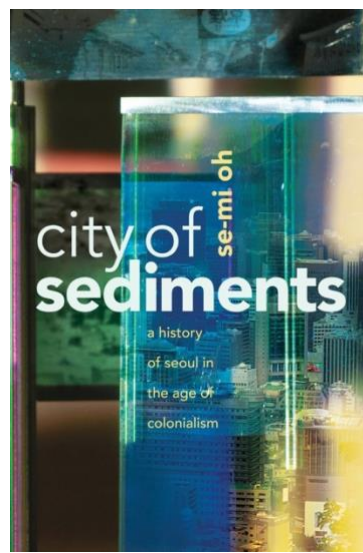
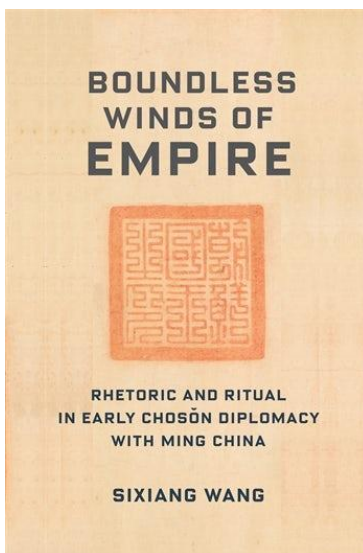
**Distinguished Contributions to Asian Studies (DCAS)**

**Bruce Cumings**, *University of Chicago*

*Gustavus F. and Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor of History and the College*



Bruce Cumings



### James B. Palais Book Prize

#### Winner:

Sixiang Wang, *Boundless Winds of Empire: Rhetoric and Ritual in Early Chosŏn Diplomacy with Ming China* (Columbia University Press, 2023)

#### Honorable mention:

Se-Mi Oh, *City of Sediments: A History of Seoul in the Age of Colonialism* (Stanford University Press, 2023)

### Early Korean Studies Working Group Meeting

Thursday, March 13, 2025, 8:00-9:30pm, Erwin Frey Boardroom, Hilton Columbus

The Early Korean Studies Working Group is aimed at fostering a community of scholars interested in the study of Early Korea (prehistory through first millennium CE). In our inaugural meeting, our focus will be on considering the current state and future prospects for the study of Early Korea in Anglophone academia. We invite any and all scholars with an interest in Early Korea, or with an interest in supporting those who work on Early Korea, to join us for our meeting at AAS 2025.

Contact Marjorie Burge ([marjorie.burge@colorado.edu](mailto:marjorie.burge@colorado.edu)) with any questions.

## Select AAS Panels on Korea: Organized Panels

### Korean Patriarchy: Contemporary Manifestations and Future Implications

7:00-8:30pm, Thursday, March 13

Room B234, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizer and Chair: Hyeyoung Woo

Presenters: Hyeyoung Woo, Juyeon Park, Minjeong Kim

Three papers included in this proposed panel explore how being a woman intersects with sexuality, parenting roles, and economic lives in contemporary Korea and Korean society. First, Woo and Lee look at double-minority status experienced by sexual minority women in Korea. As women, they face structural barriers in the labor market and unjust treatment at work. Simultaneously, they deal with invisibility as lesbians while gay men tend to receive more social attentions, making it difficult for them to raise their voices for their rights. Second, Park investigates transnational families with children studying abroad, a growing family type in Korea where children's education is often a top priority. Park articulates the increasingly critical roles of fathers in their children's education, highlighting how elite fathers' active involvement is valued and respected, while mothers' participation in decision-making is often overlooked. Lastly, Kim analyzes Korean immigrant society in the context of the current globalized work environment by looking at Korean workers from Korean multinational corporations and their families residing in the US-Mexico border region where Korean multinational corporations contributed to the development of Korean ethnic community as well as ethnic economy. She illuminates how gendered patterns within diasporic populations and Korean multinational corporations' overseas assignments create gendered ethnic entrepreneurship. Each paper in this panel draws on different literature, utilizes unique data sources, and provides insightful perspectives on gender manifestation and gendered mechanisms in Korea and beyond. Collectively, they offer implications for the further reinforcement of the existing gender-inegalitarian culture in the future.

### "Islanding" Jeju, Contesting Isolation: Toward Trans-regional Solidarity within and beyond Korea

7:00-8:30pm, Thursday, March 13

Room B235, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizer: Youjeong Oh; Chair: Nan Kim; Discussant: Nan Kim

Presenters: Tommy Tran, Youjeong Kim, William O'Grady, Youjeong Oh

As Korea's largest island, Jeju has commonly been regarded as a space of exception within Korean Studies. Challenging such framing, this panel instead responds to Pacific scholar Teresia Teaiwa's provocation that all of Earth's inhabitants must learn to cherish precious ecosystems and finite resources with the consciousness of living on an island. Following Teaiwa's use of "island" as a verb, we embrace "islanding" as a decolonial practice fostering solidarity across diverse contexts while capturing possibilities inherent to island epistemologies. By "islanding" Jeju, we both recognize and push back against the narrative of Jeju as a place embedded within overlapping projects of military overreach, cultural marginalization, language suppression, and dispossession from rampant tourism and speculative property development. This effort further aims to rediscover Jeju's village commons and Indigenous linguistic heritage while supporting endeavors for just reparation and reconciliation to address scars of the April Massacre, as island residents bear collective trauma from the brutal scorched-earth campaigns of state violence during the period of US Occupation (1945-48). Contesting the notion of islands as isolated spaces merely mapped onto grids of colonization, militarization, and extraction, this panel seeks to tap "the energy of the island" turned inside-out, while building broader solidarity through newly acknowledged connections. Jeju's collective resistance against the construction of an illegal naval military base garnered extensive trans-regional support during the 2000s. This panel encourages revitalized dialogues and mutual alliances among places grappling with geopolitical pressures, hyper-developmentalism, and imperatives of cultural survival in Korea and across Asia and the Pacific.

## Navigating Justice in Late Chosŏn Korea: Morality, Taxation, and Bureaucracy in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries

9:00-10:30am, Friday, March 14

Room A223, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizer: Ha-kyoung Lee; Chair: Sun Joo Kim; Discussant: Jungwon Kim

Presenters: Ha-kyung Lee, Youjin Lee, Haeddem Hong

This panel explores how justice was negotiated and enacted at the local level in late Chosŏn Korea, focusing on the interactions between commoners, local officials, and the central state. Contrary to conventional ideas about its centralized control of justice, recent discoveries of local records suggest a need for further research into how justice was interpreted and applied at the local level. By examining murder cases, tax litigation, and bureaucratic practices, this panel provides a comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of legal interpretations and administrative actions. Ha-kyŏung Lee's paper analyzes murder cases to reveal unintended consequences of the state's emphasis on moral values. This study examines how leniency towards private acts of violence was justified through moral discourse, highlighting broader implications for marginalized women. Youjin Lee's paper investigates tax-related petitions, revealing the strategies of commoners and magistrates. This research provides insights into pre-modern Chosŏn taxation administration, where judicial and administrative roles were intertwined. Haeddem Hong's paper explores judicial manuals to uncover the magistrates' political roles and judicial principles guiding conflict resolution. By examining guidelines for resolving disputes, this study sheds light on the magistrates' influence in shaping social order and their connection to political authority. Together, these papers contribute to a deeper understanding of the interplay between law, morality, and governance in historical contexts. This panel aims to engage scholars of Korean studies, legal history, and East Asian cultural and political dynamics, fostering interdisciplinary discussions and advancing knowledge of Chosŏn Korea's legal landscape.

## Body, Illness, and Management

9:00-10:30am, Friday, March 14

Room A210, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizers: Soyi Kim, Da In Choi; Chair: Sonja Kim; Discussant: Laura Nelson

Presenters: Soyi Kim, Da In Choi, Soyoung Suh

This panel considers the body as a contentious site of institutional management and reclamation of autonomy. Presenters examine such a forked definition across historical timescapes at the intersection of multiple factors: government policies, medical technologies, and cultural productions. Soyoung Suh turns to medical technologies to understand how they shaped social discourses about breast cancers during the colonial period. Da In Choi examines how the government apparatus and organizations created a category of women requiring protection, classifying their pregnancies as obstacles to postwar Korean society's development. From the vantage point of the present, Soyi Kim considers how the medical system and language fail to account for social conditions that create illnesses.

Although the state apparatus deploy bodies for modern development's curative mandate or exclusion, bodies can also turn into a method of reclamation. Suh examines how women navigated the idea of western scientific progress embedded in technologies to articulate the meaning of cure. By analyzing Jaemin Cha's 2022 artwork *Nameless Syndrome*, Kim considers the role of artists in responding to the stigmatization of public grief and gendered violence that are illegible under the medical system. Choi examines working-class women's memoirs to illuminate how they reclaimed their bodies and rights to have, or not have families, highlighting urban capitalism and patriarchal violence as social conditions that lead to women's illnesses. Through artistic practices such as video art, memoirs, documentary films, women foregrounded their bodies as a speaking subject.

## Accidental Archives: Photography, Archives, and Critical Interventions in Korean Studies

11:00am-12:30pm, Friday, March 14

Room A224, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizers: Jung Joon Lee, Hye-ri Oh; Chair: Jung Joon Lee

Presenters: Sujin Eom, So-Rim Lee, Hye-ri Oh, Minna Lee



Working within and against institutionalized archives, the recent emergence of multidisciplinary studies of photography in Asian studies elicits an examination of the ways in which the medium challenges what counts as archival and what doesn't. Photography allows us to critically assess the legibility of knowledge in the academy, especially when the photography archive is fragmented, private, and even ephemeral. This session will showcase boundary-breaking research on photography in Korean Studies, which explores both materials deemed unworthy of an institutional home and those that repudiate the regime of institutionalized visibility, especially in their engagement with anticolonial, counter-hegemonic memory. Offering critical studies of photographic materials through innovative methodologies, the presenters explore photography's epistemological interventions, not despite, but through the challenges in the "illegibility" of the "accidental archive," as the presenters found the criticality of the material through the unexpected paths of their research. The "accident" in this archive reveals how the photographic material unsettles the privileged practice of archiving to produce knowledge. Sujin Eom investigates underexplored police photographs depicting the distinct architecture of Chinese migrants and their involvement in anticolonial activism in colonial Korea. So-Rim Lee explores the "photo dumping" practice of an eating disorder patient who subverts the food-logging typically prescribed to patients in medical treatment. Hye-ri Oh examines the anticolonial approaches taken by photographers in the handcrafted *pimaep'um* (not-for-sale) journal *Saan* during the 1960s. Minna Lee probes the geopolitical operations governing cartographic vision by analyzing street-view images of the Jeju Naval Base, captured by the now-defunct Daum Road View.

## Fueling the Future: Forces of Historical Change in North Korea's Cold War Socialist Projects

1:30-3:00pm, Friday, March 14

Union C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hyatt

Organizer: Derek Kramer; Chair: Laurence Coderre; Discussant: Andre Schmid

Presenters: Derek Kreamer, Sung Soo Lee, Haeyoung Kim, Sunho Ko

The projection of progressive futures stood out as a defining element of North Korea's Cold War socialist projects. However, for all their promise, detailed and consistent explanations of what animated historical change was often left to the margins of popular discourse. Would a socialist tomorrow be realized by way of environmental engineering, a perfected utilitarianism, an electric current, a gendered working class, a protean youth culture, an atomic age? This panel examines the varied fuels and forces that were believed to energize socialist politics in twentieth century East Asia. Its papers consider the tensions that emerged between divergent forms of historical rupture and the ways that variations in causal formations were managed.

Building on a robust collection of scholarship on socialist futures, this panel attends to the resources, technologies and processes that were thought to propel historical transformations in Cold War North Korea. Projections of such futures were seldom the outcome of a singular catalyst. With this point in mind, the panel aims to understand how divergent trajectories were negotiated in the constitution of socialist forecasts. This approach is taken with specific attention to historical context. Forces and fuels heralded in 20th century East Asia were in constant conversation with a post-colonial, post-imperial and Cold War frame. Guided by this fact, the panel seeks to look beyond the multifaceted nature of socialist prognostication to engage with the broader ideological and infrastructural conditions that helped energize revolutionary visions in places like North Korea.

## Critique of Masculinity in South Korea: Monstrosity of Militarism and the Cold War

1:30-3:00pm, Friday, March 14

Union B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hyatt

Organizer and Chair: Cheehyung Kim; Discussants: Cheehyung Kim, Juyeon Bae  
Presenters: Wonkeun Kim, Jeong-mi Park, Taejin Hwang

This panel is an exploration of critique of South Korea's masculinity, as its manifestations are shaped by the structures of militarism and the Cold War. Specifically, the masculinity investigated here emerges from the military conscription program and camptown labor that are embedded parts of the state practice of militarism, on the one hand, and the Cold War context stemming from the WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War that enabled the rise of anticommunist and conservative hypermasculinity, on the other. In particular, Wonkeun Lee traces the historical connection between masculinity and the transnational network of two prominent anticommunist organizations championed by the South Korean government, the Asian People's Anti Communist League and the World Anti-Communist League. Jeong-Mi Park makes a sociological inquiry into South Korea's culture of hypermasculine radicality, especially through the life of the gender-fluid politician Kim Ok-Seon, who in public adopted a hypermasculine identity while never revealing her sexuality. Taejin Hwang investigates the uneven historical terrain of emasculation of South Korean men who work as laborers in the neocolonial space of U.S. military camptowns, including their resistive and often violent efforts to reclaim their masculinity. Yoon Heo examines, by analyzing literature and oral history, the image of men represented by the Military Service Act and offers a feminist critique of South Korea's hegemonic masculinity that leaves no room for queerness and other non-binary identifications. Overall, this panel makes the claim that a part of South Korea's masculinity is an inexorable formation of anticommunism and sustained militarism.

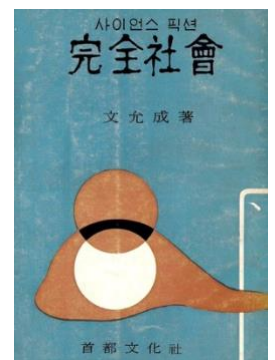
## Revisiting Feminist Movements and Literature in Cold War South Korea amid the Era of Antifeminist Backlash

1:30-3:00pm, Friday, March 14

Union B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hyatt

Organizer: Ji Young Kim; Chair: Sungyun Lim; Discussant: Sungyun Lim  
Presenters: Ji Young Kim, Young A Jung, Mairead Hynes, Yoon Heo

The backlash against women's advancement is now considered a global trend, and in South Korea, misogyny and antifeminist backlash have led to severe gender conflicts that are polarizing society and threatening the existence of the nation. The conservative government not only fails to propose policy solutions to these conflicts but also condones or even encourages them. To delve into the role of gender studies in this worsening retrogression, our panel revisits various feminist movements and literatures that challenged the state control over women's sexuality from the 1945 emergence and development of the postcolonial Cold War state through the 1990s. Kim explores how women's literature under the U.S. occupation and contemporary abolitionist movement of licensed prostitution strategically negotiated with the occupying power to achieve their goals and decolonize women. By analyzing the first Korean sci-fi novel considered to portray a feminist utopia, Jung critically rereads the novel's imagination, which is based on the 1960s totalitarian Cold War system that regulates human desires and reproduction. Hynes examines 1970s South Korea's anti-*kisaeng* tourism movement and its impact on the Japanese counterpart, thereby showing how this transnational feminist movement can provide insight into both women's liberation and the deimperialization of Japan. In her discussion of both autobiographical and fictional narratives of Korean sex workers serving U.S. soldiers, Heo traces how 1990s literature criticizes the Cold War hierarchical structure between the U.S. and South Korea and depicts women as brave fighters against it.



## Ordinary Injury: Biopolitical Technologies and the Mundanity of Violence in Post/colonial Korea

3:30-5:00pm, Friday, March 14

Union C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hyatt

Organizer: Junyoung Verónica Kim, Inga Diederich; Chair: Hosu Kim; Discussant: Hosu Kim

Presenters: Jin-kyung Lee, Hyowon Park, Inga Diederich, Junyoung Verónica Kim

Responding to the recent rise in authoritarian nostalgia and reactionary politics in South Korea, this panel interrogates the role of injury in molding and maintaining Korean biopolitical governmentality. Rather than articulating violence and victimhood solely at the level of mass trauma, our conversation reconceives ordinary injuries—mundane coercions, minute cuts, slow debility, and everyday contusions—as instrumental to the making of Korean modernity and modern Korean subjecthood. By concentrating on how the biopolitical imperative to “make live” and the necropolitical demand to “let die” hinge on ordinary injuries, the panelists interrogate the persistence of violence in post/colonial South Korea's political and social order while proposing new analytical frameworks for understanding the relations and slippages between different registers of injury. Asking what constitutes injury, who demands injury and whose injury is worthy of redress, as well as how mundane and repeated injuries ground biopolitical state projects, this panel traces the throughlines from colonialism and war to military authoritarianism and neoliberal democracy at the level of the intimate, and in so doing speak directly to ongoing anxieties over the processes by which the Korean national body is protected and promoted.

## The Foreign Gaze: Constructing North and South Korean Identities in the Media

2:00-3:30pm, Saturday, March 15

Room A115, Level 1, Convention Center

Organizer: CedarBough Saeji; Chair: CedarBough Saeji

Presenters: Zoe Stephens, Yeonhee Kim, Luis Carlos Girão, CedarBough Saeji



‘Gaze’ has been called a metaphor for an operationalization of power. Ever since film theorist Laura Mulvey theorized the dominance of the heterosexual male gaze in the production of film, scholars have been identifying different types of gaze, and asking who is the gazer, and who is the object of the gaze. Media, meant to guide the gaze, is constantly produced, and for people outside North and South Korea it is the primary way for them to approach Korea. Therefore, in our panel we address different entities who are constructing the gaze, identify the type of gaze, and ask who their imagined viewer is. Our first panelist examines the international news media in their production of stories about North Korea to examine the Western gaze. The second panelist focuses on a single photographer, and how he uses the politics of the gaze to prompt a deeper interrogation of the division of Korea in the gazers on his work. The third panelist tackles how translators of Korean books into Portuguese challenge the Orientalist gaze and constructs deeper engagement with Korean media for *hallyu* fans. The fourth panelist addresses the construction of the tourist gaze through cooperation between the K-pop stars and the southern government which permits them to perform in historic palaces. Collectively we examine how media (news, photography, literature, and K-pop performance) cooperates to inform (or misinform) the gaze of the global audience as they examine both Koreas.

## Against Violence: The Crisis of the Ordinary in Contemporary Korean Visual Media and Literature

4:00-5:30pm, Saturday, March 15

Room A112, Level 1, Convention Center

Organizer: Hyun Jung Kong; Chair: Jooyeon Rhee; Discussant: Hyun Seon Park

Presenters: Kendra McDuffie, Hyun Jung Kong, Miyoung Gu, Sang-hyon Nam

By focusing on violence as a critical lens to engage with far-reaching impacts of historical and social trauma, this panel examines contemporary South Korean literature, TV dramas, and films where violent expressions are salient. Panelists aim to investigate how literature and media can articulate the everyday violence and trauma that is deeply rooted in Korea's historical experience of Japanese colonialism, the Cold War, and neoliberalism; and to explore aesthetics of each art form in its potential to address the depth of emotional and psychological ramification of the historical experience that are not readily visible in real life. This panel particularly concerns the aesthetic capability of the selected visual media and literature that enables us to expand our understanding of the crisis of ordinariness and everydayness of historical and social trauma. As the panelists will demonstrate, exploring the aesthetics of violence is generative in visualizing and potentially remediating structural injustice. Kendra McDuffie examines colonial violence and intimacy as represented in a very recent TV drama *Gyeongseong Creature*. Hyun Jung Kong explores the trauma of the Korean War and the aesthetics of everyday embodiment in Pak Wan-sŏ's novel, *Naked Tree*. Miyoung Gu tackles neoliberal capitalist violence in Korean cinema through the politics of the body, focusing on the representation of a female psychopath killer in *Beasts Clawing at Straws*. Sang-Hyon Nam probes structural violence within contemporary Korean educational institutions as portrayed in the drama *Solomon's Perjury*, comparing it with the Japanese version.

## On the "Origin" of "Korean" Species: Making "T'ojong/Nativeness" in South Korea and Beyond

6:00-7:30pm, Saturday, March 15

Room B140/B141, Level 1, Convention Center

Organizer: Hyemin Lee; Chair: Hyemin Lee; Discussant: Eleana Kim

Presenters: June Hee Kwon, Heangjin Park, Jeongsu Shin, Hyemin Lee

Combined with the words "soil/earth" (*t'o*) and "species" (*jong*), the Korean concept of *t'ojong* is a ubiquitous yet nuanced term that refers to plants and animals that are genetically, ecologically, and historically bound to Korean terroir. While its referential scope includes "wild species" and "native/naturalized species," its everyday usage encompasses anything "native" to Korea, thereby situating it within the nationalist lexicon (Ahn 2009; Kim 2021). Focusing on its referential-pragmatic ambiguities, this panel explores what makes a species *t'ojong* by unpacking how "Korean" species have been historically and culturally narrated in relation to the human-nature relationship.

Emphasizing the diverse ways of understanding nature and its products as having historical, sociopolitical, and cultural relationships with humans, this panel asks: How has the concept of *t'ojong* been historically understood, questioned, and communicated to think about the associations between nature and humans? How do local practices related to Korean species lay the groundwork for articulating the past and contemporary ecological, political, and historical matters of *t'ojong*? What are the values differently accorded to *t'ojong* that contribute to the politics of nativeness in South Korea and beyond? This panel presents papers engaging with the above questions of *t'ojong* through Korean species, including citrus trees (Kwon), cabbages (Park), honey (Shin), and Korean ginseng (Lee). With special attention to scientific and environmental knowledge production, agricultural/agrarian practices, and bureaucratic institutions, the panel attempts to locate the concept of *t'ojong* in close dialogue with archival and ethnographic works centering around the making and challenging of Korean species.

## Toward a Feminist History of Cold War Korea

6:00-7:30pm, Saturday, March 15

Room A221, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizer: Juwon Kim; Chair: Jinah Kim; Discussant: Sung Eun Kim

Presenters: Sara Kang, Hieyoon Kim, Juwon Kim, Jeung Eun Annabel We

If Cold War Korea has been predominated by (neo)colonial militarism, heteronormative and patriarchal nation-state, and environmental destruction, this panel foregrounds feminism as a critical method to undo these epistemic framings. Practicing feminist inquiry and knowledge-making, the papers recuperate little-known or censored histories of women while shedding light on cultural productions that foster transpacific, decolonial commitments. Sara Kang reflects on the operations of Nang Nang Club during the Korean War, which mobilized Korean girls in gendered and sexual diplomacy to shape postwar Korean politics and sustain U.S. military presence. Juwon Kim delves further into the ways in which women's gendered and sexual labor were disavowed by reading the censored script of *Seven Female POWs*, a film which features a camptown military prostitute referred throughout as "comfort women."

How might contemporary cinema formulate new meanings, attachments, and memories under the ongoing legacies of the Cold War? Proposing adjacency as a feminist mode of artistic solidarity and mnemonic justice, Hieyoon Kim reads *Good Light, Good Air* to ask how memories of state violence in Gwangju and Buenos Aires are interlinked to go beyond nation-centered narratives. Jeung Eun Annabel We finds feminist intimacies in the artistic mediations of Jeju, which has historically been a military occupied and developmentally expropriated island. O Muel and other Jeju-based artists foreground intimate storytelling, spiritual passing rituals, and found organic materials as the common motifs of their works, which seek to decolonize our relations with the dead, the gods, and the animate.

## Divided Canvas: Ideological Impact on Korean Art from Liberation to Cold War

9:00-10:30am, Sunday, March 16

Room A221, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizer: Jinyoung Anna Jin; Chair: Suzie Kim; Discussant: Suzie Kim

Presenters: Jeehey Kim, Jinyoung Anna Jin, Beatrix Mecsi, Suzie Kim

This panel explores the impact of the ideological divisions between North and South Korea on Korean art following the Japanese colonial period through the Cold War. Four papers will focus on how political allegiances and nationalistic narratives affected artists and their artworks. Four scholars examine the contrasting perspectives of a photographer, two muralists, and a war painter, highlighting how their art reflects the complex, often contentious sociopolitical landscapes of the time.

Jeehey Kim looks at Korean photographers who overcame Japanese colonial legacies and were influenced by Soviet and U.S. hegemonies, highlighting Seok-je Lim's 1948 exhibition introducing realist style amid rising North-South tensions. Jinyoung Jin examines how Lee Qoede's North Korean mural and Rina Lazo's 1957 visit to Pyongyang illustrate cross-cultural artistic exchange, ideological camaraderie, and mutual inspiration during the Cold War. Beatrix



Mecsi discusses the influence of North Korean nationalist narratives and Cold War cultural exchanges through Jung Hyun-Woong's reproductions of the Anak 3 Tomb murals and the painting *On the Brutality of American Troops*. Suzie Kim analyzes Chun Kyung-Ja's Vietnam War paintings, with some attention to how the artist navigated South Korea's nationalistic memory narrative and juxtaposed it with her personal artistic style and war experience. This panel will foster a deeper understanding of the interplay between politics and art in shaping national and international narratives and encourage critical dialogue on the lasting impact of ideological divisions on contemporary Korean art and collective memory.

## North Korea as Site(s) of Knowledge Production: Rethinking Public Health, Germ Warfare, and Nuclear Technology Discourse on and in North Korea

10:45am-12:15pm, Sunday, March 16

Room B240/B241, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizer: Yemok Jeon, Bianca Trifoi; Chair: Gregg Brazinsky; Discussant: Gregg Brazinsky, Kyunghwan Lee  
Presenters: Yemok Jeon, Bianca Trifoi, Minah Kang, Yeseul Park

This panel explores knowledge production both within and about North Korea in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, treating North Korea as the subject, the object, and the setting of science, medicine, and technology discourse. The interdisciplinary approaches of the panelists offer a critical rethinking of how knowledge is produced and disseminated and by whom, and how this knowledge affected both those living in North Korea and those conceptualizing it from afar. Yemok Jeon examines how North Koreans participated in the making of disease knowledge and were simultaneously influenced by that knowledge in the context of “germ warfare” during the Korean War. Bianca Trifoi studies the discourse surrounding child public health in 1950s-1960s North Korea, how these ideas were communicated to families, and how raising “healthy children” influenced North Korean society more broadly. Minah Kang examines the discursive impacts of the term “denuclearization” and the pervasive “rogue state” narrative advanced by the US, arguing that these factors have significantly influenced the ongoing impasse in denuclearization efforts. Yeseul Park studies how the contrasting discourses between North and South Korea regarding the export of “Korean-style” nuclear power plants were used as tools in the regime competition between the two countries in the 1990s. Ultimately, we argue that the contentious and dynamic knowledge-making processes in and about North Korea shape not only state-society relations within North Korea, but also how the North Korean state conceptualizes itself in a global context, and how other states and societies in turn conceptualize and interact with North Korea.

## Korean Diasporic Literature across Cold War Borders: Dreaming Freedom and Equality at the Margin of Empires

10:45am-12:15pm, Sunday, March 16

Room A111, Level 1, Convention Center

Organizer: We Jung Yi Trifoi; Chair: Ruth Barraclough; Discussant: Ruth Barraclough  
Presenters: Vladimir Tikhonov, Ji Young Shin, Na-Rae Kim, We Jung Yi

Amid rising concerns about a new Cold War in the Asia-Pacific region, the geopolitical vulnerability of the Korean peninsula calls for renewed attention to its modern history. Caught between empires, from the first Sino-Japanese War through the Japanese colonial occupation to the unfinished Korean War, the territory endured a series of upheavals that led not only to the dispersion of the population around the world but also to the creation of multiple (and often incompatible) narratives about freedom and equality from afar. Though inextricably linked with both the postcolonial path of their divided homeland and the formation of minority communities on foreign soil, many of these works by or about diasporic subjects have yet to be recognized in the canon of their mother tongue or in the global mainstream. This panel brings together records and movements of the diaspora, whose transcultural practices within the persisting imperialist order defy binary models of exile/return or assimilation/resistance. Vladimir Tikhonov unearths the legacy of diasporic nation-building envisioned in Soviet-Korean poetry of the 1920s and 1930s. Ji Young Shin examines post-Stalin documentary writings about the forced migration of Koreans into central Asia alongside comparable texts by Zainichi Koreans. Through North Korean defector memoirs published in English, Na-Rae Kim probes the layers of US humanitarianism and multiculturalism. We Jung Yi analyzes a South Korean webtoon featuring a Red feminist, tracking shifting gender politics in the post-Cold War remembering of trans/national anticolonial struggles.

시베리아의 딸  
김 알렉산드라



## Select AAS Panels on Korea: Roundtables & Lightning Session

*Author Meets Critics: Discussion of Civic Activism in South Korea: The Intertwining of Democracy and Neoliberalism* by Seungsook Moon

11:00am-12:30pm, Friday, March 14

Room B142/143, Level 1, Convention Center

Organizer: Seungsook Moon; Chair: Hayana Kim

Speakers: Vladimir Tikhonov, Celeste Arrington, Sung Eun Kim, Seungsook Moon

Democracy and neoliberalism are major keywords that convey aspirations, challenges, and problems of our era, as well as globally practiced modes of ruling. Like many societies in the world, South Korea has undergone neoliberal transformation of not only the economy and politics, but also of everyday lives. This panel brings together four scholars of Korean Studies to reflect on the study of a complex relationship between the two modes of ruling in South Korea from the angle of civic activism during the past two decades.

*Rethinking Democratic Politics after Martial Law in South Korea*

1:30-3:00pm, Friday, March 14

Union A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hyatt

Organizer and Chair: Jennifer Jihye Chun

Speakers: Ju Hui Judy Han, Sohl Lee, Erik Mobrand, Youngju Ryu, Vladimir Tikhonov



This roundtable will discuss the short-lived martial law by South Korean president Yoon Suk-yeol on December 3, 2024 and the mass protests that have followed on both sides of the political spectrum. What theories and frameworks are useful in making sense of the unfolding events, and what has proved to be challenging? To what extent has the news reporting captured the dynamism and diversity of protests on the ground? In what ways has the political upheaval revealed the crisis of liberal democratic politics in Korea and beyond?

To address these questions, the proposed roundtable will convene an interdisciplinary group of scholars across the humanities and social sciences. Feminist geographer Ju Hui Judy Han will bring her expertise on feminist, queer, and religious movements to deepen understanding of the polarized political landscape. Art historian Sohl Lee will discuss connections and transformations in the visual language of protest since the 1980s, especially between the mass candlelight protests of 2016-7 and 2024. Political scientist Erik Mobrand will provide insight about the twin set of battles underway around impeachment, as well as about the public law function of mass demonstrations. Literary scholar Youngju Ryu will address the power of cultural texts such as "12.12: The Day" and Han Kang's *Human Acts* in shaping popular political subjectivities and mass mobilization. Historian Vladimir Tikhonov will bring his research on New Right historiography to bear on the ideologies, beliefs and worldviews influencing the political formation of the South Korean far-right.

## North Korean Reinterpretations and Reconfigurations of the Classics in Literature, Philosophy, Music, and Film

8:30-10:00am, Saturday, March 15

Room A210, Level 2, Convention Center

Organizer: Dennis Wuerthner; Chair: Dennis Wuerthner

Presenters: Tatiana Gabroussenko, Vladimir Glomb, Heon Kim, Line Daugaard, Barbara Wall

Since the 1950s, various actors and official institutions in the DPRK have energetically striven to reevaluate and reshape Korean cultural heritage. Through wide-ranging yet faced-paced presentations, this lightning-talk panel ventures to explore the common theme of the dynamic evolution, swift transformations, and lasting impacts of the North Korean reinterpretation and reconfiguration of core works of Korean cultural/intellectual history, or the "Classics" - a term which in an East Asian framework was traditionally used to compare canonized, codified, foundational texts to the warp 經 (C. *jing*; K. *kyōng*) of the cloth on which the woof formed a set pattern. On the basis of in-depth, critical examinations of an extensive array of primary North Korean source materials on identity-forging classics from various premodern periods and realms, we will engage with this metaphor from different angles and fields: classical literary, philosophical, and religious writings but also fairytales, film, and musical artworks.

Focusing on academic, literary-historiographical works, Dennis Wuerthner will share his ideas on how ancient literature from the Koryō dynasty (918-1392) was reinterpreted and transformed during the formative phase of the Juche ideology. Likewise paying special attention to actors and processes during the post-colonial, post-Korean War period, classicist Kim Heon will pitch his thoughts on the role of Im Haksu in the translation of ancient Greek and English literature in North Korea. Applying a cross-media approach, professor of North Korean Studies Tatiana Gabroussenko will examine legends of fairies from the Kūmgang Mountains in North Korean literature and film. Shifting into the realm of philosophy, the expert on Korean Confucianism Vladimir Glomb will tell us about strategies that authorities in the DPRK have used in publishing, selecting or censoring crucial text of Korean Confucianism and Buddhism. Rounding off the panel, specialists in narratology Barbara Wall and Line Daugaard will offer glimpses into the interplay of narratives and sounds as part of the Juche ideology.

## Queer Feminist Elsewhere: Dialogues in the Korean Diaspora

10:30am-12:00pm, Saturday, March 15

Room A113, Level 1, Convention Center

Organizer and Chair: Yeong Ran Kim

Speakers: Yeong Ran Kim, Hosu Kim, Kimura Byol Lemoine, Jota Mun

This innovative session explores a collective desire for a queer "elsewhere" that does not result in a utopian product of liberal yearning but one that cultivates care and joy in the difficult work of transnational critique - be it artistic, activist, or scholarly - as the beginning of decolonial making. How do we decolonize our understanding of transoceanic longings for home along the colonial histories of forced migration, immigration, and travel? Whose labor and what kind of labor becomes precarious when activating queer and trans relationalities?

The session brings together an artist, a filmmaker, and scholars who have dedicated their artistic and scholarly practices to critiquing, resisting, undoing, and repairing the epistemic and institutional violence of heteropatriarchy, hetero- and homonormativity, ableism, and white supremacy that is deeply embedded in the spaces of aesthetic production and creative making. We will begin the session by screening the artists' work followed by a dialogue between the artists and scholars. Then we will move onto a participatory performance, which we might call "keyword methods": artists, scholars, and the audiences are invited to participate in giving a two-minute impromptu speech on a given keyword (i.e. home, queer and trans relationalities, reunion, translation, collaboration) followed by a discussion. Through the keyword activities, we facilitate a new mode of knowledge production - not argument-based but experience-based, embodied, and sensorial - to offer a place of vulnerability and divergence for advancing new modes of collaboration, pedagogy, and community.

Commemorating Kim Min-gi (1951-2024): Morning Dew of Korean Democracy, Backstop of Music and Theater

9:00-10:30am, Sunday, March 16

Room B142/B143, Level 1, Convention Center

Organizer and Chair: Pil Ho Kim

Speakers: Michael Robinson, Okon Hwang, Susan Hwang, Keewoong Lee

Ch’oe Kyöngsik, a renowned radio music broadcaster, described an episode with Kim Min-gi in the liner notes of Kim’s 1971 debut album: “I told him that one day I’d write a treatise (*non*) about Kim Min-gi, and he replied, ‘You’re going to write trash (*nom*) about Kim Min-gi?’” Such was Kim’s lifelong attitude of self-deprecation, which kept him from falling into the trap of public adulation. He may have been a man of modesty, referring to himself as a *twikköt* (backstage hand). Indeed, Kim was at first forced to the background by authoritarian politics and then remained in the backstage by choice. But his body of work has spoken – or rather sung – for itself, time and again at key moments in South Korean history, making his name and presence a great backstop for independent-minded music and theatre movements. This roundtable of scholars, some of whom knew him personally and all of whom are intimately familiar with his work, will commemorate Kim Min-gi’s life and legacy by discussing his irreplaceable impact on South Korea’s music, theater, culture, society, and politics from his 1971 debut to his death in 2024.

Historian Michael Robinson will recall his personal experience as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in the early 1970s, when he met and socialized with the young Kim Min-gi and a circle of dissident intellectuals in Seoul. Ethnomusicologist Okon Hwang will analyze some of the songs of Kim Min-gi that inspired her and her colleagues in the Song Movement on college campuses from the late 1970s to the mid-1990s. Among these songs, literary scholar Susan Hwang will focus on “Morning Dew,” explaining its historical significance in South Korea’s turbulent path to democracy. Keewoong Lee, the chair of the Korean Association for the Study of Popular Music, will discuss Kim Min-gi’s post-authoritarian trajectory as the founder and director of Hakchön Theater, the beacon of the small theater movement that hosted and produced numerous folk song concerts and independent musicals, including the iconic *Subway Line Number One*.



The image is a promotional poster for the AAS2025 Annual Conference. It features a close-up of a p'iri instrument on the left side, with musical notes floating around it. In the top right corner, there is a logo for the 'Association for Asian Studies AAS2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE COLUMBUS, OH MARCH 13-16'. The main text reads: 'DID YOU KNOW? The p'iri is one of Korea's oldest wind instruments, dating back to the Three Kingdoms period. Sunhong Kim, from the University of Michigan, will bring this double-reed instrument to life with hauntingly beautiful melodies at the #AAS2025 Annual Conference at Columbus, OH. If you've never heard a p'iri before, this is your chance to experience its soulful, dynamic sound!' At the bottom, it lists the event details: 'Friday, March 14 | 10:30 AM Convention Center, Exhibit Hall Foyer' and 'P'iri Performance by: Sunhong Kim'.

## Film Screenings on Korea

### Hug Me Tight: A Robot Story

4:30-5:30pm, Friday, March 14

Room A216, Level 2, Convention Center

Directed and Produced by Heesun Shin, Chihyung Jeon (2024. South Korea. 61 minutes)



Following the journey of Hyodol, a South Korean robot with sensors and communication modules, "Hug Me Tight: A Robot Story" explores how the meaning of care is evolving in the age of robots. Featuring the robot's developers, caregivers, and older adults who interact with it daily, it raises essential questions: Can robots take care of older adults, and can older adults take care of the robot? How should we take care of each other?

Self-distributed by the filmmaker

Contact: Chihyung Jeon, [cjeon@kaist.ac.kr](mailto:cjeon@kaist.ac.kr)

### 1923 Kanto Massacre

1:15-3:30pm, Saturday, March 15

Room A216, Level 2, Convention Center

Directed and Produced by Tae-yeong Kim, Gyuseog Cho, Jinhee Lee

The 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake in the Tokyo-Yokohama area brought forth not only material destruction but also the rumors and violence against Koreans in the Japanese metropole. After a century, this first Korea-produced film on the topic reconstructs the course of the post-quake mayhem against the colonized and traces the ways in which the history of this genocidal violence has been concealed, haunting those whose lives were never the same after encountering the forbidden truth.



In-person Q&A with Scholar/Creative Producer Jinhee Lee (Eastern Illinois University)

Distributed by Indecom

<http://indecocomedia.com>

Contact: Jinhee Lee, [jlee@eiu.edu](mailto:jlee@eiu.edu)

# Korean Literature Association 2024 Annual Conference Report

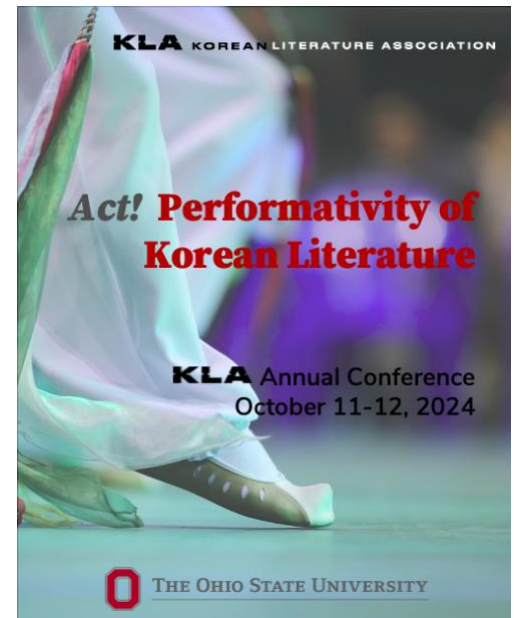
- By **Jina Kim** (KLA President, University of Oregon)

The Korean Literature Association's (KLA) Annual Conference was held at The Ohio State University (OSU) on October 11-12, 2024. Led by the local organizing team consisting of Professors Pil Ho Kim and Hayana Kim, under the theme "Act! Performativity of Korean Literature," it served as a significant academic gathering that highlighted the intersection of Korean literature, performance, and adaptation across different mediums and time periods. Starting with a virtual pre-conference session on October 10, this year's conference brought together over fifty scholars from various stages in their careers and around the world to explore the evolving role of the concept of performance in Korean literary studies.

This year's conference being the largest thus far in the history of KLA was packed with innovative presentations and vibrant discussions. It featured keynote lectures, plenary sessions, and parallel panel discussions focusing on diverse topics such as translating musical literacy in P'ansori, Korean diaspora literature, queer and gendered performances, and pre-modern Korean literary traditions. Discussions extended beyond written texts to explore theatrical adaptations, film interpretations, embodied performances, and even digital platforms like YouTube.



Prominent scholars, including Chan E. Park, a leading expert on P'ansori, and contemporary playwright Kim Eunsung, provided key insights into the complex role of performance in Korean literary history. The conference also included a live performance featuring the dancer Jin Won in *Nolpan: Khoj* directed by Yong Suk Yoo. All these speakers and performers powerfully demonstrated the embodied and interactive nature of Korean storytelling traditions that went beyond the standard ethno-nationalist narratives.



By addressing topics ranging from political resistance in literature to transcultural dialogues in translation, the conference underscored the dynamic nature of Korean literary studies. It served as a crucial forum for fostering scholarly collaboration, engaging with new research methodologies, and broadening the global appreciation of Korean literature's myriad performative dimensions.

Overall, KLA 2024 not only deepened academic collaboration but also reinforced the interdisciplinary and international significance of Korean literature. Thank you to all the participants, the hosting institution, and LTIK for continuing KLA's mission of advancing Korean literature and cultural studies.

KLA's 2025 Annual Conference "Transtemporal Turn in Korean Literary Studies" will be held at Emory University on October 31-November 1. Please join us by submitting an abstract and supporting KLA by becoming a member.



**THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIOLOGY OF Korea (I-CSK)**

A conference that provides a venue for scholars across the globe to come together to share their on-going projects on Korea/Koreans and Korean diaspora and develop academic networks.

3600 Market Street, Suite #310

**OCT | 18-19<sup>TH</sup> | 2024**

Questions? Email the conference organizers: [ICSKatPenn@gmail.com](mailto:ICSKatPenn@gmail.com)

## I-CSK Conference at UPenn

- From the **Kim Center** for Korean Studies Newsletter

The Kim Center for Korean Studies successfully hosted the 3rd International Conference on the Sociology of Korea (I-CSK) on October 18-19, 2024. Over the two days, attendees engaged with 30 papers presented across eight sessions, covering diverse sociological perspectives on Korea. Highlights included a plenary session by Professor Pyong Gap Min [CUNY Queens College] and various discussions on topics such as patriarchy, education, and social capital. Thank you to all who attended the conference. Your participation and insights greatly enriched our discussions and made the event a success!



## Inter-University Center at Sungkyunkwan University

- By **Ross King** (Co-chair of the IUC, University of British Columbia)

The IUC at SKKU (Inter-University Center for Korean Language Studies at Sungkyunkwan University)—with dues-paying members of UBC, Harvard, UCLA, Stanford, and Michigan—was founded belatedly in 2017 along the lines of the inter-university centers for Japanese and Chinese language studies founded already in the early 1960s. Our Korean IUC remains small but is eager to attract more students. During the 2024 academic year, the IUC at SKKU welcomed 20 students: 5 during the spring term, 13 during the summer term, and 7 during the fall term. Universities represented were: Oxford, Stanford, UBC, Wisconsin, Columbia, GWU, Canberra, Salamanca, HKUST, Yonsei, Dartmouth, and HKU. Participants’ countries of origin included England, USA, the ROK, Canada, the PRC, Australia, Taiwan, Spain, and Japan. For the spring 2025 term, the IUC has welcomed 5 new students from Yonsei, HKU, USC, and Yale universities. The IUC is committed to providing high-level intensive instruction in advanced academic Korean, which remains the Achilles heel of graduate-level training in global Korean Studies, and is essential to building a more diverse professoriate.



The seven graduate students who completed the fall term at the IUC at SKKU along with IUC leadership staff and well-wishers



## Nam Center for Korean Studies, University of Michigan

- By **Youngju Ryu**  
(Director of the Nam Center,  
University of Michigan)

## Michigan Korean Studies Summer Institute

**Theme:** Literature and Korea's  
Twentieth Century

**Dates:** June 22-June 27, 2025

**Location:** Ann Arbor Campus,  
University of Michigan

### Program Overview

The Nam Center for Korean Studies at the University of Michigan is pleased to announce the third Michigan Korean Studies Summer Institute (MiKSSI), to be held in Ann Arbor from June 22-27, 2025. PhD students in any discipline whose research concerns Korea are encouraged to apply. This one-week residential intensive program, to be conducted in **Korean and English** without interpretation, will focus on collaborative learning, collective thinking, and critical agenda-setting around a key issue in Korean Studies. For details, please visit this [link](#).



## Hong Yung Lee Book Award: Center for Korean Studies, University of California, Berkeley

- By **Jinsoo An** (Faculty Chair of CKS, UC Berkeley)

The Center for Korean Studies at UC Berkeley is honored to administer the Hong Yung Lee Book Award in Korean Studies. On February 7, 2025 we celebrated the winner of the 2024 round of competition, Professor Sixiang Wang (University of California, Los Angeles), and his book *Boundless Winds of Empire: Rhetoric and Ritual in Early Choson Diplomacy with Ming China* (Columbia University Press, 2023). In *Boundless Winds of Empire*, Professor Wang offers a sweeping, revisionist account of East Asian diplomatic relations across three centuries. Wang moves away from the conventional interpretations of tributary relations by bringing fresh methodological approaches, most notably by not taking at face value the longstanding rhetoric and rituals that, for centuries, framed the relationship. He submits an extraordinarily wide array of sources - from poetry to diplomatic memorials, travelogues to epistolary correspondence, from court records to literary anthologies - to close, contextual readings and demonstrates how Chosŏn and Ming actors co-constructed and mutually invested in a variety of literary stereotypes, tropes, and conventions that in their inconsistencies and contradictions provided sufficient flexibility and capacity for the maneuvering of diplomatic politics. With the astute use of sources, and nuanced approach to reading against the grain, Wang shows a bracing way of rethinking the centuries-long history of Sino-Korean relations. As Chair of the Center from the 1990s into the 2000s, the late Prof. Hong Yung Lee (1939-2017) had a profound impact on the development of Korean Studies at UC Berkeley. Inaugurated in his honor with the generous support of his wife, Whakyung Choi Lee, this award acknowledges books (and authors) that make significant contributions to the field of Korean Studies. The competition encompasses the humanities, arts and media, and social sciences as well as texts that engage the Korean diaspora and/or comparative approaches. \$10,000 will be awarded each year to the author(s) whose nonfiction English-language academic monograph demonstrates outstanding scholarly merit, research prowess, and methodological innovation. Each round of competition is open to book nominations from the two year period prior to the competition year and the annual deadline for submissions is January 15th. For more information about the award please visit <https://ieas.berkeley.edu/cks/hylbookaward>. Questions can be directed to [cks@berkeley.edu](mailto:cks@berkeley.edu).

# Monash University Korean Studies Research Hub

- By **Sandy Nguyen** (MUKSRH Coordinator)

Since securing the [AKS Core 2.0 grant](#), MUKSRH members have worked hard to complete AKS Core Grant-related research, education, and engagement activities. This has not been a straightforward task since all members have also had to continue with their everyday teaching and administrative duties on top of all their Hub work. In addition, the entire team took on additional loads to cover for Andy Jackson while he was on OSP between July and December 2024. In the interim, Lucien Brown held the fort as Project Director in addition to his other busy tasks. Associate Professor Brown also organised the Indigenous Student Support Program Korean Studies, the February 2025 Research Session for Teaching and Technology which is dedicated to Decolonising Teaching and Research in Korean Studies. He is also responsible for coordinating the research funding scheme for MUKSRH members and the Future-proofing Korean language programs at Monash Project.

Dr Hyein Cho has been acting as the MUKSRH International and Community Collaboration Coordinator, and has run the HDR (Graduate) Student Nurture and Promotion Program, which saw two vital events this year - an April 2024 [Monash Korean Studies graduate talk](#) on working in South Korea and the [August 2024 Annual HDR Information Session](#) aimed to recruit more PhD and MRes students to Monash Korean Studies. Dr Cho's professionally produced [video](#) highlights the benefits of pursuing further study at Monash Korean Studies.

Assoc Prof Andy Jackson was also responsible for the short courses scheme, student TA scheme, Korea Week and the HDR student support programme.

Sandy Nguyen, our [MUKSRH Hub Coordinator](#), has continued to play a central role at the centre of the operation, managing the day-to-day running of the Hub's many engagement and research activities. Crucially, in 2024, she played a vital role in expanding MUKSRH's short courses to Hampton Park Library and Collingwood College. Short courses are a central plank in our MUKSRH [outreach scheme](#) which aims to introduce Korean language and culture classes to the Melbourne area. In addition, she organised the annual [Korea Week](#) in April 2024, which included a hugely fun [Quiz on Korea](#) which pitted the skills and knowledge of Monash Korean Studies students with those from our partner universities in Vietnam - Da Nang and Van Lang Universities. Finally, the MUKSRH Hub Coordinator successfully created our first series of [Korean language exchange sessions](#) between Monash Korean Studies and partnered Vietnamese universities Van Lang, Da Nang and Hanoi Pedagogical Universities.

Over the past year, Dr Daniel Pieper managed the [2024 MUKSRH Beyond Borders seminars Series](#), which saw a total of seven Korean Studies research seminars with speakers coming from New Zealand, South Korea and Australia. Dr Pieper also organised the [2024 7th Annual Korean Speech Contest](#), the second time the contest was held in hybrid mode, with contestants competing in Melbourne and in collaboration with our partner universities in Vietnam. Many observers commented that this was the best contest in the series so far and there was a fair share of students competing at introductory, intermediate and proficient levels and winners from Vietnamese partner universities as well as Monash. Dr Pieper also ensured a solid [Korean Studies](#) presence at the annual LLC Languages Week in August 2024.

MUKSRH's [Research Fellow](#) Dr Soyeon Kim also had a busy 2024 organizing the October 2024 visit of award-winning Korean author Kim Yu-dam for a hybrid seminar. Dr Kim also organized the visit and collection, and [distribution of Korean language materials](#) for [Ormond Primary School](#) as a way to ensure the expansion of Korean language education in Melbourne. and Academic Research Workshop. Dr Kim also organized three [Academic Research Workshops for Feedback and Discussion](#) of work over the course of 2024 including talks on journal submissions by Assoc. Prof Lucien Brown, Dr Daniel Pieper and Dr Alexander Hynd from Melbourne University. Dr Kim recently was [awarded the prestigious 2025-2026 Korea Foundation Fellowship for Postdoctoral Research](#) and is scheduled to join the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization (ADI) at Deakin University as a visiting scholarship following the conclusion of her research fellowship with the Monash University Korean Studies Research Hub.

# The Korean Program at APARC, Stanford University

- By **Dafna Zur** (Associate Professor of Korean Studies, Stanford University)



**KOREAN CUISINE  
GONE GLOBAL**

**JUDY JOO  
RYU SOO-YOUNG**

**APRIL 11, 2024  
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**Stanford** | Korea Program  
Shorenstein APARC

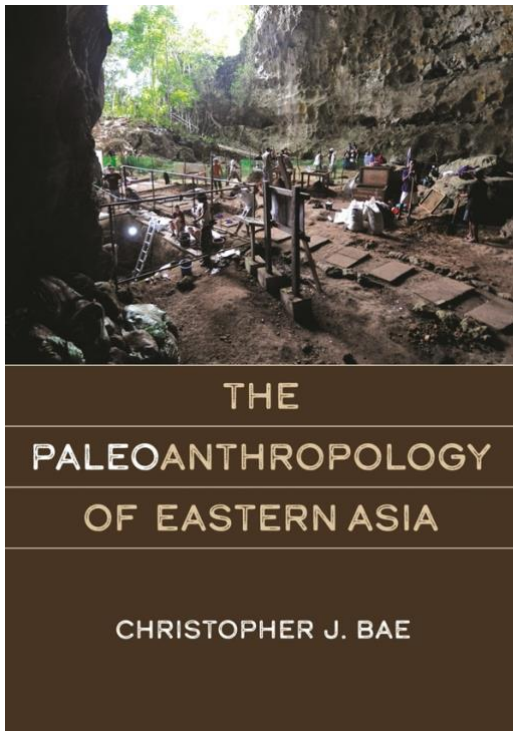
The event, held at Stanford on 11 April 2024, brought together scholars and celebrity chefs to discuss the globalization of Korean cuisine.

From the event website: "The conference, "Korean Cuisine Gone Global," seeks to understand the recent transformation of Korean food from an "ethnic curiosity" into one of the hottest cuisines in the world. Scholars and celebrity chefs will share insights into how food traverses national and cultural boundaries and introduce new directions in the study of food. The three scholars will look at the role of the Korean diaspora in extending and complicating the question of national identity and highlight the role of race, place, and power in the success story of Korean cuisine. The celebrity chefs will share their personal journeys and address questions about what makes Korean food unique, how it has changed over the years, and how they innovate and stay creative."

The working papers can be downloaded on this page: <https://aparc.fsi.stanford.edu/publication/korean-cuisine-gone-global>. They include four essays: "From Food to Cuisine" (Dafna Zur), "Transnational Tastemakers in the Seoul Food Scene" (Rebecca Jo Kinney), "Actually, Mother Really Didn't Like Jjajangmyeon" (Robert Ji-Song Ku), and "The Stickiness of Zainichi Korean Food Routes" (Jooyeon Rhee).

The event recording is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaeR0DVxAVE&t=866s>

## Publication News: Monographs

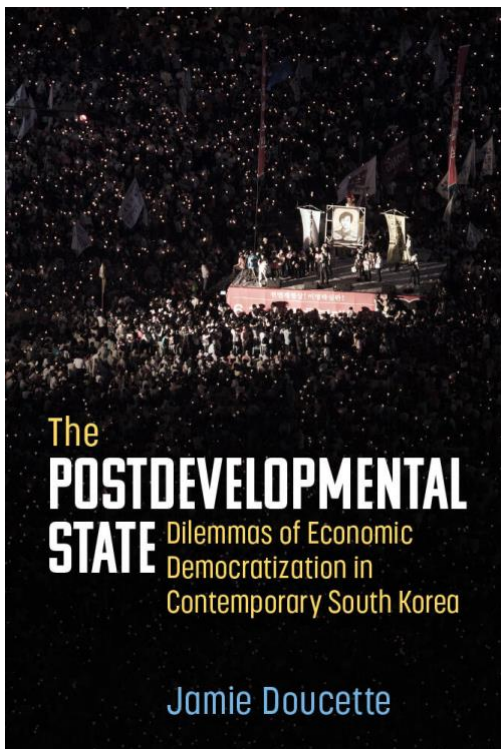


### ***The Paleoanthropology of Eastern Asia***

University of Hawai'i Press, 2024

Research in human evolution in Asia has long been thought to lag far behind similar research in Africa and Europe. However, the limited dissemination of findings is often to blame, rather than a lack of scholarship. *The Paleoanthropology of Eastern Asia* attempts to rectify this misconception by synthesizing research on human evolution in eastern Asia into a single authoritative and definitive text. Providing comprehensive coverage of paleoanthropological research in eastern Asia—from the groundbreaking finds in a cave near Beijing in the early twentieth century to the discovery and identification of new human species during the twenty-first century—this book will captivate anyone interested in the human evolutionary record.

**Christopher J. Bae** is a paleoanthropologist in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

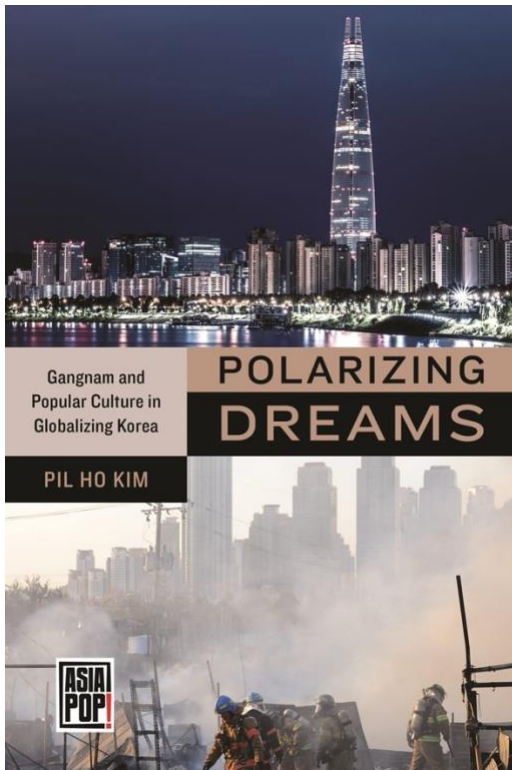


### ***The Postdevelopmental State: Dilemmas of Economic Democratization in Contemporary South Korea***

University of Michigan Press, 2024

The Postdevelopmental State radically reframes research into the South Korean economy by foregrounding the efforts of pro-democratic reformers and social movements in South Korea to create an alternative economic model—one that can address Korea's legacy of authoritarian economic development during the Cold War and neoliberal restructuring since the Asian Financial Crisis of the late 1990s as well as the continued legacy of dictatorship-era politics within the Korean political and legal system.. By examining the dilemmas economic democracy has encountered over the past 25 years, the book reveals the enormous and comprehensive challenges involved in addressing the legacy of authoritarian economic models and their neoliberal transformations.

**Jamie Doucette** is Reader in Human Geography at the University of Manchester.

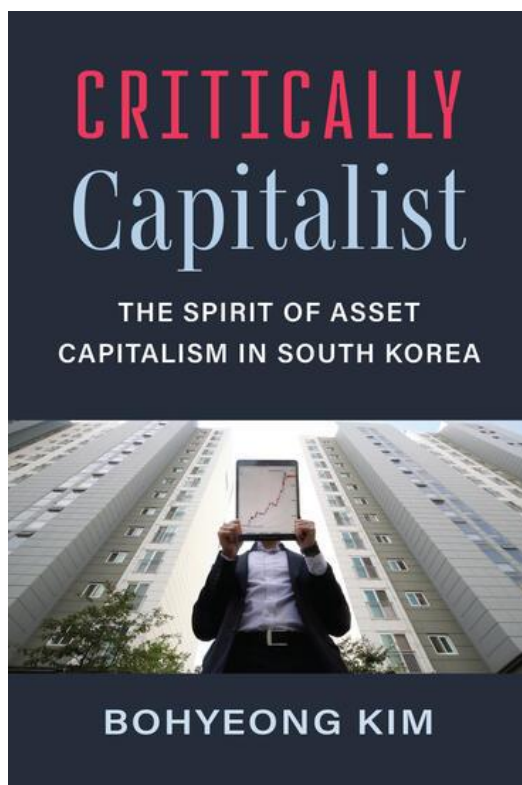


***Polarizing Dreams: Gangnam and Popular Culture in Globalizing Korea***

University of Hawai'i Press, 2024

Anyone genuinely curious about what makes South Korean pop culture tick should look no further than Gangnam. Celebrated in a song by an unlikely K-pop superstar named Psy in 2012, Gangnam is the epicenter of the Korean Wave. It is an exclusive zone of privilege and wealth that has lured pop culture industries since the 1980s and fueled the aspirations of Seoul's middle class, producing in its wake the "dialectical images" of the modern city described by Walter Benjamin: sweet dreams and nightmares, visions of heaven and hell, scenes of spectacular rises and great falls. The Gangnam portrayed in *Polarizing Dreams* is the site of rampant disaster capitalism and rising inequality as well as the engine of cultural and technological innovation.

**Pil Ho Kim** is associate professor of Korean studies in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, The Ohio State University.

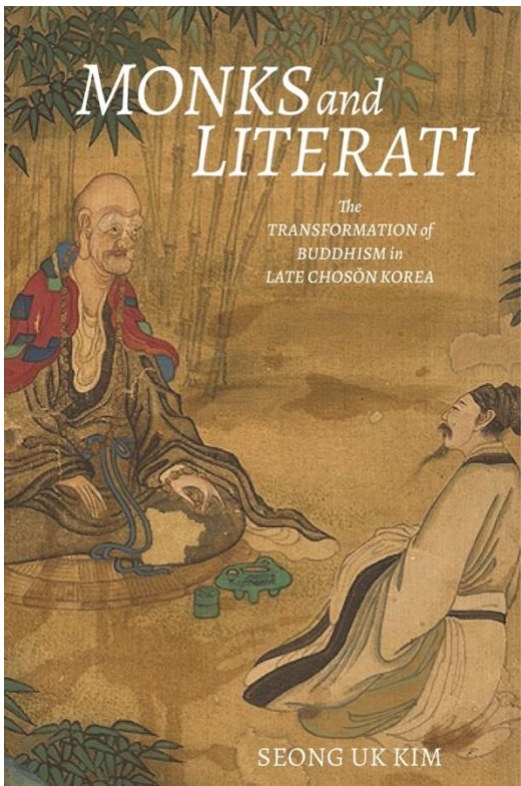


***Critically Capitalist: The Spirit of Asset Capitalism in South Korea***

University of Michigan Press, 2024

*Critically Capitalist* presents an ethnography of South Korea's asset seekers, including amateur stock investors, real estate enthusiasts, and money coaches, to demonstrate how financialized asset capitalism is sustained. As they hunt for profit margins, rent, and dividends, they simultaneously critique capitalism and posit their pursuit of assets as a form of resistance. Bohyeong Kim theorizes this new spirit of capitalism in South Korea as "critical capitalism," arguing that it reflects the popular discontent with both national development and financial neoliberalism. As a paradoxical critique and legitimation, critical capitalism valorizes the capitalist economy not through a triumphant narrative, but by highlighting the emotional wounds, destroyed communities, and oppressive tactics of modern capitalism.

**Bohyeong Kim** is assistant professor of Communication Studies and Asian Studies at Vanderbilt University.

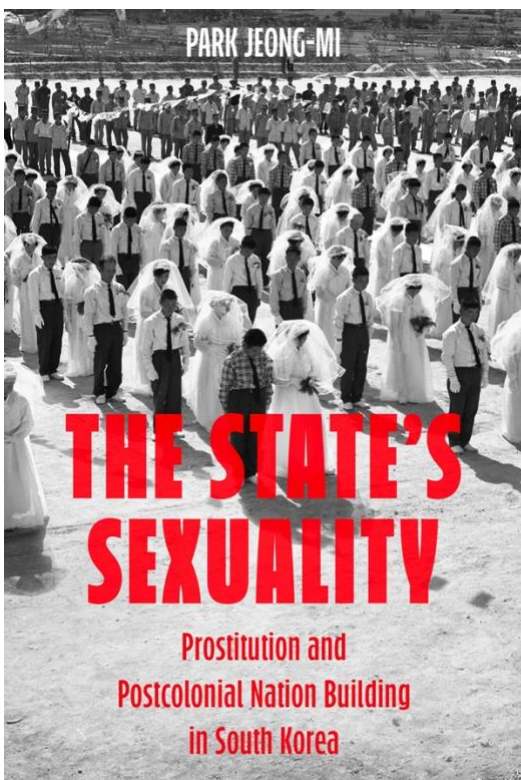


***Monks and Literati: The Transformation of Buddhism in Late Chosŏn Korea***

University of Hawai'i Press, 2024

In *Monks and Literati*, the first book-length study in English to provide a comprehensive survey of Buddhism in late Chosŏn Korea, Seong Uk Kim examines the ways monks initiated and developed relationships with literati using their repertoire of cultural and religious resources. Monks adopted various roles, such as cultural companion, spiritual mentor, and ritual officiant, within and beyond the private realm of Confucian society and, in so doing, reaffirmed what it meant to be a monk and redefined what Buddhism could be. By avoiding the binary frame describing monks as either victims or beneficiaries of literati, *Monks and Literati* sheds new light on not only Korean Buddhism in the late Chosŏn but also more generally East Asian Buddhism, where a similar monk-literati paradigm has often been applied.

**Seong Uk Kim** is Associate Professor of Korean Culture and Religion in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University.

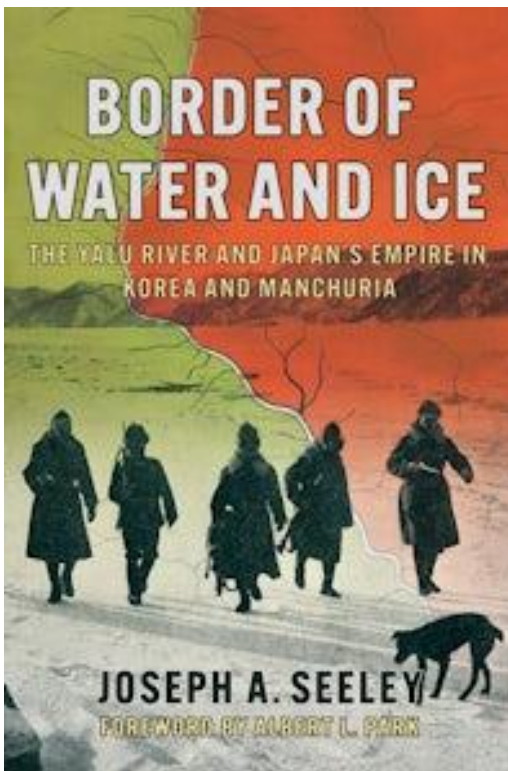


***The State's Sexuality: Prostitution and Postcolonial Nation Building in South Korea***

University of California Press, 2024

The State's Sexuality uncovers how the lives and work of women engaged in prostitution have been strategically intertwined with the lofty purpose of building South Korea's postcolonial nation-state. Through a complicated, contradictory patchwork of laws and regulations, which Park conceptualizes as a "toleration-regulation regime," the state did not merely exclude sex workers from ordinary citizenship; it also mobilized them for national security, national development, and the making of a gendered citizenry. Sex workers often protested such draconian policies and sometimes utilized state apparatuses to get recognition as citizens. Park rewrites the dynamic history of South Korea from 1945 to the present through the lens of prostitution.

**Park Jeong-Mi** is Associate Professor of Sociology at Chungbuk National University, South Korea.

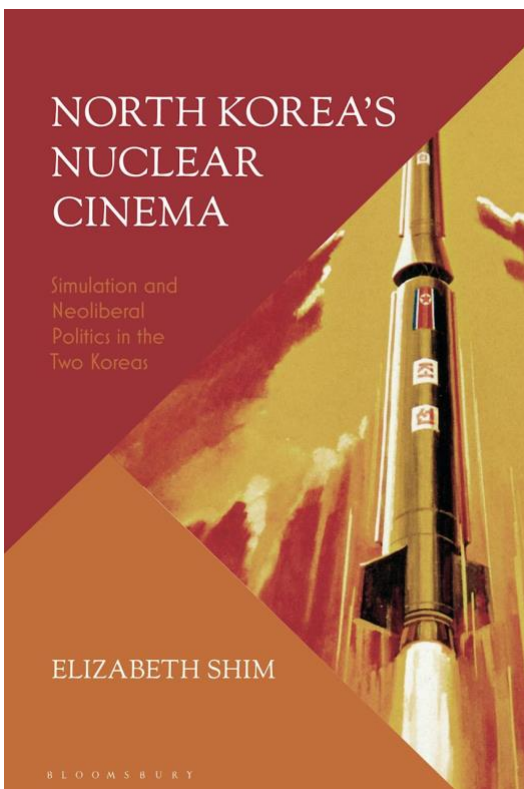


***Border of Water and Ice: The Yalu River and Japan's Empire in Korea and Manchuria***

Cornell University Press, 2024

*Border of Water and Ice* explores the significance of the Yalu River as a strategic border between Korea and Manchuria during a period of Japanese imperial expansion. The Yalu's seasonal patterns of freezing, thawing, and flooding shaped colonial efforts to control who and what could cross the border. Seeley shows how the unpredictable movements of water, ice, timber-cutters, anti-Japanese guerrillas, smugglers, and other borderland actors also spilled outside the bounds set by Japanese colonizers, even as imperial border-making reinforced Japan's wider political and economic power. Emphasizing the tenuous, environmentally contingent nature of imperial border governance, *Border of Water and Ice* argues for the importance of understanding history across the different seasons.

**Joseph A. Seeley** is Assistant Professor in the Corcoran Department of History, University of Virginia.

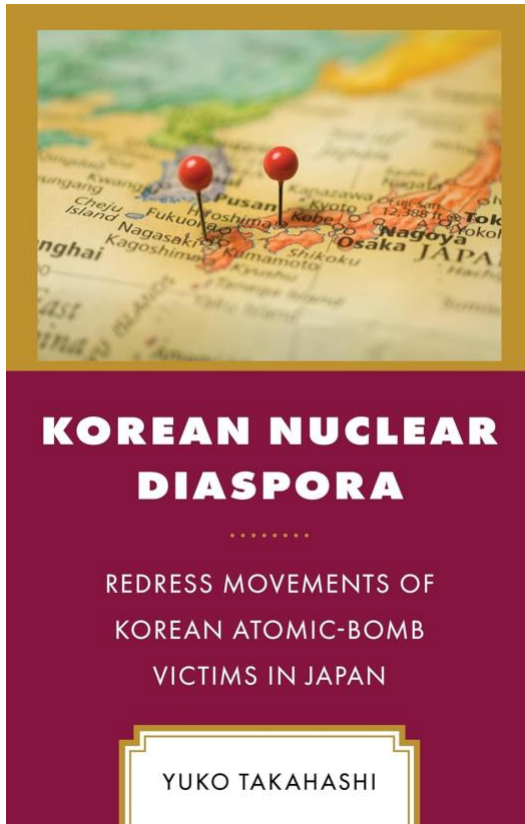


***North Korea's Nuclear Cinema: Simulation and Neoliberal Politics in the Two Koreas***

Bloomsbury, 2024

*North Korea's Nuclear Cinema* examines why and how North Korea has transitioned to an image-based nuclear power in the changing context of a post-Cold War world. What exactly is the North Korean nuclear threat? Why is North Korea engaging in hostilities when its erstwhile adversaries have offered a diplomatic exit ramp? Chapter by chapter, it explains how North Korea's footage-based nuclear politics is presented as military practice, but ultimately traces its lineage to cinematic propaganda, a tradition that blurs the line between image and reality. At a moment when North Korea is enhancing media representation, this book dives into a timely exploration of how the regime is projecting state power as South Korean televisual media challenges the North Korean communist spectacle that has held a captive audience for decades.

**Elizabeth Shim** is United Press International's Chief Asia Writer, co-author of *Korean War in Colour* and a contributor to *Media Technologies for Work and Play*.

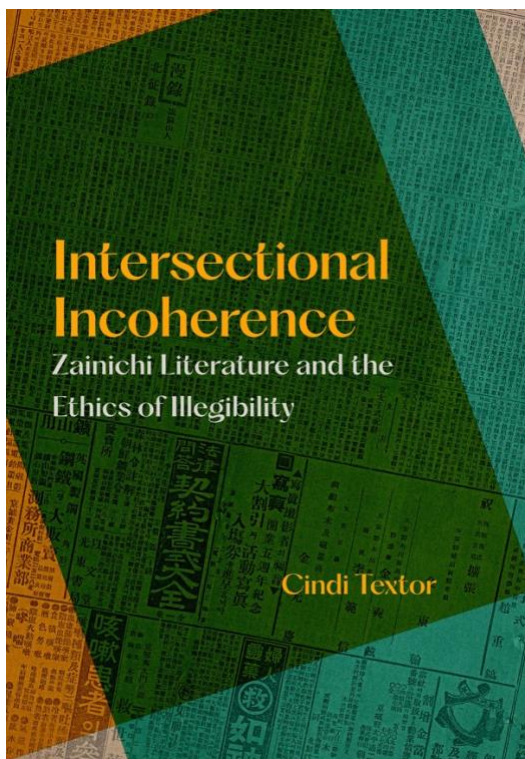


***Korean Nuclear Diaspora: Redress Movements of Korean Atomic-Bomb Victims in Japan***

Lexington Books, 2024

This is the first book ever published that comprehensively explores the history of Korean victims of the 1945 atomic bombings. Focusing on those Korean victims living in Japan, the author thoroughly examines how they have struggled to achieve recognition and support. Based on intensive fieldwork, archival research, and interviews, this book analyzes how their movements have been significantly affected and constrained by the Cold War, tensions between North Korea, South Korea, and Japan, and the national division both in the Korean Peninsula and within the Korean community in Japan. Despite these difficulties, the redress movements were sustained by their unique ideal of national “unification” and joint efforts with Korean and Japanese citizens, the history of which can deconstruct the mainstream narratives of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

**Yuko Takahashi** is research fellow at the Research Center for Human Rights, Osaka Metropolitan University



***Intersectional Incoherence: Zainichi Literature and the Ethics of Illegibility***

University of California Press, 2024

Intersectional Incoherence stages an encounter between the critical discourse on intersectionality and texts produced by Korean subjects of the Japanese empire and their postwar descendants in Japan. Arguing for intersectionality as a reading method rather than strictly a tool of social analysis, Textor reads moments of illegibility and incoherent language in these texts as a product of the pressures on Zainichi Koreans and their literature to represent both Korean difference from and affinity with Japan. Rejecting linguistic norms and representational imperatives of identity categories, Textor instead demands that the reader grapple with the silent, absent, illegible, or unintelligible. Engaging with the incoherent, she argues, allows for a more ethical approach to texts, subjects, and communities that resist representation within existing paradigms.

**Cindi Textor** is Associate Professor of World Languages and Cultures at the University of Utah.

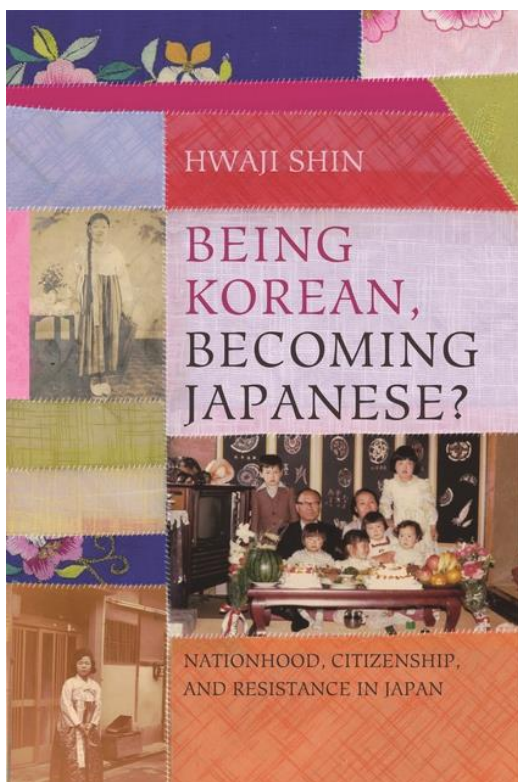


***Worm-Time: Memories of Division in South Korean Aesthetics***

Cornell University Press, 2024

*Worm-Time* challenges conventional narratives of the Cold War and its end, presenting an alternative cultural history based on evolving South Korean aesthetics about enduring national division. From novels of dissent during the authoritarian era to films and webtoons in the new millennium, We Jung Yi's transmedia analyses unearth people's experiences of "wormification"—traumatic survival, deferred justice, and warped capitalist growth in the wake of the Korean War. Whether embodied as refugees, leftists, or broken families, Yi's wormified protagonists transcend their positions as displaced victims of polarized politics and unequal development. Connecting colonial legacies, Cold War ideologies, and neoliberal economics, *Worm-Time* dares us to rethink the post-WWII consensus on freedom, peace, and prosperity.

**We Jung Yi** is Assistant Professor of Asian Studies at Vanderbilt University.



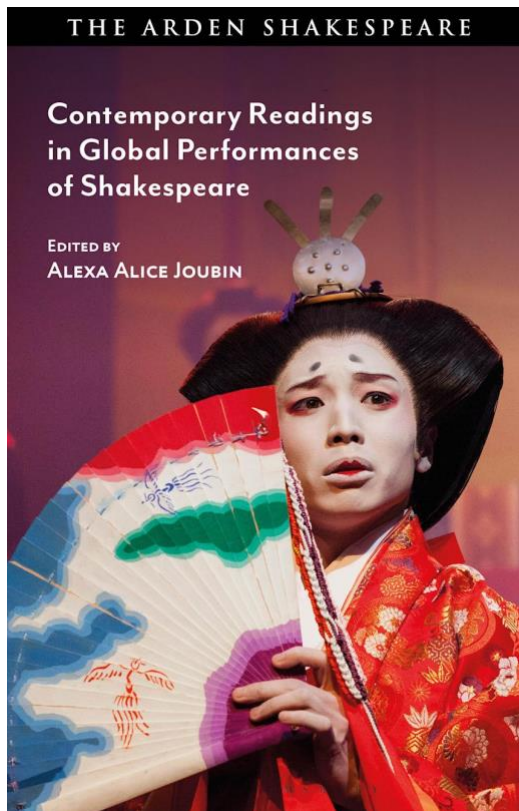
***Being Korean, Becoming Japanese? Nationhood, Citizenship, and Resistance in Japan***

University of Hawai'i Press, 2024

In Japan, the number of "Zainichi" is declining, according to government statistics. Does this mean Koreans living in Japan are becoming Japanese? This volume presents a compelling sociological analysis of Korean colonial migrants' and their descendants' politics of self-identification and their ongoing struggle for social justice. Hwaji Shin challenges the persistent belief that Japan's ethno-racial homogeneity is responsible for its restrictive citizenship and immigration laws. She argues that the relationships between nationhood, citizenship, and migration in Japan have always been fluid and historically contingent rather than causal or static. *Being Korean, Becoming Japanese?* draws on rich historical data to provide a powerful narrative about how Koreans in Japan have defiantly survived and thrived to impact the country's ideas and policies of nationhood, citizenship, and migration for more than a century.

**Hwaji Shin** is professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of San Francisco.

## Publication News: Edited Volumes, Translations

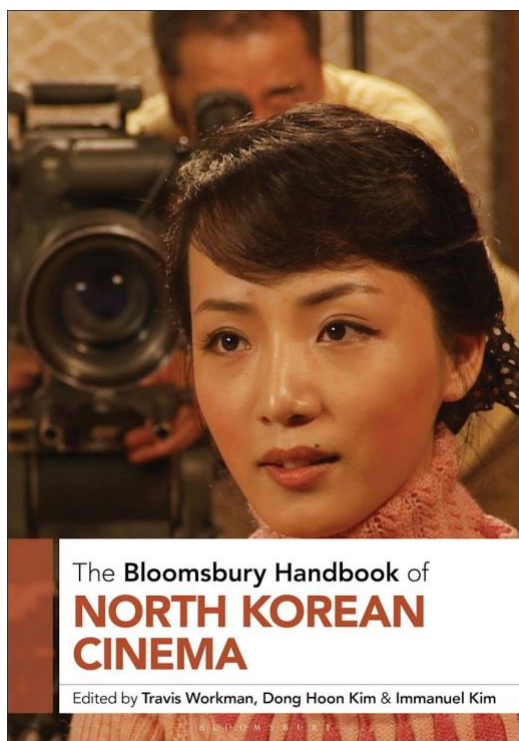


### ***Contemporary Readings in Global Performances of Shakespeare***

Bloomsbury, 2024

A concise guide to global performances of Shakespeare, this volume combines methodologies of dramaturgy, film and performance studies, critical race and gender studies and anthropological thick description. This companion guides students from critical methodologies through big pictures of global Shakespeare to case studies that employ these methodologies. As well as featuring methodological chapters on modernist adaptations, global cinema, multilingual productions and Shakespeare in translation, the volume includes short histories of adaptations of Shakespeare in Southeast Asia, Latin America, the Arab world, India, the Slavic world, Iran, Afghanistan and the Farsi-speaking diaspora. Finally, thematically organized case studies apply the methodologies to analyse key productions in Brazil, Korea, Yemen, Kuwait, China and elsewhere.

**Alexa Alice Joubin** is Professor of English and East Asian Languages and Cultures at George Washington University



### ***The Bloomsbury Handbook of North Korean Cinema***

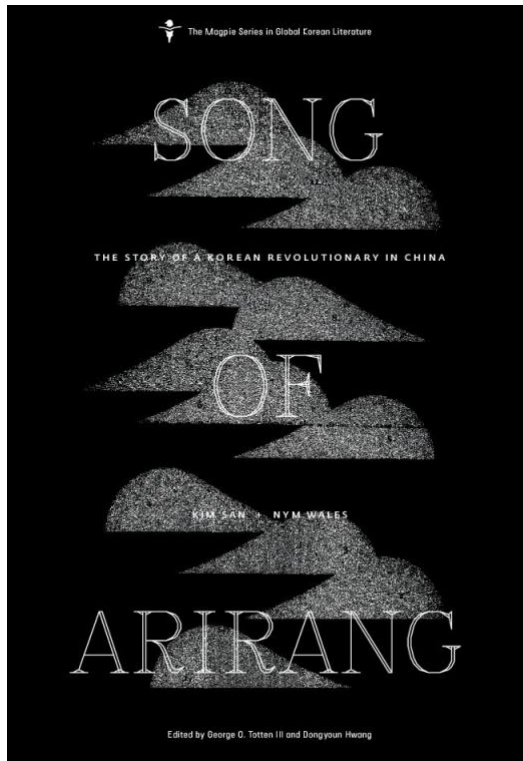
Bloomsbury, 2025

This first handbook on North Korean cinema contests the assumption that North Korean film is "unwatchable," in terms of both quality and accessibility, refusing to reduce North Korean cinema to political propaganda and focusing on its aesthetic forms and cultural meanings. By connecting the worlds of North Korean cinema to broader questions in global cinema studies, this book explores the complexity of a national cinema too often reduced to a single image.

**Travis Workman** (editor) is Professor in the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Minnesota.

**Dong Hoon Kim** (editor) is Associate Professor in the Department of Cinema Studies at the University of Oregon.

**Immanuel Kim** (editor) is Professor of Korean literature and culture studies in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures at the George Washington University.



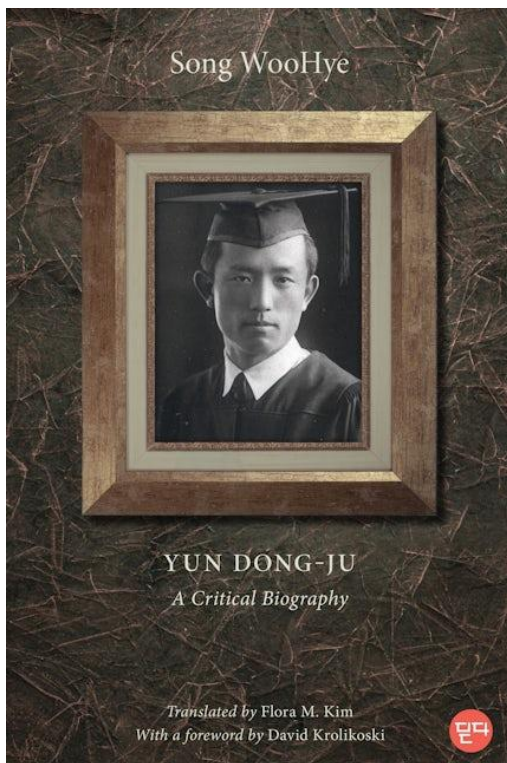
### ***Song of Arirang: The Story of a Korean Revolutionary in China***

Kaya Press, 2024

Song of Arirang tells the true story of Korean revolutionary Kim San (Jang Jirak), who left colonized Korea as a teenager to fight against Japanese imperialism and fought alongside Mao's Red Army during the Chinese Revolution. First published in 1941, this remarkably intimate memoir (as told to the American journalist Nym Wales aka Helen Foster Snow) brings to vivid life some of the most dramatic events of the period. With its firsthand account of early twentieth century guerilla insurgency and radical cross-pollination, this rare, behind-the-scenes look into what Wales describes as "the psyche of a dedicated and thoughtful revolutionary" gives vivid voice to the brutality, betrayal, and alliances that rocked East Asia at the beginning of the last century and that continues to shape the region and the world.

**George O. Totten III** (editor) was Professor Emeritus of Political Science at University of Southern California.

**Dongyoun Hwang** (editor) is Professor of Asian Studies at Soka University of America.



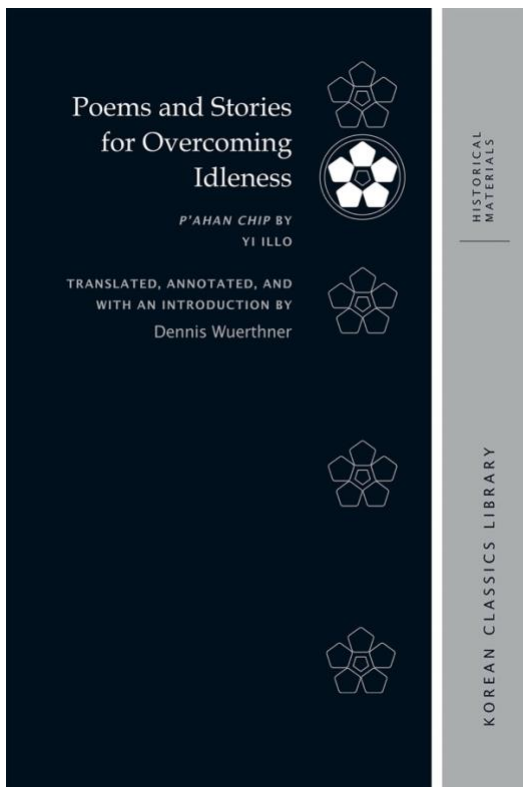
### ***Yun Dong-ju: A Critical Biography***

Rutgers University Press, 2025 (forthcoming)

Song WooHye chronicles the life of Yun Dong-ju (1917-1945), one of the most beloved and important poets in the modern Korean literary canon, widely considered Korea's "National Poet". Beginning with the history of the North Gando region (now Yanbian, China), where Yun was born, and ending with facts behind the publication of his only and posthumous poetry collection, *Sky, Wind, Star, and Poem*, this critical biography elucidates who Yun Dong-ju really was, with factual descriptions of the bleak and turbulent period of Japan's colonization of Korea. Incorporating newly discovered materials and using interviews with the beloved poet's family and friends, this biography is the most comprehensive, definitive biography of Yun Dong-ju to date, now available in English for the first time.

**Song WooHye** (author) is a historian and novelist, who is best known for her work on Yun Dong-ju.

**Flora M. Kim** (translator) is a freelancing translator and interpreter based in New Jersey.

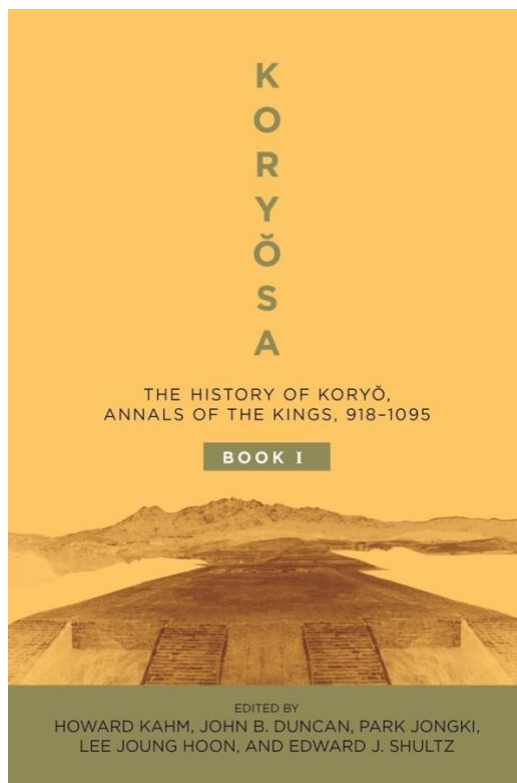


***Poems and Stories for Overcoming Idleness: P'ahan chip* by Yi Illo**

University of Hawai'i Press, 2024

*Poems and Stories for Overcoming Idleness* is the first complete translation in any Western language of *P'ahan chip*, the earliest Korean work of *sihwa* ("remarks on poetry") and one of the oldest extant Korean sources. The collection was written and compiled by Yi Illo (1152–1220) during the mid-Koryŏ dynasty (918–1392). In accordance with the guidelines of the *sihwa*-genre, these narratives focus primarily on matters relating to poetry while touching on a wide array of subjects such as Korean history and customs; the court and government institutions; official procedures and festivals; Koryŏ foreign-policy and diplomacy; books and the circulation of knowledge; calligraphy and painting; Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist thought; the role of women; and scenic spots and famous buildings.

**Dennis Wuerthner** (translator) is assistant professor of East Asian literature in the Department of World Languages and Literatures, Boston University.



***Koryŏsa: The History of Koryŏ, Annals of the Kings, 918-1095***

University of Hawai'i Press, 2024

The *Koryŏsa*, or the *History of Koryŏ*, is one of the most significant historical texts on the Koryŏ dynasty. As the principal surviving history, the *Koryŏsa* elucidates the politics, society, economy, culture, and key figures of this period. Although the *Koryŏsa* was compiled during the Chosŏn dynasty (1392–1910), much of the known information about Koryŏ is contained within this text, making it the primary resource for understanding 500 years of premodern Korean history, culture, and civilization.

**Howard Kahm** (editor) is associate professor at Underwood International College, Yonsei University.

**John B. Duncan** (editor) is professor emeritus in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, UCLA.

**Lee Junghoon** (editor) is research professor at the Institute of Korean Studies, Yonsei University.

**Park Jongki** (editor) is professor emeritus in the Department of History, Kookmin University.

**Edward Shultz** (editor) is professor emeritus, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

# Individual Member News Update

Promotion, Journal Articles, Book Chapters, Media Appearances, etc.

Istad, Felicia (with Sardar Ahmed Shah). "Liberal Convergence or Differential Exclusion? Path Dependency in Temporary Labor Migration Policy." *Asian International Studies Review* 25, no. 1 (2024): 109-140. <https://doi.org/10.1163/2667078x-bja10034>.

Istad, Felicia (with Kyungsun Karen Lee and Seowon Kim). "Public Diplomacy in Other Words: Mapping the Field in Korean-Language Research." *Journal of Public Diplomacy* 4, no. 1 (2024): 73-88. <https://doi.org/10.23045/JPD.2024.4.1.005>.

Kim, Sung Eun, "'Freedom Is Not Free from Colonialism': Korean Augmentees as Necropolitical Labor in the Korean War," *The Journal of Asian Studies* vol. 83, no. 3 (2024): 594-618.

Saeji, CedarBough. 2024. "Capitalizing on Korean Heritage: A Case Study of Mask Dance Drama Students" *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies*. 37, no. 2: 367-398.

Saeji, CedarBough. 2024. "Making Icons: The Rise of the K-pop Adjacent Industries" *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*. 25, no. 6: 874-895. [link](#)

Saeji, CedarBough. 2024. "Wonhyeong" (co-author Kim Ah-jeong). *The Routledge Companion to Performance Related Concepts in Non-European Languages*, edited by the Freie Universität Berlin Interweaving Performance Cultures Project. London: Routledge: 335-341. [link](#)

Saeji, CedarBough. 2024. "Gulsin" (co-author Jan Creutzenberg). *The Routledge Companion to Performance Related Concepts in Non-European Languages*, edited by the Freie Universität Berlin Interweaving Performance Cultures Project. London: Routledge: 373-377. [link](#)

Saeji, CedarBough. 2025. "Performing Arts." *Routledge Handbook of Early Modern Korea*, edited by Eugene Park. London: Routledge.

Oh, Youjeong. (2024) The Emergence of Political Indigeneity: The Resistance Movement on Jeju Island against Colonization by Development. *Critical Asian Studies*, 56(4): 602-624.

**Gábor Sebő** (PhD) was appointed **Assistant Professor at Palacký University Olomouc** in June 2024.

Sebo, Gabor (guest editor), Special Issue, "Imagining a Prosperous Socialist Nation: Human-Centered Approaches in North Korean Studies," *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies*, Volume 37, number 2 (2024)

Sebo, Gabor. "The New Visions of Shin Sang-ok in North Korean Cinema." In *Locating North Korea in Communication Research*, edited by Dal Yong Jin, Yong-Chan Kim, Soomin Seo, and Seungahn Nah. London - New York: Routledge, 2025.

Sebo, Gabor. "Uncommon Crossroads of North Korean Film: Cinematic Dreaming with the Big Brother." In *Bloomsbury Handbook on North Korean Cinema*, edited by Travis Workman, Dong Hoon Kim, and Immanuel Kim. London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2025.

Sebo, Gabor. "Gender Matters?: The Evolution of Gendered Voices in the Cinema of Colonial and Postwar Korea (1936-1961)." In *Continuity and Change in Asia*, edited by Filip Kraus, Kateřina Šamajová, Renata Westlake and Blanka Ferklová. Olomouc: Palacký University Press, 2024.

Kim, Bohyeong. "South Korea's megacorp and super app: Kakao's paths to market dominance." *Media, Culture & Society* (ahead-of-print, 2024). <https://doi.org/10.1177/01634437241294207>

Lyan, Irina. "'I Was Probably Korean in a Previous Life': Transracial Jokes and Fantasies of Hallyu Fans." In *Korean Pop Culture beyond Asia: Race and Reception*, edited by David C. Oh and Benjamin Min Han. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9780295752976-010>

Glazer, Edward. & Nelson, Alex. 2024. Paying for gender (in)equality: The individualization of commodified dating rituals in South Korea. *Anthropological Quarterly*, 97(4), 735-765.

Kim, Minjeong and Ilju Kim. 2025. "The Second Generation's Perceptions of South Korea's Public Support Programs for Multicultural Families" *Ethnic and Racial Studies* <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2024.2436071>

Park, Sunyoung. "South Korean Science Fiction." In *The New Routledge Companion to Science Fiction*, edited by Sherryl Vint, Mark Bould, Andrew M Butler, and Adam Roberts, 2024, 230-236.

**Joan E. Cho** has been **promoted to Associate Professor of East Asian Studies with tenure** starting July 2024.

Cho, Joan E. and Aram Hur. "The Perils of South Korea's Democracy." *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 36, no. 2, April 2025, forthcoming.

Cho, Joan E. "Democracy Under Neoliberalism in South Korea." *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, vol. 85, 2025, forthcoming.

Kwon, Hyunseok. "The Bodily Construction of Korean Diasporic Identity: A Case of the Korean Resident in Japan and Composer Yang Bang Ean." *Korea Journal*. 64, 2 (2024): 210-236.

Vladimir Tikhonov (Pak Noja), *The Postwar World - The Age of Plural Hegemony, South Korea's Choice* (Original Title: *Chönjaeng Ihu üi Segye - Tawön P'aegwön Shidae, Han'guk üi Sönt'aek*). Seoul, Hangyoreh Publishers, 2024.

—, "Pokhap Wigi sok Tong'asia, P'yöngghwa wa Kongsang üi Öttök'e Irul kös in'ga? (East Asia amidst a Complex Crisis: How to Achieve Peace and Coexistence?)" - *Marük'üsüchuu'i yöng'u* (Marxism 21) 21. 2 (2024), pp. 112 - 133.

—, "Singminji Sidae Sahoejuüi Undong, Sallil man han Kach'i ran Muösinga? (The Colonial-Era Socialist Movement: What Values Should We Retain?)" - *Marük'üsüchuu'i yöng'u* (Marxism 21) 21.4 (2024), pp. 10 - 22 .

—, "Han'guk üi Kulloböi Tamnon üi Ch'ujök'ada (Tracing South Korea's 'Global' Discourses)" - *Ch'angjak kwa Pip'yöng* (Creation and Criticism) 203 (2024), pp. 1-10.

—, "Segyehwa Ihu üi Hollan'gi, Chöhang üi Öttök'e Hal Köshin-ga? (The Post-Globalization Chaos—How do we Resist?)" - *Tongbang Hakchi* (Oriental Studies) 209 (2024), pp. 117 - 134.

—, "Soryön Mollak Ihu Soryön kwa Tonggugwön üi Sahoe-Kyöngjejök Hyöngt'ae e Kwanhan P'osüt'ü Sobiet'ü Marük'üsüjuüija tür üi Nonüidül (The Post-Soviet Marxist Debates on the Soviet and Eastern European Socio-Economical Formation after 1991)" - *P'osüt'üjabonjuüi wa Marük'üsüjuüi üi Hyökshin Iron kwa Shilch'ön* (Post-Capitalism and Renovation of Marxism: Theory and Practice) Seoul, Chininjin, 2024, pp. 21-56

Yi, Joseph. 2024 (Nov). Discourse Regimes and Liberal Vehemence. *Theory and Society*. <https://rdcu.be/d0Qcz>

Yi, Joseph and Gowoon Jung. 2024 (Dec). Censoring Speech in Democracies: South Korea. *Pacific Affairs* 97 (4), 795-811. <https://doi.org/10.5509/2024974-art3>

Yi, Joseph. Same-sex Christians in Korea Speak Out. Feb 12, 2025. <https://japan-forward.com/same-sex-christians-in-korea-speak-out-what-would-jesus-do>

Yi, Joseph. Korea's crisis: Sacrificing for the greater good. Jan. 7, 2025. <https://www.koreaherald.com/article/10384404>

Yi, Joseph. South Korea's democracy at a crossroads: Rhetoric, polarization and institutional erosion. Dec. 24, 2024. <https://www.koreaherald.com/article/10021651>

Yi, Joseph. Right-Wing Radicals Are Drowning Out South Korea's Institutional Conservatives, Creating a Political Crisis. *UnPopulist*. Dec 22, 2024. <https://www.theunpopulist.net/p/right-wing-extremists-are-drowning>

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# Calls for Papers, Applications, Proposals, Nominations

Call for Proposals: MLA 2026 Korean Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Forum

Toronto, Canada, January 8-11, 2026

## **"If I had Your Body": Resemblance and Decolonizing Bodies in Korean Visual Media**

This panel gathers scholars of visual media who aim to disrupt the hegemonic process of enforcing and managing "ideal bodies" in contemporary South Korea – a process that violently silences the socially vulnerable. The normalization of physically able, young, and beautiful bodies – bodies that can produce and reproduce – often manifests across gender, age, and class as a form of epistemic violence. To decolonize bodies trapped in this hegemonic culture of normalcy, this panel rethinks "resemblance" not as an internal structure of similarity but as a dynamic network of relations – visual, social, and otherwise. Engaging with films and visual art, the panel examines how "other" forms of resemblance emerge between radically heterogeneous bodies, challenging the very definition and categorization of "ideal bodies."

Please submit a 250-word abstract and one-page C.V. to Jooyeon Rhee ([jxr5820@psu.edu](mailto:jxr5820@psu.edu)) and Hyun Seon Park ([hpark63@gmu.edu](mailto:hpark63@gmu.edu)) by **March 15, 2025**.

## **Im/Mobility in Korean Language, Literature, Culture, and Media**

This panel brings together papers that explore the diverse ways in which perceptions, experiences, and imaginations of time, people, objects—including texts and ideas—and languages have shaped boundary-establishing, boundary-crossing, borderlands, and borderlessness in Korean language, literature, culture, and media. Centering on im/mobility as a key concept, the panel examines how notions related to movement—such as departure and arrival, inside and outside, en route and off track, progress and stagnation, uprooting and replanting, traversing and staying put, directionality and speed, fit and misfit, and past and future—have generated new perspectives, reconfigured knowledge, fostered social networks, and inspired literary and artistic experiments as well as intertextual and media practices. The panel welcomes scholars interested in identifying new research sites and reexamining well-established areas to advance innovative conceptual and methodological approaches to the study of change, continuity, and the expansive scope of Korean language, literature, culture, and media.

Please submit a title, 250-word abstract, and one-page C.V. to Si Nae Park ([sinaepark@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:sinaepark@fas.harvard.edu)) by **March 15, 2025**.

## **Animals and More-than-Human Relationality in Korean Literature and Culture**

Ecocritical approaches to the "Anthropocene" are increasingly being recalibrated to decenter the human and to foreground multispecies networks. This panel explores more-than-human animals and their relationality with other species, including the human, in Korean literature, culture, and media. Possible topics include: How have Korean authors articulated the significance of multispecies relationships, both in the pre-20th century context and increasingly in a time of accelerating climate change and biodiversity loss? How has kinship with more-than-human animals been imagined and contested in Korean narratives? How have humans labored with, and for, the more-than-human, and vice versa? The period for this panel is open. Transtemporal and transpacific approaches are welcome.

Please submit a 250-word abstract and one-page C.V. to Ivanna Yi ([isy4@cornell.edu](mailto:isy4@cornell.edu)) by **March 15, 2025**.

## Call for Papers: Korean Literature Association 2025 Annual Conference

Emory University, October 31–November 1, 2025



### **Korean Literary Studies in Transtemporal Turn**

Modern physics has shown that the passage of time varies depending on its relationship with the nearby masses, which we call time distortion. That is, time is not an absolute metric that unifies all incidents and chronologies but a medium for disagreement. Likewise, every practice of cultural production and its circulation reveals a distinctive sense of time, whether the relationship among the past, present, and future or the temporal scales in which they operate. The issue of time figures prominently in our understanding about the world and our self-identities formed in it.

To join the recent attention to the “transtemporal turn” in literary studies, this year’s KLA annual conference calls for papers that critically ruminate on time, temporality, and temporal scale to shed new light on Korean literature and its related fields.

Inspired by what literary critic Wai Chee Dimock calls the “deep-time reading habit,” we call into question linear temporality and conventional periodization linked to the area studies epistemology, which has also affected how Korean literary and cultural studies developed. Some past events keep coming back to the present, which subsequently becomes our most recent past while shaping our future. To quote William Faulkner, “The past is never dead. It’s not even past.” Likewise, our imagination about the future affects how we process the past in the present, coordinating our memories with our imagination about them and even some speculation. In a similar vein, Reinhart Koselleck, in his book *Futures Past*, identifies two metahistorical categories—horizon of expectation and space of experience. In expectation, he sees a “future made present” in the form of hopes, fears, and desires; in experience, he sees a “present past”—that is, a present, once recorded, as a past that incorporates remnants of others’ experiences. In this understanding, different stages of human history and all objects appearing in them bear the potential to be connected and generate meaningful conversations regardless of their direct contacts or causal relationships.

This notion of connected temporality also calls into question the teleological presentism prevalent in many fields, which only cares about parts of the past that were the seeds of progress in the present. In Korean studies, the lopsided abundance of scholarly works on modern and contemporary subjects inadvertently contributes to the “structural amnesia” about the more distant past in the intellectual genealogy of our field. The recent popularity of Korean popular culture and scholarly scrutiny of its diverse manifestations, moreover, foster and reinforce the field-specific presentism, which many media specialists decry beyond Korean studies. This anachronistic attitude hinders imaginative approaches to academic endeavors that take place in the present, utilizing the past and influencing our future. “Human flourishing,” in David Armitage’s definition, “is at once present-centered, future-oriented, and past-dependent.”

The proposal and the presentation should be in English. We encourage the submission of proposals for both individual papers and organized panels of three to four authors with papers in dialogue. We welcome proposals that grapple with any issues of time and temporalities, broadly defined. Some examples:

- Periodization: premodern/modern/postmodern
- Shifting temporality between the colonial and postcolonial
- Memoirs and autobiographies
- Alternate history
- Speculative fictions
- Newtro culture in media studies
- Docudramas
- Historians vs. novelists
- Protest temporalities/Protest aesthetics and transmemories
- Iterations of social movements through time and space (cultural practice, memorabilia, etc.)
- Racial, ethnic, and gender differences in the experience of time
- Religious temporalities
- Prosody/poetics/rhythm and time
- Post/Anti-Apocalypticism

Proposal word limit: 300 words maximum

Proposal deadline: **April 5, 2025**

Notification of acceptance: May 3, 2025

Proposal submission: [korlitor@gmail.com](mailto:korlitor@gmail.com)

Please direct any inquiries about the 2025 KLA Annual Conference to Hwisang Cho ([hwisang.cho@emory.edu](mailto:hwisang.cho@emory.edu)).

## The Korean Literature Association Article Prize

The Korean Literature Association is pleased to announce the Article Prize, which recognizes excellence in research innovation, scholarly substance, and writing quality. Up to three winning articles will be selected annually by the Prize Committee consisting of diverse scholars in the Korean humanities. The winners will receive formal recognition at the annual KLA conference. They will also receive an invitation to the annual meeting with travel support.

Entries can be from any discipline in Korean cultural studies broadly defined, including comparative work that involves Korea. They must be published in English. Articles that appeared in print in a peer-reviewed journal during 2024-2025 (before June 2025) are eligible. The entries may be submitted by the author (i.e., self-nomination) or nominated by a colleague. The nominating person must be a member of the KLA at the time of submission. Each member is allowed one nomination per year.

There are three categories of eligibility for the Article Prize. The Prize Committee may request additional documentation that confirms eligibility.

**Ph.D. candidate:** At the time of submission/nomination, the scholar has defended their prospectus and is in their dissertation writing stage.

**Non-tenure track faculty or unaffiliated scholar:** This includes post-docs, visiting assistant professors, adjunct professors, non-tenure track full-time professors, and unaffiliated or independent scholars.

**Tenure-track faculty:** At the time of submission/nomination, the scholar has begun their tenure-track appointment and has not yet submitted their dossier for tenure promotion.

The winner of the Article Prize will not be re-eligible for the prize in any of the categories for five years. The Prize Committee reserves the right not to award in a particular category in a given year.

Submit your nomination to [korlitor@gmail.com](mailto:korlitor@gmail.com). **The deadline for submission is May 31, 2025.** Please include the words "Article Prize" and the relevant category of eligibility in the subject line. The body of the message should include the author/nominee's name and the title of the article. The PDF of the article should be attached. The nominating person should provide verbal confirmation that they are a current KLA member.

The winners will be contacted by the Prize Committee before July 15, 2025.

## Call for Papers: Technoscience, Gender, and Cultural Transformations in Korea

### Main Organizers:

**Sunyoung Park**, Director of the Korean Studies Institute at the University of Southern California and Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures and Gender and Sexuality Studies

**Jinhee Park**, Co-President of the Energy Transition Forum Korea and Professor of Science and Technology Studies at Dongguk University

This conference seeks to advance the growing interdisciplinary field of cultural studies of science and technology in Korea by examining the dynamic intersections of technoscience, gender, and culture. Notably, the number of South Korean women in STEM fields has more than tripled since the 1990s, a trend that underscores women's expanding roles beyond traditional STEM careers, spanning science fiction writing, science communication, and other technology-based cultural innovations. Hosted by the Korean Studies Institute at the University of Southern California, the conference will foster dialogue across disciplines and methodologies to deepen our insights into both the gendered impacts of contemporary technoscientific developments and the ways in which embodied perspectives inform technoscientific practices and cultural imaginaries.

We welcome proposals from scholars of all disciplines, academic ranks, and geographical locations. All proposals must engage with Korean contexts. Potential thematic areas include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Women's contributions to the Korean history of science and technology
- Gender equity policies and institutional cultures in STEM fields
- Gendered perspectives on social movements for equitable and democratic science and technology
- Technofeminism and the gender divide: access, agency, and power structures (in workplaces, digital cultures, and beyond)
- Critical evaluations of emerging technologies (artificial intelligence, robotics, genetic engineering, etc.) from a gendered perspective
- Feminist speculative technological designs
- Representations of gender and science in science fiction, SciArt, and other cultures of science
- Posthuman feminism and gendered imaginaries of the Anthropocene

We invite submissions from scholars working in science and technology studies (STS), cultural and media studies, gender and sexuality studies, anthropology, history, sociology, and related fields. While the official conference language is English, we will also welcome particularly innovative research presentations in Korean.

We are currently planning an in-person conference at the University of Southern California, with possible optional hybrid presentations in cases where travel poses difficulties.

Submissions should include the following:

- Title of the paper
- Abstract: A 300-word summary outlining the paper's central argument, methodology, and significance. A panel proposal should include the individual abstracts along with a 300-word panel abstract.
- Bio: A brief biography (150-200 words) including the author's institutional affiliation, if applicable.

Please send your abstract to [ksiconference@usc.edu](mailto:ksiconference@usc.edu) by **July 10, 2025**. Notification of acceptance will be sent by August 10, 2025. Accepted presenters are required to submit a 15-minute presentation paper by January 10, 2026. After the conference, we will deliberate on the possibility of gathering select papers into a publishable volume.

The conference will take place at the University of Southern California (USC) on February 13, 2026, with the possibility of extending to a two-day event depending on the number of accepted submissions. The USC Korean Studies Institute will provide accommodations for all presenters during the conference period. At this time, no additional travel subsidies are available, but all efforts will be made to defray the cost of travel for junior scholars.

If you have any questions, please contact the local organizer, Sunyoung Park, at [sunyoungp@usc.edu](mailto:sunyoungp@usc.edu).

Postdoctoral Associate at the George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies

**[The George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies \(GWIKS\)](#)** is now accepting applications for a **Postdoctoral Associate** in the 2025-26 academic year.

The Postdoctoral Associate appointment will cover a 12-month period between August 1, 2025 and July 31, 2026 and provide a salary of \$65,000, as well as conference travel funds up to \$2,000. The Postdoctoral Associate will also receive office space, a personal computer, access to libraries, and other resources at the George Washington University. The Postdoctoral Associate will also be eligible to enroll in health benefits through George Washington University. In addition, the Postdoctoral Associate will be invited to participate in the academic life of GWIKS.

**Appointment Requirements:**

- Reside in the metropolitan D.C. area;
- Work on revising their doctoral dissertation for publication as a monograph;
- Give a public lecture for the GWIKS Lecture Series during their appointment period;
- Mentor **[GWIKS Undergraduate Research Fellows](#)**; and
- Participate in GWIKS events and related activities.

**Optional:**

- Teach a course in Korean Studies during the Spring 2026 semester (subject to enrollment/department needs). \$6,000 in supplemental compensation will be paid during the Spring 2026 semester in addition to normal salary if teaching a course;
- Help organize the Postdoctoral Associate's book manuscript workshop (dependent on funding availability).

**Minimum Qualifications:**

Applicants must have fulfilled all requirements for the award of a PhD or equivalent qualification in a relevant field by the date of employment.

**Desired Qualifications:**

This appointment is open to scholars in the social sciences focusing on a Korea-related research topic. Applicants must have received their Ph.D. in the social sciences (broadly construed, including area studies, history, and interdisciplinary programs), and all untenured scholars are eligible to apply. The applicant who is awarded the appointment must complete all requirements for the Ph.D. (dissertation deposited) by June 30, 2025.

**Hiring Range:** \$61,008.00 - \$65,000.00

**Healthcare Benefits:**

GW offers a comprehensive benefit package for Postdoc Associates and Scholars that includes medical, dental, vision, life & disability insurance, time off & leave, well-being and various voluntary benefits. Postdoc Scholars may also be eligible for retirement savings and tuition programs. For program details and eligibility, please visit [https://hr.gwu.edu/postdoc\\_benefits](https://hr.gwu.edu/postdoc_benefits).

## 32<sup>nd</sup> AKSE Conference at the University of Edinburgh



The University of Edinburgh will host the 32<sup>nd</sup> biennial Association for Korean Studies in Europe (AKSE) Conference as an in-person event from 19 to 22 June 2025 in Edinburgh, UK. The conference is co-organized by the University of Edinburgh with the AKSE Council. Founded in 1977, AKSE is the main scholarly society for Korean Studies in Europe. Its objectives are to stimulate and coordinate academic Korean Studies in all countries of Europe, and to contribute to the spread of knowledge of Korea among a wider public.

The biennial AKSE conferences provide an opportunity for scholars of Korean Studies, from Europe and elsewhere, to gather and exchange research. AKSE conferences are a way for European scholars to communicate with the global academic community, and we warmly welcome non-members and scholars from outside Europe.

Please see below for details on individual paper and panel proposal submissions. For more information about the conference, and to register to submit an abstract, please also see the conference website: <https://coms.app/akse2025/welcome.html> .

### Key dates

1 July 2024 – 15 September 2024: Submission of abstracts (deadline passed)

1 January 2025: Notification of accepted proposals

1 January 2025 – 1 May 2025: Registration

1 January 2025 – 30 May 2025: Online paper submission

### Additional information on the website

Further information about the conference—including information about registration fees and graduate student travel subsidies—is available on the conference website: <https://coms.app/akse2025/welcome.html>

## The 16<sup>th</sup> ISKS International Conference of Korean Studies

**Dates:** (ULAT, UTC+8): Monday, 18th August – Wednesday, 20th August 2025

**Venue:** National University of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

**Language:** Korean, English

**Co-organized by** International Society for Korean Studies, Institute of International Studies, Mongolian Academy of Sciences, National University of Mongolia; supported by Asian Research Foundation

**Theme:** A Multipolar World and Korean Studies

**Call for papers** (deadline passed): The International Society for Korean Studies (ISKS) invites all ISKS members to participate in the 16<sup>th</sup> ISKS International Conference of Korean Studies by presenting papers in one of the conference sessions. This conference will be an invaluable opportunity for researchers to deepen academic exchanges and discussions across various fields of Korean studies. We look forward to your active participation and valuable contributions to the field.

### Eligibility

Submissions are accepted from scholars affiliated with the International Society for Korean Studies (ISKS), Institute of International Studies at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences, or the National University of Mongolia only. Non-affiliated individuals who wish to present, including co-presenters, are kindly requested to apply for ISKS membership through the ISKS website prior to submitting their proposals. **ISKS Membership Registration:** <https://isks.org/admission>