

CURRENENTS

Newsletter of the University of California's Pacific Rim Research Program
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Look for Pacific Rim Research Program on the WEB

The Pacific Rim Research Program can be found at:

<http://ucop.edu/research/pacrim/>

New features, such as the "Bibliography and Archive," provide an overview of a decade of Pacific Rim scholarship in California and around the world.

Conferences to Highlight Policy-Relevant Pacific Rim Research

Over the course of 1999-2000, the Pacific Rim Research Program will sponsor and organize four conferences around UC to bring Pacific Rim scholarship into the public eye. Funded by an award from the UC Multi-campus Research Units Special Projects Competition, the conferences will highlight PacRim research with direct relevance to the welfare of the state of California.

The first conference, entitled "Economic Interdependence in the Pacific Rim: Implications for the State of California" is scheduled for May 7-8 at UC Berkeley. Approximately 15 distinguished UC faculty members and graduate students will present their findings to the campus community, business leaders, state policy-makers and the media. Afterwards the program will, with the assistance of the California Policy Research Center, publish

policy briefs to be sent to state legislators, in an effort to apprise them of the vast amount of policy-relevant Pacific Rim research taking place at UC. (Continued on page 4, column 2)

1999-2000 Grants to Be Announced May 1

The PRRP Executive Committee will meet in late April to assess proposals forwarded from the campuses, and to make final funding decisions. The Program expects to fund 25 to 30 proposals from among the approximately 75 it receives. Awards should be announced by May 1, 1999

For the list of 1998-99 and previous grant awards, visit the PRRP website.

Reinventing Confucianism

As nations in East and Southeast Asia have modernized and developed economically over the past two decades, there has been a resurgence of positive cultural interest in

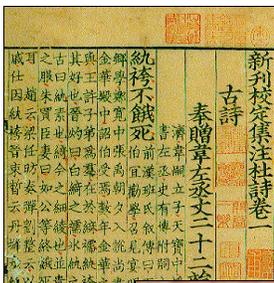
Confucianism—the system of morality and ethics which has held sway in East Asia for centuries, derived ultimately from the teachings of Confucius (551-479 B.C.) UCLA historians Benjamin Elman, John Duncan and Herman Ooms convened, in late 1997 through the spring of 1998, a

series of four conferences to examine this resurgence, especially in light of the ironic fact that an earlier generation of

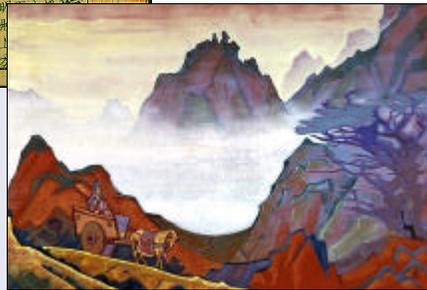
influential Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese and Japanese intellectuals at

the turn of the century condemned Confucianism as an obstacle to modernity.

(Continued on page 5, column 2).



(Above): Qing dynasty woodblock print of the poems of Du Fu (712-777), hallowed poet of the Confucian tradition. (Right): Confucius the Just One, (1926), tempera on canvas, by Nicholas Roerich (1874-1947), Russian-born visionary and pacifist. Roerich Museum, online; Bolling



Pacific Rim Research Program FAQs

PRRP Executive Committee members and staff often receive inquiries from the UC campus community about aspects of the grant program. Here are answers to some of the most common questions:

How is the term "Pacific Rim" defined?

For the purposes of the Program, the term "Pacific Rim" encompasses all states and nations that border the Pacific Ocean, including all of Southeast Asia.

Who is eligible to apply for a PRRP grant?

UC faculty and staff (including research staff, librarians, curators, etc.) who are eligible to be Principal Investigators on their campus may apply. UC graduate students may also apply, but must have faculty sponsorship. Visiting faculty and graduate students who will have received their PhD by the start of the grant may not apply as PI's, but may serve as collaborators.

Can PRRP grants be used to pay salary?

Normally only graduate students may include sal-

ary in their budget proposals; faculty may not claim salary support in their budgets

What is a "planning grant?"

The PRRP awards grants of up to \$15,000 for endeavors which will eventually lead to full-scale research projects. This usually involves the organizing of conferences and workshops, or collaborative meetings meant to develop a line of inquiry. Planning grants may also be used to disseminate research findings.

What can mini-grants be used for?

Small amounts normally not exceeding \$1000 are awarded on a quarterly basis to faculty and graduate students, who may use these grants to disseminate findings, arrange meetings, travel for research purposes (but not, in the case of faculty, for conference travel), and almost any endeavor related to research. Graduate students may also use mini-grants for all aspects of pre- and post-dissertation enhancement, including travel to conferences.

Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance Receives Luce Foundation Award

The Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance, headquartered at UC San Diego, has received a three-year, \$300,000 award from the Henry Luce Foundation to build a multi-lingual gateway to Pacific Rim library resources. The award will enable the Alliance, a year-old consortium of 13 academic libraries around the region, to give scholars access to databases in many Asian languages, to start up a Pacific Explorations Archive of documents chronicling the history of Pacific exploration, and to extend its Chinese Serials Database.

"We are deeply grateful to the Luce Foundation for this pivotal support," said Phyllis S. Mirsky, UCSD's interim university librarian. "The Foundation's investment in the Alliance will profoundly affect intellectual exchange and mutual understanding between East and West."

The Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance was launched in October, 1997 to link major libraries across the political, linguistic and technical boundaries of the Pacific Rim. The concept grew out of a UCSD project led by Karl Lo, director of the campus's Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies (IR/PS). Charter members of the Alliance include the Academia Sinica in Taipei, the Australian National University Library in Canberra, El Colegio de Mexico Library, the UC Berkeley Library, the University of British Columbia Library, and eight other major institutions around the Pacific Rim.



The Luce Foundation support will enable representatives of all 13 member libraries to meet at UCSD in the spring of 1999, and to begin work on innovative projects. Plans include a Pacific Rim interlibrary loan system that will allow a user to request and receive digitalized items via the Internet within hours. More information on the Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance can be found at <http://www.prdla.org>.

Recent Research Findings

A number of UC researchers and their collaborators have recently completed Pacific Rim research projects and workshops.



Professor **Margaret Wallhagen** (Physiological Nursing, UCSF) completed a cross-cultural study of elder caregiving in the United States and Japan. Noting that changing demographics throughout PacRim nations have focused attention on long-term care and put pressure on health care systems, Professor Wallhagen and her collaborators examined how cultural and situational factors influence the caregiving role and how these factors might affect policy development and health care reform.

While caregivers in both countries, the researchers found, expressed similar feelings of emotional pain, loss and life restrictions, there were significant differences in attitude and practice, based on differences in world view and societal norms. American caregivers, for instance, acted on their beliefs in the importance of individualism, separateness of persons, and an orderly, understandable, and controllable world that involved reason. For instance, they tried to maintain strong personal boundaries between themselves and their parents, respecting personal privacy and individual choice. American caregivers, moreover, tended to view caregiving as something other than a "normal life" and expressed frustration and anger when dealing with a parent's dementia.

Japanese caregivers, on the other hand, tended to act on their beliefs in a more collectivist/interdependent world where intuition and connectedness assumed greater importance. Japanese caregivers, for instance, generally viewed caregiving as "a matter of course," often anticipating the role from early days of marriage. They appeared to be more comfortable assuming decisions on their parent's behalf, and were better prepared to deal with the personal care of an aged parent, often viewing themselves as extensions of the parent. Japanese caregivers, moreover, were more accepting of inability to reason and comprehend, and felt less frustration on the whole. The researchers continue to revise the schema based on these data.

Irene Tinker, Professor in the Departments of City and Regional Planning, and Women's Studies at

UCB, is soon to publish a volume of essays concerning the social status of women in East and Southeast Asia, the result of a 1995-96 PRRP grant. Entitled *Women's Changing Rights to House and Land in Vietnam, Laos, and China*, the collaborative effort will examine issues such as property rights of women in Vietnam and Laos, housing reform in China, and gender aspects of housing policy formation in the region. The volume will be published by Lynne Rienner Publishers in early 1999.

The prolific team of UCI Professor **Kenneth Kraemer** and UCI Senior Researcher **Jason Dedrick** recently completed work on a book entitled,



Asia's Computer Challenge: Threat or Opportunity for the U.S., now available from Oxford University Press. The book examines the rapid rise of computer industries in the Asia Pacific region, identifies the key factors explaining their different levels of success, and draws out the implications for the U.S.

and Asian Pacific countries as they compete in this new global industry.

The phrase *Asia's Computer Challenge* carries two interpretations here: first, while Asian countries have thus far played a largely complementary role with the U.S. in many segments of the industry—particularly in computer hardware—in the long run Asian companies are likely to challenge American companies in all segments of the industry.

Second, the book's title refers to the challenges facing Asian countries themselves: if Asia is unable to move beyond hardware to develop competitive software, it will be relegated to one brutally competitive segment of the industry, unable to eke out profits over the long term. The researchers see a need for Asian companies to change perspectives, to stop valuing production over use, hardware over software, and tangibles over intangibles. They find that with few exceptions this change, though happening, is incremental and lagging behind the accelerated pace of "Internet time." Without more radical change, they see much of Asia facing the prospect of missing out on the vast potential of the network era.

More Research Findings

Professor **Richard Appelbaum** (Sociology, UCSB) has been conducting research on the apparel industry in California and the Pacific Rim, and will soon publish a book, *Behind the Label: Inequality in the Los Angeles Garment Industry*, co-authored by **Edna Bonacich** (Sociology, UCR). He has also published a number of articles with UCSB graduate student **Judi Kessler** (herself a 1998-99 PRRP researcher) who is studying the effects of North American economic integration on the Southern California-Mexico apparel industry.

With PRRP funding awarded in 1995-96, a network of neonatal intensive care nurseries was established throughout the Pacific Rim by Professor **William Tausch** (Pediatrics, UCSF) and collaborators, to study varying outcomes of very low birth-weight babies in the region. Their aims were to assess differences in such babies' prognoses in countries as different as Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and the US, and to identify the clinical practices and other factors associated with outcomes at each nursery. The researchers found marked differences in infant survival rates when controlled for both gestational age and birthweight, with the highest survival rates at the Tokyo, Hong Kong and Melbourne, Australia facilities; San Francisco General Hospital fared less well. As for clinical practices, the researchers were surprised to find that some medical procedures that had been found to have beneficial effects on survival in other North American studies, such as the use of antenatal steroids and use of surfactant, did not correlate with improved outcomes at all nurseries; in fact Tokyo showed the lowest incidence of these practices. With a second PRRP grant awarded in 1997, the team will study how decisions are made for the clinical management of these infants.

UCSC graduate student **Jeanine Bailliu** has been studying the links between domestic financial development, international financial integration, and economic growth in the Pacific Rim. She finds that less-developed Pacific Rim nations are, because of ties to the U.S. and Japan, being financially integrated with international capital markets at a much faster pace than comparable nations in other regions, such as Africa. This regional interdependence, she argues, is unique to the Pacific Rim.



UCB doctoral candidate in Political Science **Regina Abrami** is completing work on her dissertation on the "floating populations" of Vietnam and China, the in-country migrants from rural areas that have come to reside "temporarily" in Vietnam's capital of Hanoi, and in the coastal cities of China. While scholarship thus far has tended to view such migrants as outside of the "official" economy, Abrami has found in her fieldwork a vigor and sustainability of itinerant livelihoods suggesting not their exclusion from the economy, but their integration into it. Peddlers of various goods, from plastic wares to fruit, many of whom are "floaters," are integral, she finds, to the economy of Hanoi. The researcher discovered, moreover, a high degree of continuity between past and present trading practices, despite the implementation over the past few decades of a "market socialist" economy: the tradition of wandering traders and laborers continues to fuel the waves of circulation between the city and the countryside.

Pacific Rim conferences

(Continued from page 1)

A second conference, on "Emerging Public Health Issues Among California's Pacific Rim Community," is tentatively scheduled to take place at the UCLA School of Public Health in November of 1999, with the School's co-sponsorship. Issues to be addressed will include the epidemiology of HIV, tuberculosis and other diseases threatening the regions; problems in reaching East and Southeast Asian immigrant groups living in California with proper medical care; assessments of dietary practice in the region; controlling tobacco consumption; assessing the correlation between dietary practices and disease prevention; and the use of Asian language mass-media for public health outreach in California.

The two conferences slated for 2000 will address comparative educational practice in the region (to take place at UC Santa Barbara in the spring) and environmental/agricultural issues and policies (scheduled for UC Davis in the fall.) It is hoped that all four conferences and the resulting policy briefs will serve to highlight and define new and emerging areas of concern for state legislators, and will help shape the direction of state policy for years to come.



Pacific Rim Research Program FAQs

(Continued from page 2).

Are application forms for PRRP grants available on-line?

Applications forms for the 2000-2001 competition should be available this summer online in PDF form at the Program website.

As a humanist, I'm discouraged from multi-authoring, and extensive collaboration can be burdensome. How does the PRRP accommodate this?

Recognizing this fact, the Program recently emended its guidelines to state that "collaboration is broadly defined and need not be required in all aspects of the research." That is, while some effort towards collaboration is expected, projects which lend themselves to a single Principal Investigator with limited collaborators will receive the same consideration as all others.

My research centers on just a single Pacific Rim country. Will I be disqualified from the competition?

Research proposals with a single-country focus will not be disqualified. However, single-country projects whose findings can be extended to other regions of the Pacific Rim may stand a better chance of being funded.

Can my grant be extended for a longer period?

Investigators can usually receive a one-year no-cost extension of their grant, upon written application to the PRRP Grants Administrator. Extensions beyond one additional year are normally not allowed.

What are my reporting responsibilities after receiving a grant?

Principal Investigators must submit a brief report (1500-4000 words) on completed projects to the PRRP Grants Administrator by December 1 of the year in which the project is completed. The report should be suitable for publication to a general audience. Portions of the report may be used in the Program's dissemination activities, including publication in *CURRENTS*.



Rethinking Confucianism

(continued from page 1).

How can the positive assessment of Confucianism in the 1990s be reconciled, they asked, with its widespread condemnation in the 1890s? Are Korea, Japan and Vietnam still understandable in light of the pervasive influence of China in East and Southeast Asia? Is the 21st century to be the "Pacific Century" with Confucianism as the "moral software" driving the "hardware" of East Asian authoritarian capitalism?

The workshops thus undertook a "rethinking" of the historical links between past and present in Asian Confucianism. In particular the participants, a multidisciplinary group of older and younger scholars from both North America and Asia, reevaluated the contribution of Confucianism over time from the unique national perspectives of China, Vietnam, Japan and Korea. They concluded that, far from being an obstacle to growth (as believed in the 19th century) or from providing a systematic basis for development (as envisioned in the 1980s), Confucianism itself was neither responsible for, nor the cause of the Asian upturn prior to 1998. Nor was it the cause, they came to believe, of Asian backwardness before 1900. Instead it became clear to the panelists that each country has always adapted Confucianism to suit the interests of its leading social elites and political leaders.



The workshops laid the foundation for a final conference "Rethinking Confucianism in Asia" to be held at UCLA in June, 1999. The conferees will publish a monograph examining what exactly—if anything—"Confucianism" means for the contemporary era, findings which are likely to challenge banal perspectives of a pan-East Asian *modus operandi*.



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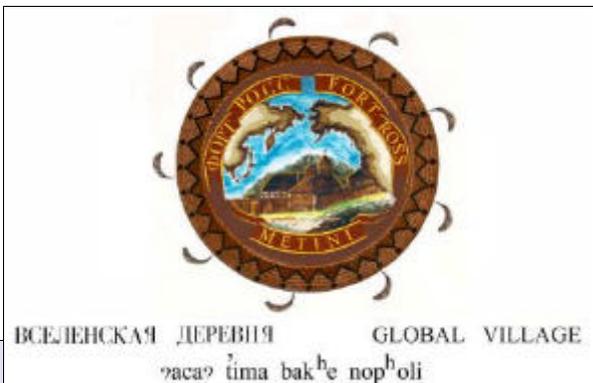
View new and previous editions of *CURRENTS* on-line at the PRRP website at :
<http://ucop.edu/research/pacrim/>.

This issue of *CURRENTS* was designed and edited by Martin Backstrom.
Suggestions and contributions are welcome

Oral Traditions of the North Pacific Rim: A Performance Workshop at Fort Ross

The northern California community of Fort Ross, once home to Russian settlers who arrived from Siberia via Alaska, was again the site for the meeting of cultures, as traditional artists, educators and scholars from Siberia, Alaska, California and Europe convened on November 4-7, 1997, to commemorate this early crossroads of culture. Through the medium of shared stories and songs, they retraced the arc of contact, pooled their creative talents, and brought living vitality to age-old arts of peoples whose traditional homes span the vast northern Pacific Rim. Organized by Professor **Ronelle Alexander** (Slavic Languages, UCB), and co-sponsored by the PRRP and the Rockefeller Foundation, the workshop laid the basis for coordinated future initiatives dedicated to the preservation of traditional storytelling, singing and dancing from regions stretching from Siberia to California.

The workshop brought these living traditions to light through both performance and scholarly presentations. Professor **Yuri Sheikin**, for instance, of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Shaka



Seal of the Fort Ross project, with inscriptions in Russian and Kashaya. The fort is depicted atop the name of the nearby Kashaya village of Metini and is surrounded by a stylized Pomo basket.

(Yakutia), Siberia and UCB Visiting Professor, spoke on "The Musical Folklore of the Yukagir, Tungus and Yakut [Peoples]". Dancers from Siberia, Alaska and California responded to these lectures, and gave concerts demonstrating their traditional arts. Several lecturers, including Professor **Leanne Hinton** (Linguistics, UCB) and Professor **Tjeerd De Graaf** (Gronigen University) spoke of progress and setbacks in efforts to preserve these traditions, in both northeast Asia and northwest North America, including California.

Members of a number of regional cultures were present: **Anfissa Avelova** of the Evenk/Tungus tradition of Siberia; **Curtis Barrows**, representing the Nomlaki/Noimuk/Pomo tradition of California; **Arlo Davis**, of Chugiak Alaska, representing the Inupiak and Alaskan village tradition; **Leonora Florendo**, of the Tinglit tribe of Alaska; **Chuna MacIntyre**, representing the Central Yup'ik Eskimos; **Otis Parrish** of the California Indian Museum,

The Kuskov house at Fort Ross, reconstruction of the residence of Ivan Alexandrovich Kuskov, who founded the fort in 1812.



a descendent of the Kashaya Pomos, and **Matriona Tokhtossova**, representing the Yukagir tradition of northeastern Siberia, among many others. All were devoted to a common goal: to experience traditional arts as a living thing, and to work together to find ways to preserve this heritage in the face of a dominant culture.

The workshop, in fact, resulted directly in a number of research initiatives, including, notably, the establishment of the "Program on Tradition and Community," an interdisciplinary international network of scholars based at UCB. Documentary accounts, including video and audio records, are underway; scholars from Siberia and California established contact and developed new ways to work together; natives and community people interacted with scholars (and watched them interact with each other), gaining a better understanding of how scholars think and approach their work. Scholars came to better understand that the community within which they were temporary guests supported not only their presence but also the goals of their work. All participants saw the creative results of good field work—the lasting bond of respect between the academic researcher and the native informant, when each realizes that he or she has something of value to give the other.



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Pacific Rim Research Program Funding Opportunities

The Program provides support in four areas:

CAMPUS-BASED CENTERS: The PRRP supports campus-based research projects and centers that have strong potential to secure external funds. Grants of as much as \$35,000 per year are available.

RESEARCH PROJECTS: The regular grant program provides an average of \$29,000 (up to a maximum of \$60,000) to University of California faculty and graduate students.

WORKSHOP AND PLANNING GRANTS: The workshop and planning grant program provides up to \$15,000 to University of California faculty and graduate students for conferences, workshops, and collaborative publications.

These applications are reviewed first by campus committees, then by the PRRP Executive Committee. Campus deadlines vary from December

to early January.

MINI-GRANTS: Small grants are available to support promising Pacific Rim-related research. Up to \$1,000 can be provided on short notice, if funds are available and the request meets PRRP guidelines. To apply, contact your campus PRRP Executive Committee member, listed on page six.

For deadlines and application guidelines, please see the Call for Proposals and Guidelines, available on the worldwide web at <http://www.ucop.edu/research/pacrim/> or from your PRRP campus liaison, listed below.

Berkeley	Patricia Cascardi	510/643-5622
Davis	Keith Young	530/752-2077
Irvine	Barbara Kelly	714/824-5085
Los Angeles	Jia Wang	310/825-0045
Riverside	Bill Schmechel	909/787-5535
San Diego	Greg Llacer	619/534-3556
San Francisco	Keith Wilson	415/476-5742
Santa Barbara	Carla Whitacre	805/843-3925