

# The Asian Connection

## FALL 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit of Lung Yingtai, Minister of Culture for Taiwan
- Discussion with Amb. Jon Huntsman
- Rising Powers Initiative  
Conference: *China as a Global Power: Contending Views from China*
- Publication of *Worldviews of Aspiring Powers: Domestic Foreign Policy Debates in China, India, Iran, Japan, and Russia*

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## The Sigur Center for Asian Studies

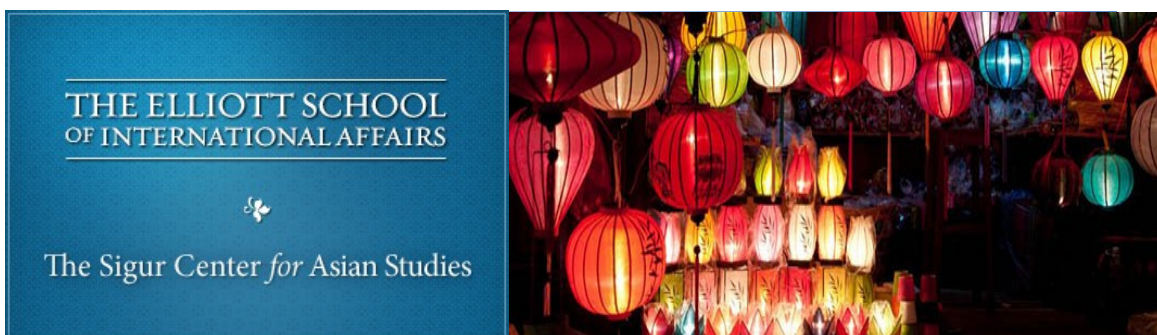
Spring 2013

Although the Sigur Center for Asian Studies is officially attached to the Elliott School of International Affairs, the Center has never interpreted its mission exclusively, or even mainly, as just serving the Elliott School's academic programs, faculty, or students. Rather the Center seeks to support and encourage the study of, and research on, Asia across the University. In service of this goal, the Center provides support for faculty research on Asia and for students studying Asian languages regardless of their home schools. One of the main markers of the Sigur Center's success in serving as a coordinating nexus for Asian Studies for the entire University is that faculty affiliated with the Center come from nine schools and over two dozen departments. When it comes to Asian Studies, then, the Sigur Center has played a key and successful role in breaking down cross-school and cross-disciplinary boundaries.

Given this broad commitment to the growth of Asian Studies at GW, it seems appropriate to use this space not just to tout the Sigur Center's own achievements but to recognize contributions made by other units around the University. In this regard, I took particular pleasure in participating in an initiative led by Dean Peg Barratt of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences to bring a Confucius Institute to GW. In December, Dean Barratt travelled to Beijing, along with Vice President Michael Morsberger, to sign the final agreement to make this Institute a reality. This Confucius Institute will provide important resources to expand Chinese language instruction and to support activities fostering greater understanding of Chinese culture and society to both our own students and the surrounding community. In the end, without the vision and personal commitment of Dean Barratt, this important addition to Asian Studies at GW would not have been possible. I therefore ask the entire Asian Studies community to join me in congratulating Dean Barratt for this success.



Sigur Center Director Edward McCord



The Sigur Center for Asian Studies is pleased to announce the launch of our new and improved website. In addition to the overall look of the website, there are several new features, including sections for Multimedia, Publications and Upcoming Events

The Sigur Center welcomes your feedback and we hope that you find our new website both useful and enjoyable! View the website at <http://www.gwu.edu/~sigur/index.cfm>.

## In Conversation With Jon Huntsman



Former Gov. Jon Huntsman speaks GW  
(9/17/2012)

Former U.S. Ambassador to China and Singapore, Utah governor, and Republican presidential candidate **Jon Huntsman** came to GW on September 17, 2012. In an event co-sponsored by **the Asia Society**, Gov. Huntsman participated in a discussion with **David Shambaugh**, GW Professor of Political Science and International Affairs. The discussion covered the current domestic political environment in the U.S., U.S. policy towards East Asia, and the state of U.S.-China relations. Regarding U.S.-China relations, Gov. Huntsman acknowledged the often complex and intimidating nature of the relationship. **"It's a marriage where divorce isn't an option,"** he said. **"We have to make it work. That's the bottom line."**

The discussion offered students and members of the general public an up-close and intimate view of the former presidential candidate and policy-maker. The discussion was followed by a brief Q&A session. Gov. Huntsman also took the time to deliver some career advice directed to students in the audience. **"There are generalists running around everywhere,"** he said. **"Nobody needs a generalist in today's world. We need experts. We need people who are trained in the nuances, the history, the traditions, the culture of those we're going to be dealing with during the course of your generation."**

## Speech by Lung Yingtai - Minister of Culture for R.O.C (Taiwan)

On August 28, 2012 Taiwanese Minister of Culture, **Lung Yingtai** delivered a speech in the Jack Morton Auditorium at GW. The speech was entitled **"Soft Power in A Hard Time: A Cultural Perspective on Cross-Strait Relations."** The event was co-sponsored by **the Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution**. Minister Lung, who took up her position in May, 2012 is a celebrated writer, literary critic and public intellectual, having written 30 books to date.

In her speech, Minister Lung spoke at length about Confucianism and its impact on the culture and politics of both Taiwan and China. Confucianism is still very much a part of the Taiwanese education system and the vibrant fabric of cultural life seen in Taiwan has a lot to do with the traditional values of Confucianism. Conversely, China has lacked many of the benefits that Confucianism offers after embarking on a radical path following the 1949 communist takeover where many traditional Chinese values and systems were discarded.

Minister Lung also offered observations on the future of cross-strait relations. As much as people may want to focus on China as a menace to be feared, it also deserves empathy; the Chinese people have experienced very turbulent times since the communist takeover in 1949 and many people are still trying to reorient themselves. However, Taiwan also requires understanding from China regarding the need for political and artistic freedom.

The minister ended her speech by defining what she thought "soft power" truly meant. **"Soft power is not to make power appear softer,"** she said, **"soft power means that the only way that you can be powerful is by being genuinely and honestly soft to people outside[and inside of] your territory."**



R.O.C. (Taiwan) Minister of Culture, Lung Yingtai  
speaks at GW (8/28/2012)



# Rising Powers Initiative



GW Professor David Shambaugh and Professor Zhu Liqun (11/15/12)

During the Fall semester of 2012, the **Rising Powers Initiative (RPI)** held a major conference as part of its research project, **Worldviews of Aspiring Powers: Exploring Foreign Policy Debates Abroad**. With the generous support of the **Carnegie Corporation of New York**, RPI co-organized a day-long conference with the **Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (WWCIS)** on November 15, 2012 in Washington, D.C. The conference, entitled **China as a Global Power: Contending Views from China**, featured three Chinese and four American panelists. Panelists from China included

- ◆ **Shen Dingli** (Fudan University)
- ◆ **Zhu Chenghu** (PLA National Defense University)
- ◆ **Zhu Liqun** (China Foreign Affairs University)

The morning included two sessions on Chinese Views on National Security and Defense and Chinese Views on Economics, International Institutions, and Transnational Issues. The first panel on security and defense topics, chaired by **GW Professor David Shambaugh**, included divergent Chinese views on whether public opinion is having a growing effect on foreign policy-making. Zhu Liqun felt that the process is becoming more democratic and influenced by academia while Zhu Chenghu opined that policy decisions are mainly made by top leaders and that not even the People's Liberation Army has much say in the formulation of foreign policy.

**GW Professor Robert Sutter** chaired the second panel on Economics, International Institutions, and Transnational Issues. The panel discussed challenges such as energy security and climate change while Zhu Chenghu continued to point out that the foreign policy making process in China, while opening somewhat, is not transparent enough.

For lunch, the attendees were treated to a keynote speech by **Jane Harman, Director, President, and CEO of WWCIS**. Ms. Harman emphasized that it is essential for leading experts in both countries to have an understanding of the intentions of the other and to foster healthy and informed public opinion. She also lamented what she saw as endless "**China bashing**" and called for more "**China embracing**."

The afternoon included a panel of four American scholars, chaired by **GW Professor Henry Nau**. The panelists included

- ◆ **Dan Blumenthal** (American Enterprise Institute)
- ◆ **Ted Carpenter** (CATO Institute)
- ◆ **Michael Green** (Center for Strategic and International Studies)
- ◆ **Michael Swaine** (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)

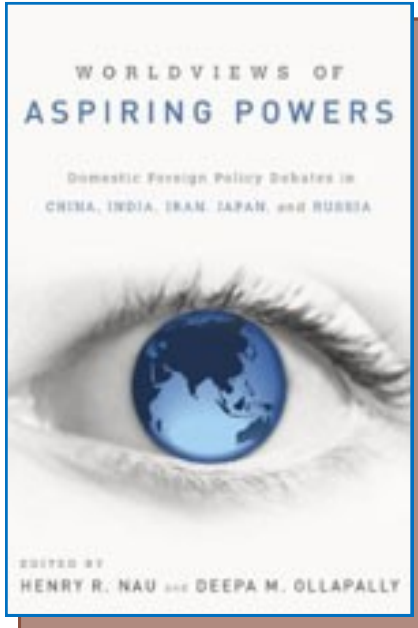


WWCIS Director Jane Harman gives a keynote speech (11/15/12)

The American panelists discussed the U.S.-China security dilemma and reacted to what the Chinese panelists had said in the morning. In particular, there was no unanimity over whether the U.S. needs to or can maintain dominance in the region. The following panel, chaired by **Kissinger Institute (WWICS) Director Stapleton Roy**, gave the Chinese panelists a chance to react to the views expressed by the Americans and to opine on whether China is a status quo or revisionist power. Zhu Chenghu agreed with Ted Carpenter that China is a "cautious revisionist" power, as opposed to a radical one, in that it seeks to tweak the international system to its benefit, but not overturn it. Zhu Liqun felt that China was mainly a status quo power while Shen Dingli favored the term "reformist power" to describe China, meaning China favors change for the better while conceding that China's conduct can elicit fear as opposed to being constructive.

# Worldviews of Aspiring Powers

*Domestic Foreign Policy Debates in China, India, Iran, Japan, and Russia*



In October 2012, RPI co-Directors **Henry Nau** and **Deepa Ollapally** published their co-edited book, *Worldviews of Aspiring Powers: Domestic Foreign Policy Debates in China, India, Iran, Japan, and Russia*, published by Oxford University Press. The book provides a serious study of the domestic foreign policy debates in five world powers that have gained influence as the US has weakened. Featuring leading regional scholars for each country, the volume identifies the most important domestic schools of thought— Nationalists, Realists, Globalists, Idealists/Exceptionalists—and connects them to the historical and institutional sources that fuel each nation’s foreign policy experience.

*“These essays are an innovative effort to identify and explain common themes in the foreign policy thinking and formulation of the world’s most important aspiring powers. An attentive reader will come away with a sharper understanding of both the pace and the direction of global change and the implications of that change for American power abroad.” — Jim Hoagland, The Washington Post*

To order, visit <http://www.us.oup.com/us/catalog/general/subject/Politics/InternationalStudies/?view=usa&ci=9780199937493>

## “Nuclear Debates in Asia” project

### The Nuclear Debate in Asia: Balancing Risks and Rewards

The Rising Powers Initiative recently launched an exciting new research project. The rise in global demand for nuclear energy is heavily concentrated in emerging and aspiring Asian Powers. Despite this trend, we still lack a clear understanding of how positions on nuclear energy, national security, and nuclear nonproliferation are linked. This new project - funded by a generous grant from **the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation** - will track the domestic debates and discussions on nuclear power and nonproliferation in eight Asian countries: China, India, Japan, Pakistan, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. The project will aim to fill a significant gap in existing literature on these issues, produce research material helpful to policymakers, and to educate students, policy communities, and the public on these critical nuclear viewpoints in Asia. The project is being directed by **Sigur Center Associate Director Deepa Ollapally** and **Professor Mike Mochizuki**.

As part of this new project, the Sigur Center and Rising Powers Initiative welcomed a new staff member, **Timothy Westmyer**. As Research and Program Assistant for RPI, Timothy assists in coordinating the “Nuclear Debates in Asia” project. Prior to joining the Sigur Center, he worked as a Foreign Affairs Assistant at the US Department of State in the Office of the Coordinator for Threat Reduction. Timothy has also spent time at the Council on Foreign Relations, the US Senate, the Arms Control Association, and a presidential campaign.



RPI Research and Program Assistant, Timothy Westmyer



# Recent Events

## Taiwan Roundtable Series



Professor Steven Phillips at the *Taiwan Roundtable: Taiwan and the Diaoyutai Islands: Historical and Regional Perspectives* (11/20/2012)

**November 20, 2012:** *Taiwan Roundtable - Taiwan and the Diaoyutai Islands: Historical and Regional Perspectives*, with **Dr. Robert Sutter**, Professor of Practice of International Affairs, GW; **Dr. Steven Phillips**, Professor of History, Towson University; **Dr. Michael Yahuda**, Visiting Scholar, GW.

## Transnational and Subnational Lecture Series

**September 10, 2012:** *Impressions From North Korea: Insights From Two GW Travelers*, with **Justin Fisher**, Statistics Lecturer, GW; **James Person**, PhD Candidate in Korean History, GW.

**September 18, 2012:** *Korea-U.S. Relations in an Age of Globalization: Looking Forward after 130 Years of Diplomatic Relations*, Co-Hosted by the **Korean Association of International Studies (KAIS)** and the **Presidential Council on Nation Branding**, with **Dr. Ahn Yin-hay**, President, KAIS; **Dr. Lee Bae-yong**, Chairman, Presidential Council on Nation Branding; **Dr. Young C. Kim**, Senior Counselor, GW; **Dr. Robert Sutter**, Professor of Practice of International Affairs, GW; **Dr. Celeste Arrington**, Korea Foundation Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, GW; **Dr. Gregg Brazinsky**, Associate Professor of History and International Affairs, GW; **Maj. Siyoung Park**, Visiting Scholar, Sigur Center, GW.

**September 21, 2012:** *Assessing China's Prospects: An American-Australian Dialogue and Book Launch: The China Story Yearbook 2012: Red Rising, Red Eclipse*, Co-sponsored by the **Australian Center on China in the World at the Australian National University**, with **Dr. Geremie Barme**, Founding Director, Australian Center on China in the World; **Dr. Bruce Dickson**, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, GW; **Jeremy Goldkorn**, Founder and Editor, *Danwei*; **Dr. David Shambaugh**, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, GW; **Dr. Robert Sutter**, Professor of the Practice of International Affairs, GW; **Dr. Richard Rigby**, Executive Director, the Australian National University.

**September 25, 2012:** *Book Launch - China and Africa: A Century of Engagement*, with **Amb. David Shinn**, Co-Author and Adjunct Professor of International Affairs, GW; **Mr. Joshua Eisenman**, Co-Author and Senior Fellow in China Studies, American Foreign Policy Council.

**October 5, 2012:** *Book Launch - Tangled Titans: The United States and China*, with **Dr. David Shambaugh**, Editor and Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, GW; **Dr. Terry Lautz**, Visiting Professor, Syracuse University; **Mr. Charles Freeman III**, Vice President for Asia, Middle East and Africa, PepsiCo.



Students listen to a discussion at *Book Launch - Tangled Titans: The United States and China* (10/05/2012)

**October 9, 2012:** *Abducted Children, Japanese Law and International Politics*, with **Dr. Carl Goodman**, Adjunct Professor of Japanese Law, GW.

**October 12, 2012:** *G2 at GW: The 5th Annual Conference on U.S.-China Economic Relations and China's Economic Development*, Co-sponsored by the **Rising Powers Initiative**, the **Institute for International Economic Policy** and the **GW-Center for International Business Education and Research**, with **Dr. Barry Naughton**, University of California, San Diego; **Dr. Vikram Nehru**, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; **Dr. Xingwang Qian**, SUNY Buffalo State; **Dr. Marinos Tsigas**, U.S. International Trade Commission; **Dr. Steve Suranovic**, GW; **Dr. Hong Ma**, Tsinghua University; **Dr. Maggie Chen**, GW; **Dr. Yaohui Zhao**, Peking University; **Dr. Jing Cai**, University of Michigan.

**October 13, 2012:** *The 20th Hahn Moo-Sook Colloquium in the Korean Humanities - Generations: A Century of Modern Korean Literature*, Co-Sponsored by the **Korean Cultural Center of the Korean Embassy**, with **Hye-kyung Lee**, Korean Author; **Jung-hee Oh**, Korean Author; **Sae-young Oh**, Korean Author; **Kyeong-Hee Choi**, University of Chicago; **Theodore Hughes**, Columbia University; **Yung-Hee Kim**, University of Hawaii; **Ji-Eun Lee**, Washington University in St. Louis; **Youngju Ryu**, University of Michigan.

**October 25, 2012:** *Thinking Through U.S.-China Relations: A Conversation with Amitai Etzioni*, with **Dr. Amitai Etzioni**, University Professor of International Affairs, GW; **Dr. David Shambaugh**, Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, GW; **Dr. Robert Sutter**, Professor of Practice of International Affairs, GW.



Students gather in the Sigur Center Conference Room for an intimate Q&A session with queer film director, Cui Zi'en, following a screening of his film, *Queer China 'Comrade' China* (11/08/2012)

**November 8, 2012:** *Queer China 'Comrade' China: Film Screening and Discussion with Chinese Queer Film Director Cui Zi'en*, Co-Sponsored by the **GW Global China Connection**, the **GW Women's Studies Program** and **GW Allied in Pride**, with **Cui Zi'en**, Director, Queer Activist.

**November 26 2012:** *Leadership Change in China: Its Effects in East Asia and Relations with the U.S.*, Co-Sponsored by the **International Affairs Society**, with **Christopher Johnson**, Senior Advisor and Freeman Chair in China Studies, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).



Jayaprakash Tissainayagam and Sigur Center Associate Director Deepa Ollapally at the event, *Sri Lanka: Post War but not Post Conflict* (11/26/2012)

**December 4 2012:** *Sri Lanka: Post War but not Post Conflict*, with **Jayaprakash Tissainayagam**, Reagan Fascell Democracy Fellow, National Endowment for Democracy.

**December 17 2012:** *Dr. Sunil Jayantha Nawaratne, Secretary of the Ministry of Higher Education of Sri Lanka: Higher Education in Sri Lanka - Challenges and Priorities in a Post-War Setting*, Co-Sponsored by the **GW Graduate School of Education & Human Development**,

### Visiting Scholar Roundtable Series

**November 8, 2012:** *Evaluation of China's Public Diplomacy in the United States*, with **Ke-Ming Yen**, Visiting Scholar (Taiwan), Sigur Center, GW.

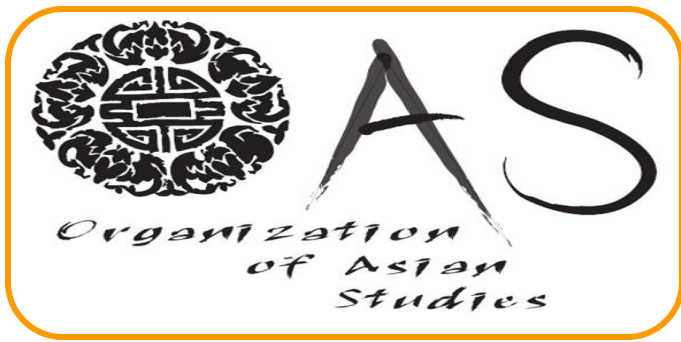
**November 19, 2012:** *Running Government, Gangnam Style: A Conceptual Discussion on Factors and Benefits of Building Gov 2.0 in Taiwan*, with **Chingyu Yao**, Visiting Scholar (Taiwan), Sigur Center, GW.

**December 5, 2012:** *North Korea Military Adventurism and the ROK-US Alliance - 1961 through 1976*, with **Maj. Siyoung Park**, Visiting Scholar (ROK), Sigur Center, GW.

**December 13, 2012:** *China's Rediscovery of Southeast Asia*, Co-Sponsored by the **Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (IERES)**, with **Yanan Li**, Visiting Scholar (PRC), IERES, GW.

**December 18, 2012:** *Studies on the Development of Regional Production Networks in East Asia and China's Status Therein*, with **Dr. Xinxuan Cheng**, Visiting Scholar (PRC), Sigur Center, GW.





**November 28, 2012:** Ms. Linda Yarr, Director, Partnerships for International Strategies in Asia (PISA), gave a presentation titled "*Knowledge Mobilization in Asia.*" She shared personal reflections on a career devoted to expanding intellectual exchange with Asian thought leaders; promoting curricular and pedagogical innovation in international affairs education; and fostering leadership development for policy dialogue on emerging global issues.

### Conversations with Scholars Luncheon Series

**September 20, 2012:** Dr. Robert Sutter, Professor of Practice of International Affairs, presented his current research on "*Measuring China's Rise in Asia: Impacts and Implications for the US.*" Based on a review of available scholarship and interviews with 210 specialists and officials from 10 Asia-Pacific governments over the past eight years, Dr. Sutter has found a number of metrics to use in assessing China's actual influence as it rises in Asia and the world. Based on these metrics, he forecasts that China's rise will continue to be encumbered by a regional order still led by the United States.

### Asian Film Series

In September, OAS kicked off the semester with a special four-part Asian film series called "World War II in East Asia" that featured Asian films depicting the events of WWII. The four films screened were: *Flowers of War* (China), *The Human Condition Part I* (Japan), *My Way* (Korea), and *Aishite Imasu 1941: Mahal Kita* (Philippines).

In addition to the Conversations with Scholars Luncheon and Asian Film Series, OAS partnered with GW's **Global China Connection (GCC)** on **November 30, 2012** to co-sponsor a social event that brought together members of OAS and GCC chapters from other DC schools to enjoy an evening of Chinese food and games.



Christina Fink, Matthew Walton and students at OAS  
Conversations with Scholars: "*Examining the Transition in Burma/Myanmar: Two Perspectives*" (11/05/2012)

**November 5, 2012:** Dr. Christina Fink, Professor of Practice of International Affairs, and Dr. Matthew Walton, Adjunct Professor of Political Science met with students to share their perspectives on the transition in Burma/Myanmar. Dr. Fink discussed the impact of the reforms on human security. Dr. Walton examined the challenges that Buddhism poses to democratic consolidation in Myanmar.

The **Organization of Asian Studies (OAS)** is a graduate and undergraduate student organization that seeks to foster an appreciation of Northeast, Southeast, and South Asian culture. The organization focuses on strengthening ties between students and faculty with an interest in Asia through ambitious programming and events, all made possible by the support of the Sigur Center for Asian Studies.

# PISA PARTNERSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES IN ASIA

"Creative responses to global concerns..."

**Partnerships for International Strategies in Asia (PISA)** is hosted by the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. Directed by **Linda Yarr**, PISA prepares leaders for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century and mobilizes networks of scholars, policy makers, and advocates on both sides of the Pacific to address urgent national and transnational concerns.

## Myanmar Climate Initiative

The unprecedented political and economic changes underway in Myanmar present new opportunities to improve the livelihoods of the people of Myanmar – lifting them out of a half-century of isolation. Nonetheless, as Myanmar opens it will be faced with a host of new challenges. It is critical that all stakeholders be involved in developing policies that balance the exigencies of economic development and environmental sustainability within the context of climate change. PISA's **Myanmar Climate Initiative (MCI)** seeks to address these issues. PISA formally kicked off the BCI on October 24th by hosting a one-day, off the record symposium titled: *"Burma in Transition: Climate Wise Development and Sustainable Finance."* The symposium brought together experts and practitioners to discuss the current situation on the ground and share their suggestions for the future of Myanmar. The event was made possible by the generous support from **the Chino Cienega Foundation, the Heinrich Böll Foundation, The George Washington University Institute for Sustainability and the Sigur Center for Asian Studies.**

For the next phase of this multi-year project, PISA in collaboration with its in-country partner, ECODEV, will convene a week-long **Myanmar Leadership Institute on Climate Change (MLICC)** in Naypyidaw, Myanmar this February. The MLICC will carefully select a group of "high-multiplier" delegates from a number of key Burmese government ministries to take part in the leadership institute. The curriculum will combine both theoretical and practical approaches to addressing climate change within a sustainable development framework.



Linda Yarr (PISA), Wynn Thane (PACT), and Jenny Springer (World Wildlife Fund) at *Burma in Transition: Climate Wise Development and Sustainable Finance* (10/24/2012)

## Recent Events Hosted by PISA

**October 15, 2012: *Adapting to Global Climate Change: The Role and Potential of Indonesia's Marine Resources***, with **Dr. Indroyono Soesilo**, Executive Secretary/Deputy Senior Minister to the Coordinating Ministry for People's Welfare of the Republic of Indonesia.

**October 24, 2012: *Burma in Transition: Climate Wise Development and Sustainable Finance***, with **Linda Yarr**, Director, Partnerships for International Strategies in Asia (PISA); **Dr. Christina Fink**, Associate Professor of Practice of International Development, GW; **Maureen Aung-Thwin**, Director, Southeast Asia Initiative, Open Society Foundations, **Win Myo Thu**, Director, Economically Progressive Ecosystem Development (ECODEV); **Suzanne Kelly-Lyall**, Deputy Director, PISA; **Jenny Springer**, Senior Director, People and Conservation, WWF; **Wynn Thane**, Senior Regional Program Officer, PACT; **Alessandro Pio**, Resident Director General, North American Representative Office, Asian Development Bank; **Keiichiro Nakazawa**, Chief Representative, JICA USA Office; **Liane Schalatek**, Associate Director, North American Office, Heinrich Boell Foundation; **Dr. James Foster**, Professor of Economics and International Affairs, GW.

**December 4, 2012: *Policy Briefing: ADB Accountability Mechanism 2012***, with **Rusdian Lubis**, Chairman, Compliance Review Panel (CRP), Asian Development Bank; **Geoffrey Crooks**, Principal Compliance Coordination Specialist, Office of the Compliance Review Panel (OCRP), Asian Development Bank (ADB).

**December 10, 2012: *Dilemmas of Climate Wise Development in Thailand***, with **Mr. Suppakorn Chinvanno**, Research Advisor, Southeast Asia START Regional Center.



## Featured Alumnus - Christopher Wyrod



**Christopher Wyrod** received his MA in International Development Studies from the Elliott School of International Affairs at GW in 2003. He currently works for **USAID/OTI (U.S. Agency for International Development/ Office of Transition Initiatives)** as Deputy Country Representative for Burma. Chris' interest in development was strengthened after spending five years teaching in rural Japan and West Africa as a Peace Corps volunteer. After returning to the U.S., Chris searched for a way to put his development experiences and time in Asia to use in a graduate program. **"In exploring graduate schools, it was important that I found a program that emphasized critical thinking and was flexible enough**

**to allow me to explore in depth some issues that I was thinking about, having worked in the development field in Africa and Asia."**

While enrolled at GW, Chris applied for and received a Freeman Foundation scholarship through the Sigur Center which allowed him to study Japanese classical music in Kyoto, Japan. Specifically, he studied Nagauta Shamisen performance of the Kabuki repertoire under master musician Hiroki Kineya. **"What is really great about the Elliott School is that there was so much access to different institutes and centers, such as the Sigur Center,"** he recalled. **"The Sigur Center is open to students with interdisciplinary interests, like myself."**

Chris joined USAID/OTI in 2010 as Deputy Country Representative for Sri Lanka, where he oversaw a \$23 million post-conflict stabilization and reintegration program. He began his current position in December, 2012. He will be assisting with the transition process that has been taking place in Burma, and helping to make sure that it remains a democratic one. He sees **"some incredible opportunities and initial positive signs"** following the recent thawing of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Burma. **"There is a lot of energy and optimism about what could happen."**

## Student Spotlight - Jackson Woods

**Jackson Woods** is a PhD candidate in Political Science at GW, with a concentration in Comparative Politics and International Relations. Jackson received a Sigur Center Summer Research Grant to conduct research in China in 2012. His research topic was "Chinese Popular Nationalism and Assertive PRC Diplomacy, 2009-2011." He conducted research primarily in Beijing and Tianjin, interviewing experts on Chinese foreign policy and government. This proved particularly useful as he has worked for three years as a Senior Research Assistant to Professor Bruce Dickson for a project entitled, "Generating Popular Support in China: Interest, Goods and Values." As part of this project he has traveled three times to Peking University to assist with the design and analysis of a nation-wide survey of urban residents.

One of the more memorable experiences he had while in China was being asked to give a lecture to Chinese MA students on U.S. views and perceptions of China. He recalls that students were often quick to ask questions about the more sensitive issues in U.S.-China relations, including Taiwan and human rights. **"Ultimately, it was a learning experience for me, as well as for them. I was forced to examine my own country's positions on various issues and to articulate the reasoning behind those policies."**

Jackson's academic focus on China began as an undergraduate at the University of Michigan. **"I was looking for a challenge,"**

he recalls. **"I was interested in Political Science, but it was also obvious to anyone that Chinese was the way to go. So I started taking Chinese and ultimately ended up with an Asian Studies degree in addition to Political Science."**

Jackson hopes to complete a book on the topic of nationalism in China and aspires to a career in academia where he can work extensively on issues related to China. In 2012 Jackson presented his research on "The Olympic Spirit: Chinese Popular Nationalism and Foreign Policy since 2008" to the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs at Western Michigan University.



## Faculty Focus - Robert Shepherd



**Robert Shepherd** is Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Honors and International Affairs at GW and a Sigur Center affiliated faculty member. Bob's interests lie heavily in anthropology and the cultural and social undertones of economic change. His current research analyzes the construction and development of a UNESCO-supported World Heritage site at Mount Wutai, China. Regarding how he became interested in anthropology and ultimately chose his academic focus, he prefers to give a lot of credit to what he calls **"a series of positive accidents."**

Bob received a BA in political science and history from the University of Delaware. He first became intrigued by Asia after taking a class on the modern history of Asia as well as a few introductory Chinese classes during his senior year. After earning an MA in history from Northeastern University, Bob joined the Peace Corps and was sent to Nepal for two and a half years. Bob credits this random assignment with helping to solidify his interest in Asia and anthropology. Bob recalls that **"living in a very small village in Nepal really got me interested in the questions of everyday life, more so than large foreign policy or state to state issues. I became interested in how, in a given place at a given time, how do all the regular folks get by given the circumstances in which they live?"** Bob's Peace Corps experience encouraged him to move to Washington, DC where he spent a year working for a refugee program funded by Arlington County, Virginia. The program helped to integrate refugees into society by offering classes on everyday living skills such as banking. With these credentials, Bob then applied for and received a position with the UN Development Program as a volunteer. Bob was then asked to go to China in this capacity. Arriving just a few months after the Tiananmen Square Massacre, he witnessed what he calls **"the complexities of oppression."** Bob recalls **"seeing the restrictions placed on everyday life while observing so many people who enjoyed positions of privilege."**

Complexity is something that continues to draw Bob to the field of anthropology. **"One of the things I like best about**

**anthropology is its willingness to embrace the complexities of issues. One of the key responsibilities of the university is to get undergraduates to recognize the realities of how complicated life is."** For instance, with Bob's research on World Heritage Sites, he initially accepted the idea that the construction of the site at Mount Wutai, China was all about politics or national identity. **"To the question of why the Chinese government would start investing resources in cultural preservation, one could say that it's about nation building and using history to cultivate a national identity. Well, that's only part of the answer. There are economic reasons; most heritage projects in China have to be funded locally and are therefore seen as income generating projects. I actually think it's fascinating that this [Chinese] government that was two generations ago evoking the destruction of the past is now becoming this strong proponent of preserving it. And it's not necessarily for the sake of preservation but modernization. Like a lot of issues in China, it's complicated... To me, the fact that these issues have no easy, cut and dry answers is something that needs to be recognized."**

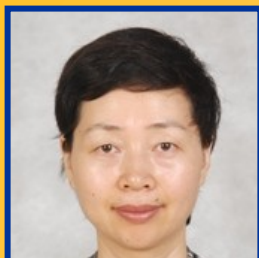


Bob has found the Sigur Center particularly welcoming and useful during his research endeavors. He observes that, despite being located in the Elliott School of International Affairs, which is often thought of as a strictly policy-focused institution, **"the Center is remarkably inclusive of both policy and non-policy related interests. It's truly a venue where a vibrant cross-fertilization of ideas can happen,"** says Bob. **"This is the one platform at GW for quality interaction on Asian-related issues for faculty of varying disciplines, such as business, political science, anthropology and so forth."** Bob's most recent publications include *Faith in Heritage: Displacement, Development, and Religious Tourism in Contemporary China*, (Heritage, Tourism & Community) published by Left Coast Press, and *Heritage Management, Tourism, and Governance in China*, co-authored with Larry Yu and published by Springer Press.



## Fall 2012 Visiting Scholars

In Summer and Fall of 2012, the Sigur Center hosted a record number of visiting scholars from seven countries. Visiting scholars continue to be a valuable part of the Sigur Center as they conduct research on a wide variety of issues, present their findings at Visiting Scholar Roundtables and participate in activities such as Sigur Center language tea times. The Sigur Center is proud of the quality and variety of its visiting scholars as they help to distinguish the Center in numerous ways. Here is a list of visiting scholars from July 2012 to the present:



**Xinxuan CHENG**, China (P.R.C.)  
Email: xinxuancheng@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: Professor, Hebei University, P.R.C.  
Research topic: **"Studies on New Regionalism in East Asia's Regional Economic Cooperation and Its Impacts on the U.S."**



**Hideko YOSHIMOTO**, Japan  
Email: hyoshimoto@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: Associate Professor, Yamaguchi Prefectural University, Japan  
Research topic: **"American Public Diplomacy and News Framing of Okinawa"**



**Julia COYM**, Germany  
Email: coymj@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: PhD Candidate, Free University of Berlin  
Research topic: **"Assessing Chinese decision-making on market access for foreign businesses in China"**



**Chingyu YAO**, Taiwan (R.O.C.)  
Email: cyao@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: Taiwan (R.O.C.) Foreign Ministry  
Research topic: **"Using Social Networking in Foreign Policy Consensus Building: Can the U.S. Model be Applied to Taiwan?"**



**Amy LERNER**, U.S.A.  
Email: ablerner@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: PhD Candidate, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill  
Research topic: **"Toward Successful Integration: School Personnel's Perspectives on Refugee Youth from Burma"**



**Michael YAHUDA**, United Kingdom  
Email: yahuda@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: Professor Emeritus, London School of Economics  
Research topic: **"Sino-Japanese Relations: Bridging the Gap"**



**Siyoung PARK**, Republic of Korea  
Email: sympark@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: Major, ROK Army; PhD Candidate, University of North Korean Studies - South Korea  
Research topic: **"Calculated North Korea Military Adventurism and the ROK-US Alliance"**



**Ke-ming (Calvin) YEN**, Taiwan (R.O.C.)  
Email: yen@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: Taiwan (R.O.C.) Foreign Ministry  
Research topic: **"Evaluation of China's Public Diplomacy in the U.S."**



**Junya NISHINO**, Japan  
Email: nishino@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: Associate Professor, Keio University  
Research topic: **"The Evolution of Cooperation between Japan and South Korea in the post Cold War Period: Focusing on the Role of the United States"**

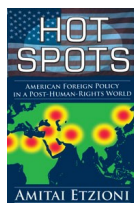


**Zhenling (Kathy) WANG**, China (R.O.C.)  
Email: kathywzhl@gwu.edu  
Affiliation: PhD Candidate, China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing  
Research topic: **"The China Factor in U.S.-European Relations after the Cold War"**

# Selected Publications

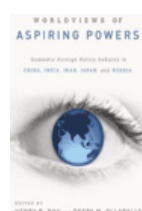
## Books

**Amitai Etzioni**, *Hot Spots: American Foreign Policy in a Post-Human- Rights World*, Transaction Publishers, 2012.



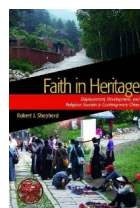
**Carl Goodman**, *The Rule of Law in Japan: A Comparative Analysis, 3rd Revised Edition*, The Netherlands: Kluwer Law International, 2012.

**Marlene Laurelle**, co-authored with **Sébastien Peyrouse**, *The Chinese Question in Central Asia: Domestic Order, Social Change, and The Chinese Factor*, Columbia University Press, 2012.



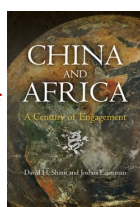
**Deepa Ollapally**, co-edited with **Henry Nau**, *Worldviews of Aspiring Powers: Domestic Foreign Policy Debates in China, India, Iran, Japan, and Russia*, Oxford University Press: 2012.

**Robert Shepherd**, *Faith in Heritage: Displacement, Development, and Religious Tourism in Contemporary China, (Heritage, Tourism & Community)*, Left Coast Press: 2013.



**Robert Shepherd**, co-authored with **Larry Yu**, *Heritage Management, Tourism, and Governance in China*, Springer Press, 2013.

**David Shinn**, co-authored with **Joshua Eisenman**, *China and Africa: A Century of Engagement*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012.



## Journal Articles and Book Chapters

**Steve Balla**, "Information Technology, Political Participation, and the Evolution of Chinese Policymaking," *Journal of Contemporary China*. Vol. 21, Issue 76 (July 2012), 655-673.

**Alasdair Bowie**, "Governance: A Development Perspective." In Joanna Spear and Paul D. Williams, eds., *Security and Development in Global Politics: A Critical Comparison*, Georgetown: Georgetown University Press, (March) 2012.

**Patricia Chu**, "Marie Myung-Ok Lee, Deann Borshay Liem, and the Adoptees's Search for Origins' Narrative," *Journal of Korean Adoption Studies*. Vol. 3, (June 2012): In press.

**Patricia Chu**, "America in the Heart": Political Desire in Younghill Kang, Carlos Bulosan, Milton Muranama, and John Okada." 2000. *Asian American Literature. Volume II: Prose: Fiction and Non-fiction*. Ed. David Leiwei Li. London and New York: Routledge, 2012. 1-29.

**William Cummings** (Ed), *Crossing Borders in Higher Education: Perspectives on East Asia*. Edited by Gerard Postiglione and David Chapman. Springer & Hong Kong University Press, 2010.

**Sean Roberts**, "Kazakhstan and the United States: Twenty Years of Ambiguous Partnership," *Atlantic Council Issue Brief*, 2012.

**Robert Shepherd**, (2012) "Shaping Heritage to Serve Development: Bureaucratic Conflict & Local Agency at Two Chinese Heritage Sites" in Sarah Lyon & Christian Wells (eds.) *Global Tourism: Cultural Heritage and Economic Encounters*. Landham, MD: Alta Mira Press, 61-80.

**Stephen Smith**, "The Scope of Nongovernmental Organizations and Development Program Design: Application to Problems of Multidimensional Poverty," *Public Administration and Development*, Volume 32, Issue 4-5 (2012), 357-370.

**Robert Sutter**, "China's Rise: Evolution and Implications," *The Far East and Australia* 2012: 43rd Edition, Europa Regional Surveys of the World Book Series. (London, Routledge, November, 2012): 3-10.

**Robert Sutter**, "China-Southeast Asia Relations: China Muscles Opponents on South China Sea," *Comparative Connections* Vol. 14, No.2 (September 2012)

**Robert Weiner**, Y Jeong, RJ Weiner, "Who Bribes: Evidence from the UN Oil-for-Food Program", *Strategic Management Journal*, DOI: 10.1002/smj.1986, 2012



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