



# APAC News

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY WEATHERHEAD EAST ASIAN INSTITUTE  
NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIA PACIFIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL

April 22, 2005

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/weai/apac>

## *Southeast Asian cultures celebrated*



By Michael Roston

The Southeast Asian Students' Initiative successfully hosted its annual Southeast Asian Cultural Night on the evening of April 7.

Students from various CU programs including SIPA, MARSEA and Columbia College, along with interested faculty and staff turned out in force to enjoy an evening of food and cultural performance based in the traditions of the Southeast Asian region. Along with Kathleen Keiser (SIPA-'06), my fellow organizer of the event, I found that the pleasingly large attendance demonstrated the enjoyment of and strong interest in the output of Southeast Asian cultures by diverse elements of the Columbia University community.

Students turned out early and in large numbers for the food. New York restaurateurs cooked up delicacies from the culinary traditions of Indonesia, Thailand, Burma and Vietnam. The authentic cooking was a major draw, with as many as 100 guests braving a crowded Thursday evening to enjoy what was served up. Disappearing quickly from the food tables were plates of Indonesia chicken satay and Burmese green tea leaf salad.

members of the crowd stuck around the Lerner Hall party space to enjoy dance and music performances.

The main event came with performances by members of *Gamelan Dharmaswara*, a dance and music troupe based in the traditions of Indonesia's island of Bali who happily welcomed SEASI's invitation to perform at Columbia. The group is supported in part by the Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia in New York, and includes performers both of Indonesian and American origins.

Many of Gamelan Dharmawara's musicians were not available for the cultural performance. Despite the absence of most of the gamelan players, I Nyoman Saptanyana and Lela Chapman performed the *Sekar Ginotan*, a musical piece played on the *gender wayang*, a special Indonesian xylophone usually accompanying shadow puppetry.

### Upcoming Events...

#### Zhongwen Luntan/ China Forum

▪ **Chinese Language Table (all levels)**

Friday, April 22, 4-6 p.m., IAB 918

#### WEAI

▪ **Nonprofit and East Asian Career Panel**

Monday, April 25, 6 p.m., IAB 918 (more inside!)

#### NBK/JEF (with LASA)

▪ **SUSHI-SALSA Party**

Tuesday, April 26, 7:30-10 p.m., Ancel Plaza

#### APAC/NBK

▪ **End of the Year/Graduation Party**

Friday May 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m. (tentative),  
location TBA

Lela and Nyoman's skillful playing rang through Lerner Hall, preparing the crowd for the dances performed by men and women skilled in the Balinese traditions. Luthfi Majid warmed up the crowd with the *Kebyar Duduk*, an abstract expression of rapid changes of mood and personality. He was followed up by Shinta Dumais and Agnes Sarah Quigley who danced the *Cendrawasih*, in which the bird of paradise exhibits its gorgeous feathers. The final dance number was taken from the *Legong Kraton Lasem*, and was performed by Ida Ayu Ari Candrawati, Nasha Yohara Lubis, and Miranti Kisdarjono. This dance signified the efforts of King Lasem to win the heart of Princess Langkesari on the battlefield.

The talented Balinese group was followed up by some of Columbia's own talent, in the form of Semerit Limlikit (MIA1). Known to her friends as Sami, this native of Thailand exhibited a dance from her home country to close out the evening's successful and well-attended event.

While Kathleen and I are happy to claim credit for some of what made the evening great, we would be remiss not to thank those who provided invaluable voluntary assistance to bring the night together. The previous year's SEASI co-coordinators Jenna Capeci and Tu Dang (both MIA2) laid the groundwork that made the event possible in the first place. A group of volunteers both new and loyal also made Southeast Asia Cultural Night a smashing success: Moethee Zun (MIA2), and Faye Leone, Thao Nguyen and Chauthuy Hoang (all MIA1). Finally, we have to offer our gratitude for the support of the SIPA Student Association and the Weatherhead East Asian Institute who provided financial and other support without which Cultural Night would not occur.

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## **Asia-related Student Groups**

### **Greater China Initiative (GCI)**

*Jimmy Zou (jz2107), Le Li (ll2178), Cheng Hong (ch2203), Ivy Yang (isy2101), Jocelyn Chan (jmc2111), Riga Tenzin (rt2123)*

### **Korea Focus**

*Sung-Min Cho (sc746), Mimi Do (md2214), Song-Hee Ghim (sg2186)*

### **Mongolia Club**

*Ganbat Chuluunkhuu (gc2123), Bat-Erdene (bb2129), Jargalan Batbayar (jb1298), Otgonjargal Okhidoi (oo2006)*

### **Nihon Benkyo Kai/Japan Exchange Forum (NBK/JEF)**

*Kevin Burgwinkle (kjb2111), Lucia Vancura (lv2128), Ryoko Nakamura (rmn2102), Shoko Nakagawa (sn2156), Daisuke Kishi (dk339), Haruko Kamei (hk2228), Nozomi Hashimoto (nh2126), Kazuhiko Shimizu (ks2292), Martin Oredsson (mlo2104)*

### **Southeast Asia Student Initiative (SEASI)**

*Kathleen Keiser (kek2112), Michael Roston (mr2302)*

### **Taiwan Focus**

*Jimmy Zou (jz2107)*

### **Zhongwen Luntan/ China Forum**

*Vanessa Pu (vp2120), Lisa Karz (ltk2103), Martin Oredsson (mlo2104), Alex Whitworth (apw2101), Ken Lee (jl2035), Kelly McAskill (kam2125)*

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## **WEAI Brownbag Lunch Lectures**

The Brownbag Lectures at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute feature scholars, policy makers, journalists and activists who are engaged in research on East and Southeast Asia. These talks, which are open to everyone, take place virtually every Monday through Thursday, from 12 - 1:30 p.m. in IAB 918, unless otherwise noted.

**Friday, April 22**

**Red Poppies and Other Tibetan Novels**

Alai, writer and winner of the Mao Dun Literary Prize  
(co-sponsored by the Modern Tibetan Studies Program)

**Friday, May 6**

**Social Ramifications of AIDS: An Update on the Orphans of China's Henan Province**

Chung To, founder and chairperson, Chi Heng Foundation-Hong Kong

**Other East Asia Events at CU**

**Monday, April 25**

**Nonprofit and East Asia Career Panel**

*Time:* 6 p.m.  
*Location:* IAB 918

PANELISTS: from Asia Society, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, Social Science Research Council (Vietnam Program), Trickle Up and others (TBA)

Wine and cheese reception to follow

Sponsored by WEAI

**Thursday, April 28**

**Heian Love: Domestic and Imported**

*Time:* 6-7:30 p.m.  
*Location:* Kent Hall 403

SPEAKER: Robert Borgen, professor of history, University of California-Davis

“Murasaki Shikibu would have us believe that, in Heian times, professors were a stodgy lot. Some of their literary output in Chinese, however, reveals that they could enjoy playful, albeit learned, erotic diversions. More remarkably, they chose to include such  
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compositions in their anthologies of literary exemplars. This talk will introduce one example of Heian erotic writing in Chinese and attempt to place it in the context of both Chinese and Japanese literary traditions.”

Part of the Donald Keene Center's Special Lecture Series

**Sunday, May 1**

**Speech by Dr. Peng Ming-Min**

*Time:* 3-5 p.m.  
*Location:* Low Library

“China's ‘anti-separation’ legislation, among other things, has put Taiwan on the front pages of newspapers worldwide again. Many in the world view ‘the Taiwan issue’ as one of the few causes for regional instability today, or at its best, a trigger for WWII.”

Sponsored by Columbia Taiwanese Student Association (CTSA)

**Monday, May 2**

**Special screening of *Godjira*, in its original, uncut 1954 version (in Japanese with English subtitles)**

*Time:* 8 p.m.  
*Location:* Lerner Hall, Roone Arledge Auditorium  
*Price:* free  
*RSVP:* call 212.854.4019 by April 27 for complimentary tickets

Part of “Godzilla in New York,” a series co-sponsored by the Donald Keene Center and WEAI.

**Sunday, May 15**

**2005 Spring Taiwanese Arts & Literature Festival**

*Time:* 5 p.m.  
*Location:* Lerner Hall, 2F, Game Room  
*Price:* \$5

RSVP: register online at  
www.ColumbiaTSA.org

Opening reception and cultural exhibit will include photography, oilpaper umbrellas, pottery, paper and traditional gloved puppet shows. At 6 p.m., screening of Taiwanese award-winning film, "Millennium Mambo," by Hou Hsiao Hsien.

Co-sponsored by Columbia Taiwanese Student Association (CTSA)

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## **East Asia Events around NYC**

### **Thursday, May 12**

#### ***Trees on a Slope***

Book reading by Bruce Fulton, who translated the work with his wife, Ju-Chan Fulton, from one of modern Korea's masters of narrative prose: Hwang Sun-won.

*Time:* 7 p.m.

*Location:* The Korea Society, 950 Third Avenue, Eighth Floor, New York City

"*Trees on a Slope* is Hwang Sun-won's most accomplished novel—one of the few Korean novels to describe in detail the physical and psychological horrors of the Korean War. Published in 1960, it is an assured, forceful depiction of three young soldiers in the South Korean army during the latter stages of the war: Hyon-t'ae, the arrogant and overconfident squad leader; the stolid and dependable Yun-gu; and "the Poet" Tong-ho. The war affects the men in different ways. Before he can return home, Tong-ho takes his own life after shooting an officer and a prostitute. Hyon-t'ae, finding himself removed from situations of mortal danger, spends most of his time drinking. In the end he is arrested for abetting in the suicide of a young girl. Only Yun-gu is able to make the successful transition to postwar life. His ability to survive the encroachments of others, exploit

limited resources, and capitalize on the lessons of harsh experience make him emblematic of Korea over the centuries."

Copies of *Trees on a Slope* will be available for purchase and signing by Prof. Fulton.

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## **East Asia Opportunities**

From time to time, *APAC News* will compile internship and employment opportunities for its readers. If you would like to advertise an East Asia-related position, please email vlr2102@columbia.edu.

### **Weatherhead East Asian Institute**

**Position:** Ex-EAS webmaster (part-time/work-study)

**Description:** The Expanding East Asian Studies (ExEAS) initiative is seeking a webmaster to update site content and post new material on its website. The ExEAS website (www.exeas.org) makes syllabi and teaching materials available to undergraduate educators nationwide. Hours will vary but will usually require no more than 10-15 hours of work per week. The day-to-day schedule and hours required per week are very flexible. The webmaster must be available to work on campus during the summer (including summer 2005). Pay is commensurate with experience (\$15/hr minimum).

**Qualifications:** Knowledge of basic HTML required; experience with Dreamweaver preferred; Must be extremely detail oriented, have demonstrated ability to prioritize and work independently required. Editing experience is helpful, as is knowledge of or interest in East Asian history, culture or language.

**To apply:**

Applications are welcome from full-time undergraduate or graduate students at Columbia. To apply, please send a short

resume featuring your past web and other technical experience (including personal/recreational experience) with URLs, to [hj2015@columbia.edu](mailto:hj2015@columbia.edu).

### **Asian Development Bank**

**Position:** Young Professionals Program

**Description:** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is seeking highly qualified and motivated young individuals for its Young Professionals Program. It is currently accepting applications for its 2006 recruitment. For more information, visit <http://www.adb.org/Employment/ypp.asp>

**Qualifications:** You are eligible for the program, if you:

- are a citizen of an ADB member country (see <http://www.adb.org/About/members.asp>);
- hold or are expecting to hold at least a Master's degree with good academic record and advanced training in economics, finance, business administration or other development fields relevant to ADB's work;
- are proficient in written and spoken English;
- were born after August 1, 1975;
- have gained several years of international experience working in areas related to ADB operations;
- are able to work with others of different nationalities and cultural backgrounds; and
- do not have close relatives in ADB.

#### **To Apply:**

The application period is open until 30 July 2005.

### **Radio Free Asia**

**Position:** Korean language web editor

**Description:** For more information, visit: [http://www.rfa.org/english/about/jobs/2005/02/27/webeditor\\_koreanservice/](http://www.rfa.org/english/about/jobs/2005/02/27/webeditor_koreanservice/)

### **Global Action on Ageing**

**Position:** intern (Chinese)

**Description:** Global Action on Aging is an NGO based at the United Nations that works

on social and economic dimensions of population aging. GAA posts articles on aging to our large website. We publish materials in all six official U.N. languages. At present we want an intern or volunteer who is fluent in reading and writing both Chinese and English effectively immediately. GAA seeks a person to summarize very short Chinese language articles in both Chinese and English. We post about four or less articles weekly to our website. For typical articles, see [www.globalaging.org/foreignlang/chinese.htm](http://www.globalaging.org/foreignlang/chinese.htm)

This internship or volunteer position can be done on or off-site. The successful candidate will receive a U.N. grounds pass and enjoy the full benefits of our office located across the street from the U.N. at 44th and First Avenue. The internship term is negotiable.

**To apply:** For more information or to arrange an interview, call Susanne Paul, president, at 212.557.3163 as soon as possible.

### **Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership**

**Position:** program associate

**Description:** Founded in 1991, the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) seeks to promote exchange and collaboration between Japan and the United States with the goal of fulfilling shared global responsibilities and contributing to improvements in the world's welfare. The Foundation awards grants in the areas of Intellectual Exchange, Grassroots Exchange, and Education and operates fellowship programs to foster individual research and the development of human resources. CGP has an opening for a Program Associate in the Grassroots Exchange and Education Programs. In these areas, CGP promotes collaboration between the nonprofit sectors in the United States and Japan on a wide variety of issues, such as volunteerism, disability rights, and HIV/AIDS, and supports education about Japan at the K-12 level in the United States.

**To Apply:** To Apply: Please send résumé, cover letter, and one-page writing sample to:  
Ms. Eva Heintzelman  
Program Associate  
Center for Global Partnership  
152 West 57th Street, 39th Floor  
New York, NY 10019  
Fax: (212) 489-1344  
E-mail: [eh\\_cgp@yahoo.com](mailto:eh_cgp@yahoo.com)

### **East Timor Action Network (ETAN)**

**Position:** summer internship

**Description:** The Washington, D.C., office of ETAN is looking for a summer intern to assist with preparation and follow-up for ETAN's 12<sup>th</sup> annual Advocacy Days in June. ETAN is a grassroots human rights organization working to support the people of East Timor and Indonesia. Lobby Days consist of training sessions and grassroots education of Congress on human rights and justice for East Timor and Indonesia, economic justice for East Timor, and stopping U.S. military assistance for Indonesia. Other internship responsibilities will include general outreach, organizing and advocacy work; fund-raising; and various administrative tasks.

An internship in ETAN's New York office is also available. (similar duties)

**Qualifications:** Interns must be able to start by May 16 or earlier. The intern will be expected to work full-time in the weeks before, during and immediately after Lobby Days. Time commitment later on is more flexible. A successful candidate will have a demonstrated commitment to human rights activism. Goodwriting and communication skills and flexibility are also important.

**To Apply/D.C.:** email a cover letter and resume to [etanorganize@igc.org](mailto:etanorganize@igc.org) to the attention of Lobby Days Intern Search by April 18.

**To Apply/NYC:** email [john@etan.org](mailto:john@etan.org)

### **Bloomberg News**

**Position:** Tokyo news reporter

**Description:** Bloomberg News is seeking reporters in our Tokyo news bureaus. Knowledge of the economy, financial markets and business is essential. The reporter will be expected to produce breaking news stories under real-time deadlines.

**Qualifications:** Proven success in business, financial and economics reporting; Ability to write clear, concise and accurate news stories; Ability to write quickly under pressure of real-time deadlines; English and Japanese

**To Apply:**

<http://quote.bloomberg.com/apps/career?action=1&jobid=13024&T=career/detail.wm>

### **Dow Jones Newswires**

**Position:** Tokyo copy editor

**Qualifications:** Applicants should have strong Japanese reading skills, native English speaking proficiency and an interest in financial markets.

**To Apply:** send cover letter, resume and writing samples if any (maximum 5 clips) to Julie Koh, HR Officer; e-mail: [julie.koh@dowjones.com](mailto:julie.koh@dowjones.com); fax: +65-6225-3379

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*APAC News* is produced by the East Asia Institute program assistants. This is the final issue of 2004-2005.

Thank you—and congratulations—to WEAI's graduating PAs, Jocelyn Chan and Aiko Lane, for their generous efforts with APAC.

APAC also distributes event notices via e-mail on a regular basis. If you would like to be added to our list, please email Jocelyn at [jmc2111@columbia.edu](mailto:jmc2111@columbia.edu).