Dear members: The Asia and Asian America Section has been an important intellectual home and support group for me over the past twenty years. I am grateful and honored to have the opportunity to serve as chair of the section this year. I thank the past chair, Jiannbin Lee Shiao for his mentoring and sage advice, council members for their support and guidance, and Anthony Ocampo for all the hard work he has put in as the secretary-treasurer-newsletter editor. I also thank the many volunteers who have been willing to run for the various section positions, and those who will be serving as award committee members, session organizers, and as presiders for our roundtables and sessions.
From the Section Chair, PREMA KURIEN

I strongly believe that members of our section have much to contribute to the vigorous debates taking place in the United States and around the globe about pressing current issues. Asia is our largest continent and more than half of the people on the planet live in this region. Asians are extraordinarily heterogeneous in terms of historical experience, racial identity, religion, culture, language, as well as economic and political location. Since Asian Americans are defined solely by geographical origin or ancestry, they are the most diverse community in the United States. Asian Americans are multi-racial, multi-religious, multi-linguistic, multi-cultural, and come from a range of economic backgrounds. While some see this diversity as a liability, I regard it as a strength since it means that scholars of Asia and Asian America focus on a wide swath of topics, groups, and countries.

We have recently witnessed dramatic developments in the Asian region with the rise of violent ethnic and religious conflicts, the nuclear standoff with North Korea, the increase in climate refugees, and the surge in women’s rights movements and caste-based social justice activism. In the last year, we have also seen an escalation of racial and religious tensions in the United States, the likelihood of deportation of individuals who have been brought up in this country, and also worries about health care, under-employment, unemployment, and the impact of climate change. Scholars working on Asia and Asian America contribute to the understanding of all these problems. Our members are also uniquely positioned to be at the forefront of efforts to conceive of solutions for many of the dilemmas we face today, precisely because of the diversity of Asia and Asian America.

I look forward to hearing papers dealing with these issues and others in Philadelphia and to connecting with many of you there!

Best wishes,

Prema Kurien
Chair, ASA Section on Asia and Asian America
Professor and Chair
Department of Sociology
Syracuse University
GET TO KNOW YOUR SECTION OFFICERS

**Section Chair**

Prema Kurien is Professor and Chair of Sociology as well as the founding director of the Asian/Asian American Studies program at Syracuse University. She is the author of two award-winning books, *Kaleidoscopic Ethnicity: International Migration and the Reconstruction of Community Identities in India*, and *A Place at the Multicultural Table: The Development of an American Hinduism*. Her third book, *Ethnic Church Meets Mega Church: Indian American Christianity in Motion* was published this summer. She is currently working on her next book, *Race, Religion, and Citizenship: Indian American Political Advocacy*, and on a research project, “The Political Incorporation of Religious Minorities in Canada and the United States.”

Ph.D. Brown University

Research Areas: Race, religion, and political incorporation, second generation, South Asian Americans

**Chair Elect**

Angie Y. Chung is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University at Albany and former Visiting Professor at Yonsei and Korea University. In addition to being Chair-Elect for this section, she is the former program co-chair for the 2017 Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS) conference and the founding chair of the AAAS Social Science Caucus. She is author of *Saving Face: The Emotional Costs of the Asian Immigrant Family Myth* (Rutgers University Press, 2016) and *Legacies of Struggle: Conflict and Cooperation in Korean American Politics* (Stanford University Press, 2007). She is currently conducting research for a National Science Foundation-funded project on immigrant redevelopment politics in Koreatown and Monterey Park.

Ph.D. UCLA

Research Areas: ethnic politics, interethnic coalitions, immigrant families, ethnic enclaves, globalization of higher education, and second generation
GET TO KNOW YOUR SECTION OFFICERS

Past Chair

Jiannbin Lee Shiao is associate professor and associate head of sociology at the University of Oregon. His empirical work has employed comparative, interpretive, and quantitative methods to examine significant cases of interracial relations in the United States, with a recurring emphasis on the experiences of Asian Americans. He is the author of Identifying Talent, Institutionalizing Diversity: Race and Philanthropy in Post-Civil Rights America (2005) and Choosing Ethnicity, Negotiating Race: Korean Adoptees in America (2011, with Mia Tuan), as well as articles in the American Journal of Sociology, Comparative Sociology, Sociological Theory, Asian American, Policy Review, Du Bois Review: Social Science, Research on Race, Race and Society, and Contexts.

Ph.D. UC Berkeley

Research Areas: Interracial friendships and relationships, socio-genomics, transracial adoption, racial/ethnic identities, and organizational diversity policies

Secretary/Treasurer

Anthony Ocampo is Associate Professor of Sociology at Cal Poly Pomona and a Ford Foundation Fellow. He is author of The Latinos of Asia: How Filipino Americans Break the Rules of Race (Stanford Press) and co-editor of Contemporary Asian America (with Min Zhou, NYU Press). His writing and commentaries on race and LGBTQ issues have appeared in NPR, NPR affiliates, The New York Times, and the San Francisco Chronicle. More recently, his story and research on gay children of immigrants have appeared in Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant's new book Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy.

Ph.D. UCLA

Research Areas: Immigration, Race and Ethnicity, Culture

Graduate Student Representative

Yu Guo, or simply Rachel, is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology. Her research focuses on social inequality broadly with research topics in such diverse fields as political economy, labor, intersectionality, demography, and gender. Rachel's dissertation studies rural migrant factory workers in China and how they subjectively understand and navigate the process of capitalist production in the specific cultural and social contexts of China. The study was awarded a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant.

Ph.D. Candidate at University of Maryland – College Park

Research Areas: social inequality, class, gender, intersectionality, global capitalism, labor, culture, demography
Dana Y. Nakano is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at California State University, Stanislaus. He is currently working on his first book project, titled *Racial Uniform: The Limits and Practices of Japanese American Citizenship*, which utilizes the framework of substantive citizenship to explore the role of race in the persistent ethnic identity and community formation practices of third and fourth generation Japanese as a critique of sociological immigrant assimilation theories and a demonstration of the limits of citizenship. His article, “An Interlocking Panethnicity: The Negotiation of Collective Identity Among Asian American Social Movement Leaders” (2013, *Sociological Perspectives* 56.4) contrasts with prior research that views panethnicity and ethnicity as distinct situational identities. This article demonstrates that panethnic and ethnic identities are better understood as interlocking, simultaneous and mutually affecting. Dana is also co-editing an anthology on Japanese American millennial youth with Dr. Michael Omi and Jeffrey Yamashita.

Ph.D. UC Irvine

Research Areas: Race, Citizenship, Community Formation

Yang Sao Xiong is Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work and the Program in Asian American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He completed his Ph.D. in sociology from UCLA. His research examines Hmong Americans' socioeconomic mobility, educational attainment and political incorporation in the United States in order to shed light on immigrants' processes of assimilation and immigrant groups' processes of political incorporation. He serves on the editorial review boards of the *Hmong Studies Journal* and the *Journal of Southeast Asian American Education and Advancement*. Xiong is Hmong American and a son of Hmong parents who fought for the United States government during America's Secret War in Laos and who became political refugees as a result of that tragedy. In 2015, he was appointed by the United States Commission on Civil Rights to serve as a member of its Wisconsin Advisory Committee.

Ph.D. UCLA

Research Areas: Immigrant political incorporation; social mobility of and durable inequalities confronting immigrants; language minority students' access to college; Asian Americans; Hmong Americans
GET TO KNOW YOUR SECTION OFFICERS

**Council Member**

**Victoria Reyes** is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Riverside. She previously taught in Bryn Mawr College's Growth and Structure of Cities Department. She studies boundaries; how they are created and remade as well as how they shape inequality in global settings. She has examined these processes as they relate to leisure migration, cultural politics, and legally plural, foreign-controlled places she calls “global borderlands.” Dr. Reyes’s work has been published in *Social Forces* (forthcoming), *Ethnography, Theory and Society, City & Community, Poetics*, and *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*. She has also written for the Monkey Cage at the Washington Post, and Inside Higher Ed, and received fellowships from the Institute of International Education, the National Science Foundation, and the ASA.

Ph.D. Princeton University

Research Areas: research intersects the fields of Global/Transnational Sociology, Economic Sociology, Urban Sociology, and Culture, and speaks to work on race/ethnicity, gender, and empire

**Council Member**

**Karen D. Pyke** is a critical race feminist theorist. Pyke's research on Asian Americans contributes to intersectional theory and the study of internalized oppression. Recently she examines the institutional practices undergirding faculty gender inequity in academia. Pyke's earlier research on Korean and Vietnamese Americans examined the "normal American family" as a controlling ideology that informs how children of immigrants understand their family lives; acculturative differences and power among siblings in immigrant families; and the internalization of racial and gender stereotypes in the construction of individual and sub-ethnic identities. Pyke has received several research and teaching awards, including the Distinguished Paper Award from the ASA’s Sex & Gender Section for the *Gender & Society* article, “Asian American Women and Racialized Femininities;” the Dean Dorn Teaching Award from the Pacific Sociological Association; and the Innovative Teaching Award from her campus. Currently, Pyke was president of the Pacific Sociological Association (2016-2017), and is a visiting professor at St. George’s University in Grenada, West Indies while on leave from Univ. of Calif., Riverside.

Ph.D. UC Irvine

Research Areas: Gender, Race, Internalized Oppression, 2nd generation Asian Americans
GET TO KNOW YOUR SECTION OFFICERS

Council Member

Minjeong Kim is an associate professor of sociology at San Diego State University. Kim has published several journal articles and book chapters on Filipina marriage migration to Korea and is the author of the forthcoming volume, *Elusive Belonging: Marriage Immigrants and “Multiculturalism” in Rural South Korea* (2018, University of Hawai’i Press). Currently, she is conducting research on Korean Immigrants on the U.S.–Mexico border. She has served for professional organizations in various roles, including the editor of World on the Move, the newsletter of ASA’s International Migration Section (2011-2015). In addition to serving as a council member for the Asia and Asian America section, Kim is the president elect for the Association for Korean Sociologists in America.

Ph.D. University at Albany, State University of New York

Research Areas: gender and family, international migration, politics of belonging, the media

Council Member

Paul Y. Chang is Associate Professor of Sociology and serves on the Executive Committee of the Korea Institute at Harvard University. He is the author of *Protest Dialectics: State Repression and South Korea’s Democracy Movement, 1970-1979* (Stanford University Press 2015) and co-editor of *South Korean Social Movements: From Democracy to Civil Society* (Routledge 2011). Chang’s research on social and political change in South Korea has appeared in several disciplinary and area studies journals including *Social Forces, Mobilization, and the Journal of Korean Studies*. He is currently embarking on a new project exploring various manifestations of Korea’s changing family structure including rising rates of divorce, unwed mothers, and elderly suicide.

Ph.D. Stanford University

Research Areas: Social Movements, Family, Korea

Public Liaison

Nancy Wang Yuen is an Associate Professor and the Chair of the Department of Sociology at Biola University. She is an expert scholar and speaker on race and media, appearing on BBC World TV, NPR, Los Angeles Times, and Washington Post. She is the author of *Reel Inequality: Hollywood Actors and Racism* (2016), the first book to examine the barriers actors of color face in Hollywood and how they creatively challenge stereotypes. She also pioneered, along with a team of researchers, the first study of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders on television and the 10-year followup study, *Tokens on the Small Screen: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders on Prime Time and Streaming Television* (2017). Nancy is an Associate Professor and the Chair of the Sociology Department at Biola University in La Mirada, California. Follow her on twitter (@nancywyuen).

Ph.D. UCLA

Research Areas: Race and Ethnicity, Media Studies, Asian American Studies
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SECTION AWARD WINNERS!

BOOK AWARD (Asia/Transnational)

Co-winner

RESEARCH PAPER AWARD

Winner

Honorable Mention
BOOK AWARD (Asian American)

**Winner**

**Honorable Mention**

CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIELD AWARD
Grace Kao, Yale University

GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

**Winner**
Le Lin, “Capitalism Out of the Shadow: Double Ambiguity and the Privatization and Marketization of China’s Education and Training Industry”

**Honorable Mention**
Armand Gutierrez, "A family affair: how and why second-generation Filipino-Americans engage in transnational social and economic connections"
ASA SESSIONS FOR 2018

Race in Asia and Asian America

This session is open to papers discussing any aspect of race or descent-based discrimination (e.g. the Indian caste system, burakumin in Japan, Rohingya in Myanmar, prejudice against immigrants) in Asian countries, in Asian America, or transnationally across Asia and Asian America.

Organizer: Kazuko Suzuki, Yale University kazuko.suzuki@yale.edu

Social and Political Movements in Asia and Asian America

This session welcomes papers dealing with social and political movements of any kind: migration, as well as social, economic, cultural, ideological, or political movements in Asia, Asian America, or transnationally.

Organizer: Jennifer Chun, University of Toronto jj.chun@utoronto.ca

Author-Meets-Critic Session

Angie Y. Chung’s book Saving Face: The Emotional Costs of the Asian Immigrant Family Myth (Rutgers University Press 2016) will be featured at an Author-Meets-Critic Session at the 2018 American Sociological Association conference.

CALL FOR PAPERS AT EASSSR

RELIGIOSITY, SECULARITY AND PLURALISM IN THE GLOBAL EAST

The Inaugural Conference of the East Asian Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

July 3-5, 2018 @Singapore

While all topics on religion are welcome at the conference, we especially invite abstracts that address one or more of the following research questions:

- How do the constituent parts of the Global East influence the strengthening, weakening or changing of religion and religiosity at different social scales (from the individual to the community and nation)?
- How does secularity intersect with religiosity within the Global East, and how does each inflect the other?
- How does the religious diversity associated with the Global East lead to greater (or lesser) inter-religious and religious-secular co-operation, competition or conflict?
- How does an understanding of the Global East develop or challenge existing theoretical and empirical understandings of religiosity, secularity and pluralism?

For questions, please email: easssr2017@gmail.com. See www.easssr.org for more information.


RECENT JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS


Chaudhary, Ali R. 2017. “Voting Here and There: Political Incorporation and Transnational Political Engagement Among Immigrants in Europe.” *Global Networks*. (page number n/a)


RECENT JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS


MEDIA STORIES


OPPORTUNITY

Fellowship: Henry Luce Foundation/American Council of Learned Society Postdoctoral Fellowships in China Studies (https://www.acls.org/programs/china-studies/#postdoc)