



Newsletter of the University of California's Pacific Rim Research Program (PRRP) September, 2005. Volume 9

PRRP Investigators Report on Recent Research Findings

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Circumnavigating the Chinese Exclusion Act

Late-19th century labor organizers, concerned about job competition from Chinese immigrants, lobbied Congress to protect them. In response, Congress enacted the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882. Until its repeal in 1943, the Act embargoed nearly all Chinese immigration to the United States. Conventional historical accounts declare that exclusion caused the US Chinese population to dwindle, becoming a community of "aging bachelors." UC Irvine Professor **Kenneth Chew** and co-investigators **John M. Liu** and **Gary Richardson** refute that claim.

Although their total numbers decreased, the Chinese were able to maintain a relatively youthful US labor force. They did so by choreographing a clandestine, circular exchange of retiring workers for younger replacements from China.

To test their account, the professors utilized a PRRP grant (and several assistants) to transcribe approximately 3,500 steamship passenger records for Chinese arriving in San Fran-

cisco from 1905-06. (Chinese immigration became officially illegal in 1902.) The steamship passenger records constitute an information source that is independent of the official immigration statistics used by earlier scholars.

The steamship records indicate that the number of Chinese passengers who traveled between China and the US could have produced a population turnover of 30-75% per decade in Chinese American communities, reflecting the labor force renewal process.

Immigration document from 1927 for Chew Hee, Kenneth Chew's grandfather.



the Chinese exploited a loophole permitting the landing of Chinese passengers who claimed to be "in transit" to other countries such as Mexico. Such passengers went on to Mexico but, evidently, many later crossed back into the US illegally.

Chew's findings are still evolving but, he says, the numbers support a revisionist one-for-one worker replacement "revolving door" theory of Chinese American migration.

RECENT PRRP RESEARCH PROJECT FINDINGS

Effective Helping Strategies Between Cultures

Helping is an act that is considered almost invariably positive. However, effective helping really depends on what results one expects. **Hee-jung Kim**, professor of psychology at UCSB, experimented with groups of European-Americans and East Asians and determined that cultural values and assumptions dramatically influence helping styles and expectations.

Westerners tend to be independent and individualistic. They prefer help that preserves the individual's sense of independence or agency, and provides coping strategies that the person in need can use in the future. This Professor Kim calls the "agentic" form of helping rather than a "spoon-feeding" method. Behavior that violates an individual's sense of independence may appear unhelpful or even offensive. In contrast, East Asians perceive the self as interdependent. In such a cultural context, the helper might completely take over the recipient's role and complete the task for him. A behavior that threatens this sense of closeness may be considered unhelpful and distancing.

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Genetic Variation in the Hawaiian "Ti" Plant

If you've visited Hawaii, you've probably seen the Hawaiian "Ti" plant, *Cordyline fruticosa*. It is one of the most common plants in Polynesia. This is intriguing because, according to UC Berkeley integrative biology graduate student **Anya Hinkle**, the plant is sterile.

Ms. Hinkle, who earned her Ph.D. in May, used a PRRP Mini-grant to collect *Cordyline fruticosa* plants from Fiji to Tahiti to test her hypothesis that the familiar large green ti plants, ubiquitous in Hawaii and the Society Islands, are sterile and seedless. She discovered that, when crossed with fertile Samoan plants, the Hawaiian plants failed to produce fruit. Hinkle com-



Above: Anya Hinkle in greenhouse with Hawaiian Ti plants.
Bottom left: A Ti plant from Fiji.

pared the DNA fingerprints of the plants she and others collected from ten archipelagoes across the Pacific. The Eastern Polynesian plants were virtually identical. Taken together, this data suggests that this variety appears to be a widespread clonal population that has been dependent on humans to disseminate and root on every Polynesian archipelago. The reproduction method of this erstwhile garden-variety plant has surprisingly never been discussed before at this geographical scale. Hinkle's groundbreaking research has generated some fundamental questions such as, what is the significance of sterility in Eastern Polynesia and where did the sterile form originate? Sterility may be related to the use of its tuberous rhizome for food, increasingly important given the extreme geographic isolation and vulnerability of remote Polynesian islands. The question of origins is the source of ongoing research with broader geographic sampling of *C. fruticosa* populations in the Pacific and their relation to other species in the genus.

*

Speaking for Science and Nature

Beyond their Pacific Rim borders, Australia and Canada have expansive geographies—and environments that are threatened by their own societies. Conservation organizations in both countries are busy protecting them, as **Miriam Padolsky**, graduate student from UCSD, discovered while researching her dissertation “Speaking for Science and Nature: Climate Change Campaigns in Australia and Canada.” Ms. Padolsky conducted participant observations at several environmental organizations.



A campaigner from The Otesha Project in Canada teaches children about sustainable living. Photo courtesy of the Otesha Project <http://www.otesha.ca/>.

She interviewed their staff and directors, and met with academics at universities and institutes. She explored national and university libraries.

Federal and state governments in both countries have collaborated with non-governmental entities and community groups to promote conservation. For example, the Canadian government used the *One-Tonne Challenge* campaign to encourage citizens to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by one tonne. (One metric tonne equals 1,000 kilograms. The volume of one tonne of greenhouse gas emissions would fill a two-story, three bedroom house.) In Australia, the federal government, state-based environment groups, and community groups joined in *Cool Communities*, a similar campaign to encourage households to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Ms. Padolsky has presented papers on her topic at social science conferences in Paris; London, Ontario; and San Diego. She plans to produce her dissertation this academic year.

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Literary Studies in the Age of Globalization

Sheldon Lu, UC Davis comparative literature professor, used a PRRP grant to organize a three-day international conference, “Literary Studies in the Age of Globalization,” at Beijing Normal University in June 2004.

Collaborating with the Chinese hosts at the prestigious Center for Literary Theory at Beijing Normal University was a pleasure, Professor Lu said. The co-hosting arrangement bonded the two institutions and established an important relationship between UC and its Chinese counterparts.

The funding enabled a number of UC Davis faculty and students to attend the conference. Many presented papers there. American and Chinese scholars shared their research on poetry, drama, narrative, film, theory, and Chinese literary studies. The graduate students convened their own evening roundtable to exchange literary theories and discuss international literary issues. Over 70 scholars from China, the US and Canada participated in the conference. This was the first chance many of them had to interact with foreign colleagues, truly globalizing their research perspectives.

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Design and Social Change in the Pacific Rim

Pacific Rim communities are changing. And the people won't sit back and let it happen without their input. Citizens from California to Japan to Taiwan are participating in urban planning to ensure that their communities reflect their needs and values.

Mark Francis, professor of landscape architecture in the environmental design department at UC Davis, helped assemble 100 scholars and practitioners from North America and East Asia to discuss changing communities and democratic design processes at a three-day conference last September. The conference was held at the University of Washington, which co-sponsored it. Conference papers, compiled and published by the Center for Design Research at UC Davis, reflect the diversity of participants and the scope of

(Continued on page 4)

their research. Session titles ranged from “The Development of the Environmental Movement and Open Space Planning and Design in Democratic Period Korea” to “Exploring the Nexus of Power, Culture and Revitalization in a Public Housing Community.” Conference proceedings and related news are accessible at <http://>



Design conference tour of Danny Woo Community Garden in Seattle's International District.

faculty.washington.edu/jhou/pacrim.htm This is the fifth Participatory Pacific Rim Community Design Conference. Organizers are planning a follow-up conference in China in 2006.

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Diasporic Homecomings

The homeland may never feel quite like home.

That's what participants in the conference “Diasporic Homecomings: Ethnic Return Migrants in Comparative Perspectives” reported. The conference was organized by UCSD professors **Wayne Cornelius** and **Takeyuki (Gaku) Tsuda** and held at UCSD's Center for Comparative Immigration Studies.

The scholars studied various groups of ethnic return migrants—diasporic peoples who return to their ancestral homelands after generations of living outside it. Studies focused on return



Conference participants (Gaku Tsuda, front row, 3rd from right.)

migrants in Western and Eastern Europe, East and Southeast Asia, and Israel. Their countries of origin countries include Argentina, Brazil, the US, Poland, Russia, Romania, and China. Participants debated whether the migration is motivated by economics or cultural affinity. However, they agreed that the immigrants are treated similarly once in the host country. Frequently, they say, the migrants arrive in their idealized homeland only to be spurned. They attribute this to several factors: most ethnic return migrants are cul-

turally conspicuous for having lived outside of the country; they generally take low status jobs; and some communities are simply prejudiced against them. Thus marginalized, they rarely develop a national identity or affinity to their ethnic homeland.

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Island Voices in World Culture

How do writers, scholars, and performers working in different languages communicate with each other? Harmoniously!

Ngég« wa Thiong'o, director of the International Center for Writing and Translation at UC Irvine, received a PRRP grant to host the event “Island Voices in World Culture” on November 18. This was part of their series “From Here to There: Languages in Conversation,” which convenes writers and scholars to discuss language, communication, and culture. This event focused on the languages and cultures of the Pacific and Carribean and featured distinguished guests Sia Figiel, Epeli Hau'ofa, Witi Ihimaera, and Kamau Brathwaite.

Sia Figiel was born on November 18. So the event commenced appropriately with a rendition of “Happy Birthday.” Make that three renditions: in Gikuyu, Maori, and



Witi Ihimaera, Sia Figiel, and Epeli Hau'ofa. Photo courtesy of ICWT.

Samoan. Then the four writers reflected on their cultural traditions and how those traditions influence their writing. Although they all write on paper, they are foremost storytellers. Each said they were inspired by the oral tradition. That resonated with the audience—literally. The panel discussion was followed by an evening reading that attracted an audience of 200, including members of the local Samoan and Maori communities. After the event, UCI students interviewed two of the writers. The students' stories were published in the ICWT newsletter. “Island Voices” was considered a resounding success.

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2005-2006 Pacific Rim Research Program Awards

The Executive Committee of the Pacific Rim Research Program awarded 44 grants in the 2005-2006 competition. Principal Investigators and project titles are listed below. Faculty advisers of graduate student awardees are in parentheses.

BERKELEY

You-tien Hsing

Brokering Globalization: East Asian Real Estate Developers in Chinese Cities

Karen Levy (Joseph N.S. Eisenberg)

Deforestation, Development, and Diarrhea: Water and Health in a Changing Ecuadorian Landscape

James Lincoln

Workforce Commitment in Asian Employment Systems: A Survey of Factories and Employees in Japan, China and Korea

Kristen McDonald (Kate O'Neill)

Governing China's Nu River: A Case Study of Water and Power

John Radke

Remote Sensing and Archaeology in Southeast Asia

Zdravka Tzankova (Kate O'Neill)

Preventing Marine Bioinvasions in the United States, Australia, and New Zealand: Drawing Policy Insights by Comparing Science-policy Dynamics in Environmental Decision Making.

Franklin Zimring

The Death Penalty in East Asia

DAVIS

Loukas Barton (Robert L. Bettinger)

Transition, Causation, and Co-Evolution: Plant Domestication and Human Diet in Neolithic North China

Susan Cameron (Jim Quinn)

Designing Nature Reserves in Melanesia: Community Based Conservation in a Biodiversity Hotspot.

Guotong Li (Susan Mann)

A Migrant Society: Gender and Ethnic Relations Along the Southeast Coast in Eighteenth Century China

Robert Moorehead (Lyn Lofland)

Re-Imagining the City: Japanese Natives, Foreign Newcomers, and Community Identity in Nagoya, Japan

Hirotsugu Uchida (Lovel Jarvis and James Wilen)

Comparative Analysis of Coastal Fisheries Management in Chile and Japan

IRVINE

Ying Hu

Women's Biography and Gender Politics in China

Kaushik Rajan

Labor and Cultural Politics of Outsourcing: A Comparative Study of the United States, India and the Philippines

Eli Simon

Pan Pacific Players Research and Collaboration: The Birds by Aristophanes, UCI Irvine and Korean National University of Arts

Wensheng Wang (Kenneth Pomeranz)

Integrating Chinese History into the Pacific Rim: Social Crises and Political Dynamics during the Jiaqing Reign (1796-1820) of Qing Dynasty

LOS ANGELES

Anne Gilliland-Swetland

Pluralizing the Archival Paradigm: A Needs Assessment for Archival Education in Pacific Rim Communities

Eleanor Lipat (Helen Rees)

From Thai Likay to Lao Lam Luang: Improvising the Nation through Folk Theater

Matthew Marr (Rebecca Emigh)

Transitioning Out of Homelessness in Two Global Cities -- Los Angeles and Tokyo



2005-2006 Pacific Rim Research Program Awards

Ari Seligmann (Dana Cuff)

Mediating Globalization with Public Architecture: Kumamoto's Artpolis and Seattle's Landmark Libraries

Awet Weldemichael (Geoffrey Robinson)

The Eritrean and East Timorese Liberation Movements: Toward a Comparative Study of their Grand Strategies

Eric Zusman (Richard Baum)

What Makes a Dragon Brown?: A Comparative Study of Air Pollution Regulation in East Asia

RIVERSIDE

Edward Platzer

Biological Control of Mosquitoes

Jonathan Ritter

Encuentro Andino: Music and Politics in the Central Andes

Jianhua Wang (Eugene Anderson)

Worldview, Landscape, and Politics: Natural Resource Management of Akha People in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, Southwest China

SAN DIEGO

Michael Cole

Japanese and US Experiences with Informal Learning Environments: Cross-cultural Perspectives on Learning and Development Through Art and Play

Jinah Kim (Lisa Lowe)

Tracing the Global City: Asians in the Americas in the Production of Neo-Liberalism

Moira Mackinnon (Leon Zamosc)

Strong and Weak Institutionalization - The Chilean - Argentine Paradox

Mina Yang

Pop Across the Pacific: Transnational Circuits of Asian Popular Music

Rika Yonemura (Richard Biernacki)

Making the National Farmer: Progressive Educational Reforms and Transformation of Rural Society in the United States (1902-1918) and Japan (1920-1945)

Jun Zhang (Joseph Esherick)

The Human Spider: Duanfang, Network Building, and Pan-Chinese Identity in the Early Twentieth Century

Xiaowei Zheng (Joseph Esherick)

Mass Nationalism and Movement Politics in the 1911

Revolution in Sichuan, China

SAN FRANCISCO

Janice Humphreys

Intimate Partner Violence & Women's Health: Nurse-Research Planning Proposal

SANTA BARBARA

Sonja Downing (Timothy Cooley)

Children's Gamlans: Gender Shift and Social Change in Bali, Indonesia

Tsuyoshi Hasegawa

Asia and the Cold War, 1956-1973

Diane Hintz (Marianne Mithun)

Verbal Tense Variation in Quechua, With Application to the Production of Literacy Materials

Choong-Hwan Park (Mayfair Yang)

Serving Peasant Family Meals to Beijing Urbanites: The Country and the City in Post-Mao China

Mayfair Yang

Religion, Modernity, and the State in China and Taiwan

SANTA CRUZ

Pui-Shan Chan (Gail Hershatter)

Figuring Diaspora: Women Intellectuals, Domestic Workers, and the "Left-Behind" of Twentieth-Century South China

Nancy Chen

Asian Biotechnology: An Emerging Field of Life, Nationalism, and Capitalism

Hiroshi Fukurai

Comparative Analysis of Civic Legal Participation in Japan and the U.S.: Japanese Judicial Reforms and the Establishment of the Saiban-in Seido (Quasi-jury System) in Japan

Gregory Gilbert

A Biological Basis for Quarantine: Host Ranges of Emergent Plant Pathogens and the Conservation of Pacific Rim Rain Forests

Anna Tsing

Matsutake: Global Encounters through a Mushroom

Chih-ming Wang (Chris Connery)

Studying Abroad: Intellectual Diaspora and the Making of Asia/America

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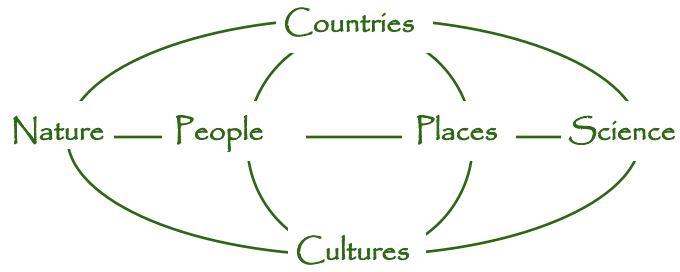
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Pacific Rim Research Program Funding Opportunities

The Program offers four types of grants:

RESEARCH GRANTS: 1. Faculty/staff: The regular grant program provides an average of \$20,000 (up to a maximum of \$45,000) to eligible University of California faculty and staff.
2. Graduate students may apply for a maximum of \$22,000 for a year of dissertation research.

WORKSHOP AND PLANNING GRANTS: The workshop and planning grant program provides up to \$15,000 to UC faculty and graduate students for conferences, workshops, and other collaborative research endeavors.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS: This grant category supports UC faculty in developing new directions in Pacific Rim research. Awards of up to \$10,000 allow for short-term residency in the region, or the hosting of Pacific Rim scholars at UC campus.

These applications are reviewed first by campus committees, then by the PRRP Executive Committee. Campus deadlines vary from November to early January.

MINI-GRANTS: Small grants are awarded to support promising Pacific Rim-related research. Up to \$3,000 can be provided twice a year, if funds are available and the request meets the PRRP guidelines. Apply online at the PRRP website.

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

Berkeley	Shelley Sprandel	510/642-8122
Davis	Jodi Casselman	530/297-4487
Irvine	Mia Larson	949/824-2898
Los Angeles	Clayton Dube	310/825-0007
Riverside	Jane Schultz	909/787-5535
San Diego	Jason DeFay	858/534-3556
San Francisco	Janice Babula	415/476-5782
Santa Barbara	Carla Whitacre	805/893-3925
Santa Cruz	Lisa Nishioka	831/459-2833
ANR	Carol Berman	510/987-0050

For Merced campus info, please contact the PRRP program office at 510-987-0120.