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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**THURSDAY, 31 MARCH 2016 | 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM**

**Chronological Problems in the Samguk sagi's Representation of Silla History**

Organizer | **Jonathan W. Best** | Wesleyan Univiersity
Panel Abstract:

The three papers of our proposed panel approach from diverse disciplinary perspectives three different chronological problems in the characterization of early history of the kingdom of Silla (trad. 57 BCE–935 CE) contained in the oldest surviving history of Korea, the twelfth-century Samguk sagi. There is a growing concern among both archaeologists and historians alike that the representation of Silla’s early history found in the pre-sixth-century entries in the Samguk sagi’s chronicle of the kingdom accords neither with the material evidence provided by archaeological excavations nor with the written evidence provided by much earlier East Asian, especially Chinese, written sources. It is emphatically not the belief of our panelists, however, that the content of these problematic entries has been fabricated, but rather that the entries describe actual incidents or developments of a later time that have been antedated. Thus, it is the aim of our papers to determine more accurate dating for certain important events in Silla’s history than that ascribed to them in the Samguk sagi. Given the burgeoning divergence in the understanding of the early history of Silla contained in the Samguk sagi from that derived from archaeological evidence and the written reports of earlier sources, it is important at this time to initiate a critical discussion of the text’s chronological framing of Silla’s earliest past—and, thus indeed, more generally of the beginnings of historical Korea itself.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Archaeology, History

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**THURSDAY, 31 MARCH 2016 | 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM**

**Generational Sentiments and Negotiated Realities in South Korea**

Organizer | **Olga Fedorenko** | New York University

Organizer | **Shimpei Cole Ota** | National Museum of Ethnology

Panel Abstract:

While academic analyses tend to rely on categories of class and gender, many in South Korea make sense of their lived realities by looking into generational cleavages. The succession of generational cohorts— according to one classification, “Korean Baby Boomers” (1955-1959), “Generation 386” (1960-1973), “Generation X” (1974-1984), “Generation N” (1984-1994)—indexes transformations in the social fabric, whereas distilled generational characteristics, attitudes and sentiments are perceived as both effects and causes of social changes. Among these different groups, “Generation 386"—those born in the 60s, radicals during their student days in the 1980s, and in their 30s in 1997 when the term was coined—are considered the most influential in contemporary South Korea, as many of them hold important positions in government, civil society, academia and cultural industries. Interested in the 386ers as well as in trans-generational dynamics, the papers in the panel consider the burdens of generational belonging as well as examine generational trajectories and legacies in particular contexts—in a book club; in university folk music and dance clubs; and in the advertising industry—to draw out tensions between generational imaginations and realities. The four papers, while accepting generational cohorts as a starting point in their analyses, collectively reflect on the analytical purchase of the concept of “generation” to question its advantages and blind spots, in the Korean context and in general.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Anthropology, Sociology

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Frontier lives: defining borders, cosmopolitanism, and the circulation of knowledge**

Organizer | **Xin Wei** | Oxford University
Panel Abstract:

Over time, Korean boundaries have been both permeable and impermeable. Not easily characterised, boundaries were certainly not static, and even location varied over time. This panel looks at the Korean frontiers at four different times and considers what constituted the boundary, how security was established, and what people saw when they looked across. Anonymous Japanese poets such as sakimori, Jurchen in the borderland who served multiple masters, individuals such as Amenomori Hōshū, and formal Korean Interpreter Missions to Tsushima offer longitudinal slices of life in Korean foreign relations.

The sakimori were dispatched to Tsushima by Nara-Heian authorities from the seventh to the tenth centuries to defend the border against Silla. Listening to war drums across the straights, they longed to be elsewhere (Xin Wei). Jurchen brought Koryŏ and Liao together to share a suspicion of the borderland and to define a mutual frontier, while the Jurchen had other ideas (Remco Breuker). Amenomori Hōshū, an eighteenth-century cosmopolitan, peered into Korean customs and provided practical advice on Chosŏn Korea to his lord on Tsushima (James Lewis). The Korean Interpreter Missions to Tsushima had opportunities to circulate knowledge between Korea and Japan, but in the mid-nineteenth century they failed to acquire intelligence regarding Japan’s relations with Europeans (Sigfrid Östberg). These frontier perspectives illustrate the permeable and impermeable character of Korean boundaries at different times and help us understand how Koreans defined themselves and how others defined them.

Area of Study: Korea
Discipline(s): History

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Science Fiction in South Korea: Technology, Counterculture, and Futuristic Imaginations**

Organizer | **Sunyoung Park** | University of Southern California
Panel Abstract:

In spite of its rising profile in popular culture and everyday life, the genre of science fiction is today still often stigmatized in South Korea as an unimportant lowbrow cultural form. Responding to this status quo, this panel brings together researchers who are keenly interested in Korean science fiction and its critical significance. Adrian Thieret examines recent Korean and Chinese debates over the terminological definition of science fiction. He observes how the debates have distanced local science fiction from its traditional developmentalist appropriation, resituating it instead in a cosmopolitan vein of global science fiction. Turning to a historical inquiry, Sunyoung Park investigates the productive synergies between the culture of science fiction and the social democratization movement in the 1980s to reveal their mutually legitimating relationship and its living legacy. Dahye Kim explores issues of contemporary South Korean identity and agency as they transpire in the fan fiction-themed SF novels of Djuna. Crafting her stories from a global periphery, Kim shows, Djuna often struggled with the task of including Korean characters in the Western-originated plots and conventions of her works. Finally, Haerin Shin reflects on the technological and philosophical implications of director Bong Joon-ho’s ecocritical film Snowpiercer. As Shin shows, the film’s visual and auditory effects concur in materially grounding the postapocalyptic, posthuman concept of a hyperobjectual cosmos that persists after human extinction. Through their diverse approaches and thematic interests, these four presentations trace their own cultural paths all the while lending visibility to an increasingly important and exciting front of academic research.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Cinema Studies/Film, Gender and Sexuality, Literature, Translation

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 12:45 PM - 2:45 PM**

**Making Place(s) in Seoul: Creation of an Exemplary Post-develomentalist East Asian Metropolis?**

Organizer | **Pil Ho Kim** | Ohio State University
Panel Abstract:

Seoul has been considered as one of the stereotypical postcolonial East Asian big cities characterized by soaring population, rampant pollution and punishing traffic. Despite the newly found status as a “second-tier” global city, it remains a chaotic, ugly and unattractive city for residents and visitors alike. It is no surprise the popular tourist guidebook Lonely Planet condemned Seoul as a city “with no heart or spirit to it” naming it as the third most hated city in the world.

Lately, however, there appear small but meaningful changes in Seoul. Having failed to establish emotional attachment to the ubiquitous grand and flashy urban structures, a batch of young artists, creative types and cultural entrepreneurs move between places looking for meanings, aesthetics and feelings. It produces practices that regenerate existing places or create new places. The rundown buildings and crooked alleyways are rediscovered and rehabilitated as embodiments of narratives and affects. Although often deplored as ‘gentrification’, the ongoing urban change in Seoul appears much more complex than what the concept signifies. Selecting four different sub-regions in Seoul (Chongno, Gangnam, Dongdaemun and Mapo) as case studies, this panel tries to give answers to a series of questions: what narratives, discourses, desires, and subjectivities are brought in and invested in the place?; what kind of pleasure and entertainment are achieved?; and how do power and affect come into play in this place-making? By answering these questions, this panel tries to find an alternative urbanism in a post-developmentalist metropolis in East Asia.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Geography, Sociology, Urban Studies

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 12:45 PM - 2:45 PM**

**Recasting Material Culture in Pre-Modern Korean Literature**

Organizer | **Jiwon Shin** | Arizona State University
Panel Abstract:

Recent scholarship in pre-modern Korean literature has paid increased attention to the material culture as integral to literary practices, and many texts hitherto considered non-literary became subjects of literary studies. In particular, social and cultural spaces linking marketplace to literati studios have emerged as a site of inquiry into literary culture. This panel explores writings on objects through examples from the Three Kingdoms period to the late eighteenth century in Korea: wooden tablets of ephemera from Silla, horticultural compendia from early Choson, tobacco-smoking featured in late Choson poetry and painting, and the manuals on breeding ornamental birds. Drawing insights from disciplines such as art history and archeology, we ask: what do writings about things inform literary and intellectual discourses?

Marjorie Burge examines disposability of wooden tablets in comparison to the monumentality of stone steles to discuss the transition from script culture to literary culture during the Three Kingdoms period. Jongmook Lee shows how the essays in the horticulture compendia from the early Choson period align knowledge of the natural world with the Confucian discourse on the cultivation of the mind. Daehoe Ahn traces the permutation of the subject of tobacco and smoking in late Choson poetry and painting and discusses how the foreign stuff came to figure desire, social tension, and emotion of Choson people. Min Jung locates the books on ornamental birds in the eighteenth-century intellectual milieu, noting a shift from wariness against ornaments of the literati culture as material attachments to their valorization as subjects worthy of investigation.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Archaeology, Art/Art History, Literature, Philosophy

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**Resisting Neoliberalism in South Korea, Remaking the Practices of Protest**

Organizer | **Jae-Jung Suh** | International Christian University
Organizer | **Namhee Lee** | University of California, Los Angeles
Panel Abstract:

Is it possible to will an alternative subjectivity to that which is constituted by neoliberalism, an ideology whose drive for intense and accelerated capital accumulation has disembedded people from conditions of social bonding to transform them into competing atomized individuals? This session considers precedents of resistance and solidarity that social movements in South Korea have developed in response to neoliberal policies and political repression. As South Korean workers and citizens have been increasingly forced into circumstances of precarity by neoliberal restructuring, they have stood up in opposition to policies and business practices that threaten not only their economic security but also the very possibility of social solidarity. Their resistance has taken various forms: from long-term occupations of construction cranes and other symbolic sites, to collective convergence upon such spaces of struggle via the “Hope Bus” movement, to participation in religious and spiritual rituals such as fasting, candlelight vigils, and samboilbae (three steps and a bow). On the one hand, such forms of protest embrace “the prolonged embodiment of emotional, physical, and financial hardship”; on the other hand, they offer adaptive and viable avenues of showing support and building solidarity under conditions increasingly hostile to such organizing due to the social suffering imposed by austerity. What they share in common is that their repertoire of collective action has moved beyond workplace strikes or mass street demonstrations toward “affective practices” and lived experiences that open venues for generating and circulating collective class identifications, which in turn create new possibilities for social change.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Anthropology, Economics, Political Science, Sociology

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**The Diaspora of Beauty and the Re-making of Korean Traditional Aesthetics in 1910-1945**

Organizer | **Nam-lin Hur** | University of British Columbia
Panel Abstract:

Aesthetics resists a fixed identity. Aesthetic values are transformed through a process of identity change over time and place. Korean traditional culture that had been confined within the border of Chosŏn Korea came to embrace a new age of conceptual transformation in the colonial period. The alien gaze from Imperial Japan brought a new cultural life to Korea’s traditional porcelain wares, feminine beauty, dance, and music. How do we explain the conceptual transformation of aesthetics that hit Korea traditional culture from without? This panel of four papers pursues this question.

Hur examines how Chosŏn Korea’s ordinary porcelain wares were suddenly transmuted into an “antique of sublime beauty” in the colonial period – a transmutation that gave birth to a frenzy of art collection and exhibition. Suh pursues the ways in which Korea’s traditional kisaeng (courtesans) were recast as two-pronged markers of entertainer and artist situated along the fine line between colonialism and modernism. On the other hand, Lee pays attention to Ch’oi Sŭnghŭi, a legendary dancer, who reinvented a subtle lyric expression in dance by integrating modern Western dance techniques with Korean traditional dance through training and performance in Japan and beyond. Last, Uemura explores who initiated the study of Korean traditional music as an object of modern/comparative musicology and what impact these new approaches brought upon the ways in which Korean traditional music was appreciated and promoted. All in all, these four papers will illuminate the diaspora of beauty that helped to reconceptualize Korea’s traditional cultural traits and aesthetic values in Colonial Korea and beyond.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Art/Art History, History

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM**

**Fact or Fiction? Engagements with Scientific Discourse in Popular, Critical, and Literary Texts of Colonial and Postcolonial Korea.**

Organizer | **Dafna Zur** | Stanford University
Panel Abstract:

This panel proposes to examine the relationship between cultural production and the discourse of practice of science in modern Korea. The assembled papers consider representations of science, often for popular consumption, across a variety of periods, political contexts, and media: in the literary criticism of the colonial 1930s; in the popular periodicals of the 1950s-60s; and in the science fiction of North and South Korea. The panel as a whole aims to think about the ways in which critical, literary, and popular texts have contended with science across the twentieth century and into the present, and the papers demonstrate how science relies on narrative practices, both textual and visual, in order to shape and guide the very projects that it proposes to describe. Reflecting the panelists’ diversity of perspectives and backgrounds, the papers bridge the disciplines of science and technology studies, literary and cultural studies, and the history of science. At the same time, each paper understands the scientific as implicated by social and political discourses, and together they describe how science is imagined and represented by both state and non-state actors, as well as consider the consequences of these representations. The papers cohere in questioning the relationship between science and politics as well as the conventional separation between the scientific and the social, and—particularly given the oft-noted and strong connection between literature and political engagement in the Korean and East Asian context—focus on popular culture as an important ground on which this separation is challenged.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): History, Literature

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM**

**Lines of Sight - Korean Act**

Organizer - **Robyn Jones** - AAS

Panel Abstract:

ABSTRACT PENDING

Area of Study: Korea

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**FRIDAY, 1 APRIL 2016 | 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM**

**Producing Popularity: Behind the Scenes of the K-Pop Wonderland**

Organizer | **CedarBough T Saeji** | Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
Panel Abstract:

The international popularity of Korean popular culture, and with it Korean popular music (K-pop), has grown exponentially over the past fifteen years. As K-pop expands its global reach, academic publications on the topic have also increased. This panel introduces under-investigated aspects of K-pop production and distribution with an eye towards the darker workings of selling Korea to the world. Four papers discuss backstage processes of building Korean soft cultural power and increasing K-pop success.

Two papers address the music videos that have contributed to the global appeal of K-pop, while two are concerned with the creation of additional K-pop content and capitalize on citizens’ desire to become stars. The first paper examines how the music video channel Mnet has expanded throughout Asia by monopolizing distribution of K-pop broadcasts. The second paper demonstrates how the dominant video production company Zany Bros adeptly manipulates complex visual language employed by an increasingly international industry. The third paper discusses the ways in which the cover dance phenomenon is leveraged to increase K-pop's global reach. The final paper considers the Korean Creative Content Agency as it seeks to facilitate the production of the next Korean hit by making high tech equipment available, for free, to anyone with a creative vision. The four papers cooperatively expose processes occurring off-stage and off-camera that build the popularity and success of K-pop. Coming from various disciplinary backgrounds the four panelists combine different approaches to provide complementary insights into the complex processes and networks of K-pop.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Anthropology, Business Management, Cinema Studies/Film, Performing Arts

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Comics: Medium, Politics, and Culture**

Organizer | **Heekyoung Cho** | University of Washington
Panel Abstract:

This panel aims at opening up an interdisciplinary discussion on an understudied research topic: Korean comics. Incorporating comparative perspectives, this panel will explore diverse aspects of Korean comics as an important medium of popular culture and will address cultural and political implications that comics generate in Korean society and beyond. Through ethnographic study of Danish consumers of East Asian popular culture and Korean comics, Martin Petersen identifies new processes of cultural negotiation and to link them to a discussion of affective communities of producer-consumers in Denmark. Heekyoung Cho examines the thriving new industry of Korean webcomics (webtoons), discussing it as a new form of graphic narrative that has driven greater innovation in aesthetic form than is the case with US and Japanese webcomics cultures. The other two papers discuss the socio-political spaces that comics occupy in contemporary Korea. Emily Hall explores the editorial cartoon as a liminal space that allows for the voicing of political and social meaning while simultaneously disrupting these meanings through discomfort, laughter, and ambiguity. David Shim discusses a comic booklet published by the South Korean Ministry of National Defense in the aftermath of the Cheonan incident (the sinking of a South Korean navy ship in March 2010). Taking the comic as representing a geopolitical imaginary, he examines how state narratives are expressed through, or sketched in, the booklet.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Art/Art History, History, International Relations, Literature

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Unfamiliar Border: Rediscovering the Division of Korea and Its Unknown Stories**

Organizer | **Seijin Chang** | Hallym University
Panel Abstract:

In 2015, 70 years after the 1945 liberation of Korea, many Koreans accept the division of Korea as a “natural” and familiar state of affairs. When military conflicts between the North and the South occasionally disturb the unstable peace of the Korean peninsula, they are soon distanced from Korean’s everyday lives and delegated to international and governmental authorities for a solution. This could be considered a “self-perpetuating” mechanism—one which offers Koreans the illusion that the problems of the division are external to their own lives and thus forgettable. This panel “denaturalizes” this mechanism of the division and re-historicizes some of the critical moments that led to the Thirty-Eighth Parallel becoming a familiar border to Koreans.

Instead of focusing on the superpowers’ decisions about Korea’s division, the panelists illuminate the Korean people’s experiences, including their choices, migration, and life stories propelled by the crises of the division. The first panelist revisits the ideological conflicts within the Korean independence movements during the colonial period and their implications for the post-colonial partition of Korea. The second panelist explores a social history of the Thirty-Eighth Parallel, focusing on the movements of northerners across this line of demarcation. The third panelist investigates the case of Korean War prisoners and the significance of their choices in the negotiation process for signing the 1953 Armistice. The fourth panelist examines the recent literature on North Korean defectors, arguing that their (impossible) situation reveals the way that the Division System continues to restrain challenges to the status quo.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Anthropology, History, Literature

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM**

**Rethinking Korean Legal History from a Comparative Perspective**

Organizer | **Sohyeon Park** | Sungkyunkwan University
Panel Abstract:

The study of Korean legal history often starts from discussing how the Korean legal tradition had focused on Confucian representations of law since the adoption of the Chinese law codes. The study of modern Korean law, on the other hand, is impossible without a comparative understanding of the westernization process of East Asian laws including modern Japanese legislation. In this respect, the historical study of Korean law is inevitably linked to the study of comparative legal history or a broader understanding of East Asian laws. Due to the very aspect of Korean law, however, Korean legal history tends to attract relatively little attention from international scholarship, often overshadowed by the Chinese and Japanese counterparts. Therefore, this panel aims to illuminate how a comparative approach to Korean legal history challenges China-centered views on East Asian laws and how it will facilitate meaningful communication between different legal cultures beyond national borders and expand the boundaries of comparative legal history. In this panel, Pierre-Emmanuel Roux investigates how the Chosôn legal system evolved through the continuing process of adapting and reinterpreting Ming and Qing laws. Hang-Seob Bae examines legal patterns of land ownership and transaction in a comparative perspective in order to argue that the uniqueness of the case of Chosôn Korea calls for the revision of Eurocentric views on history of legal development. Sohyeon Park explores the concept of legal Orientalism in the context of modern Korean history, in which the modernization process of Korean law appeared far more complex under the Japanese colonial rule. Finally, Jong Chol An examines the transformation of the Korean judicial system under the US military Occupation of Korea (1945-1948).

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): History, Law

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**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM**

**Spring Forward, Fall Back?: Progress and Challenges in Korean Gender Studies**

Organizer | **Hyaeweol Choi** | Australian National University
Panel Abstract:

Gender became an academic issue for Korean Studies in the 1970s as it did in the larger academy. Early studies were primarily concerned with pushing beyond stereotypic views of “oppressed Asian women” and complicating our understanding of class standing, religion and ritual, and the meaning of “women” in traditional Korean society. Since then, as South Korean society has moved in new directions, a wide range of studies have brought deeper understanding of the intersection of history and social structures that underlay Confucian ethics, colonialism, nationalism, modernity, class mobility, ethnic diversity and alternative sexualities.

This roundtable discusses two related issues: the status of Korean gender studies, in particular the theoretical and methodological contributions that have come out of the field and some of the challenges it still faces; and new directions in Korean gender studies with special attention to the impact of the transnational flow of images, capital, materials and people on gender dynamics.

Panellists represent a diverse set of disciplinary backgrounds—history, geography, anthropology, sociology and gender and cultural studies—and a range of eras from pre-modern to contemporary periods. Each panellist will highlight how using “gender” as a category of analysis has helped reinterpret and enrich our understanding of history, culture and society. Laurel Kendall offers a panoramic overview of the issues of gender in Korean studies scholarship based on her pioneering research on shamanism in South Korea. Jungwon Kim discusses archival, methodological and theoretical issues in locating women’s experiences and gender ideologies both inside and outside the various sources relevant to women in premodern Korea. Hyaeweol Choi addresses the politics of archives and the task of retrieving the voices of Korean women in the everyday experience of modernity in the early twentieth century. Judy Han focuses on cultural dynamics and political contestations in articulations of race, sexuality, gender and religion. Finally, Seung Kyung Kim sums up the landscape of existing scholarships and identifies future trajectories of Korean gender research.

This roundtable is designed primarily to elicit lively discussion. Each panellist will present 5-10 minutes, leaving ample time for open discussion with the audience.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Anthropology, Gender and Sexuality, History, Sociology

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**The Role of the 'Writer-as-Editor' in the Formation of Modern Korean Literature**

Organizer | **Hyung Jin Lee** | University of Tokyo
Panel Abstract:

This panel will examine what cultural designs ‘writers’ had as ‘editors’ of the new publishing media which was then emerging, and its influence in the formation of Modern Korean Literature in the 1910s~1920s. By taking note of the fact that most of the important ‘writers’ during this turbulent period were also ‘editors’ of magazines, we will try to show that these 'writers-as-editors' were actually the ones who led the new wave in establishing the model form of modern Korean literature through their editorship. They collected, translated, edited and published western literary discourse, and allowed literary texts to come into being, or present itself, within the new literary network. It is through this new and modern cultural design of writers-as-editors, that modern Korean literature acquired its discursive status, ex post facto. In this panel we will be discussing the editorship of Ch’oe Namsŏn, Kim Ŏk and Kim Tong-in, and the new literary media that they brought into being.

Thi Hien Nguyen will analyze Ch’oe Namsŏn’s “Segyeilchuka(Trip-Around-the-World Song)," published in “Ch’ŏngch’un," a magazine that Ch’oe published in the late 1910s. Seulki Park will examine “T’aesŏmunyeshinbo," the first Korean magazine to specialize in modern literature, and its editor Kim Ŏk. Hyung Jin Lee and Minho Song will discuss “Ch’angjo," the first Korean literary coterie magazine edited and published by the novelist Kim Tong-in. Through such collective study, this panel will be able to examine the important roles that these writers played as editor-historian, editor-theorist and editor-publisher, in the formation of modern Korean literature.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Communications, History, Literature, Translation

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**Un/Settling Citizenship: Issues in Contemporary Korea**

Organizer | |

Panel Abstract:

ABSTRACT PENDING
Area of Study: Korea

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM**

**Listening to Korea: On Authenticity, Identity and the Nation in Music**

Organizer | **Heather Willoughby** | Ewha Womans University
Panel Abstract:

In Audiotopia: Music, Race and America, Josh Kun (2005) writes that “music can be of a nation, but it is never exclusively national; it always overflows, spills out, sneaks through, reaches an ear on the other side of the border line, on the other side of the sea” (p. 20). Echoing Kun, this panel attempts to grapple with how music is situated and understood in relation to authenticity, identity and the nation. Originating from the United States and Korea, the panelists and discussant will integrate methodological approaches from music, ethnomusicology, communication, cultural and Korean studies. The first presenter will address how modern and traditional Korean culture and identity is embraced using distant genres as exemplified in rap/p’ansori battles. The second presenter will provide a case study of Jambinai and culturally specific reasons to its success to demonstrate how Korean music has reached global music markets. The third presenter will examine how hip hop has been localized, appropriated and commercialized within the larger K-pop industry and the consequent debates on its authenticity. The final presenter will look at how Hanguk [Korean] hip hop is understood and defined within Korean society by looking at its sound, language, lyrical content, music scene and culture. By doing so, this panel looks at multiple clashes and collaborations manifested in music, including those between modernity/tradition, authenticity/fakeness, national/transnational, etc. Furthermore, the panel extends conversations on how Korea or Koreanness is negotiated in music and its many overflows, spill outs and sneaking through.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Anthropology, Communications, Music/Musicology, Performing Arts

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM**

**East Asian Intervention in the Cold War: Breaking the Cultural Codes of Race, History, Genre, and Gender**

Organizer | **Hyun Seon Park** | Yonsei University
Panel Abstract:

Scholarship on the Cold War in East Asia roused by the basic insight that, rather than one of “long peace,” the era was one of “hot” conflicts in the military, political and cultural realm throughout the region. This panel focuses on the cinema and media culture of East Asia and actively purses an understanding of the continuing complexities of the Cold War in the region. The papers here work through two vital critical interventions. First, that the Cold War era should not be limited to a unique historical period defined by the deterministically polar conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, but as a complex topographical dynamic of the national interior and the outside world. Second, that the Cold War in East Asia took place not only in the realm of ideology and politics but also in the concrete dimensions of lived spaces and everyday culture. The panel seeks to grapple with the peculiar nature of life during this period, in which global politics are re-envisioned in the everyday, the international becomes the intimate, history becomes loosened from chronology through the process of memory, and nation is reconfigured through the lens of gender. As suggested in the panel’s four papers, we seek to encourage the critical theorization of East Asian Cold War using inter-medial, multi-temporal, and transnational approaches that are nevertheless attuned to specific contingencies. Focusing mainly on materials from South Korea and Taiwan, two small but key nodes in the East Asian Cold War, the presentations will attempt to broach new global visions.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Art/Art History, Cinema Studies/Film, History

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SATURDAY, 2 APRIL 2016 | 5:15 PM - 7:15 PM**

**Dreams from Korea's Past**

Organizer | |

Panel Abstract:

ABSTRACT PENDING
Area of Study: Korea

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SUNDAY, 3 APRIL 2016 | 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Purifying the Nation: Law and the Making of Marginalities in Post-colonial South Korea**

Organizer | **Soyoung Lee** | University of Tübingen
Panel Abstract:

This panel explores the formation of marginal subjects who were legally categorized as ‘vagrant,’ ‘juvenile delinquent,’ ‘prostitute,’ or ‘mixed-blood’ in post-colonial South Korea. Such subjects were often regarded as intrinsically transgressive figures who had the potential to contaminate the morality, health, and pure blood of the new-born nation state. In the process of making ‘sound’ citizens through constitutional, civil, and criminal laws, however, such marginal subjects became ironically fixed and naturalized as abnormal citizens. Conducted under the banner of creating a ‘new and pure’ nation, such legal practices also revealed the intersection of transnational influences such as Japanese colonial legal structure, post-colonial domination by American power, and the desires of Koreans for decolonization.

Each presentation on this panel seeks to pay particular attention to the role of law in the making of marginal citizen in Korea after 1945. To trace the construction of laws around vagrancy, Soyoung Lee examines the marking of non/vagrant subjects in Hyongje Pokchiwon case. Delving into juvenile law, Hyunsoog So reveals dual treatment of ‘juvenile delinquents’ in terms of protection and discipline, and its colonial legacy. Analyzing the partial abolishment of licensed prostitution, Jeong-mi Park highlights the complicity of the elite feminist movement with American military power in purifying the nation. Focusing on ‘mixed-blood’ children born between American GIs and Korean woman, Chung-kang Kim reveals the function of nationality law in excluding the ‘mixed-blood’ children. Taken together, these presentations offer a new reading of post-colonial South Korean history from the perspective of the legally marginalized.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): History, Law, Sociology

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SUNDAY, 3 APRIL 2016 | 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**The Making of Post-National and Post-Socialist Korean Literature and Film: Toward a New Cultural Politics in 1980-90s South Korea**

Organizer | **Jina Eleanor Kim** | University of Pennsylvania
Panel Abstract:

This panel proposes to explore the Korean literary and cultural field of the 1980s and 1990s and to re-evaluate this important period in Korean and global history that experienced the marginalization of Socialist movements worldwide and post-1987 democratization and liberalization in South Korea. Furthermore, aside from the fundamental ideological changes, these two decades ushered in changes in popular media culture, advanced women’s literature and feminism, and introduced new ways of thinking about national literature and film.

Members of this panel will explore new ways to evaluate both the transitions and continuities of these two important decades which have been largely neglected in Korean studies thus far. Lee Hye-ryoung locates the “cultural turn” as an important moment that dovetails with the rising feminist movement in Korea. Cheon Jung-hwan will attempt to develop a new methodology for understanding the history of Korean literature and culture through probing the relationship between labor and intellectual production in the 80s-90s. Jina Kim will examine novels and films by Korean, Korean American, and Korean residents of Japan to think about the post-national turn in Korean literary/cultural field. Chon Woohyung charts the history of Korean independent film’s post-national characteristics as it becomes enmeshed with global media production.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Cinema Studies/Film, History, Literature, Woman Studies

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SUNDAY, 3 APRIL 2016 | 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Narrative, Identity, and Citizenship: How North Korean Defectors Shape Politics at ‘Home’ and Abroad**

Organizer | **Sheena Chestnut Greitens** | University of Missouri
Panel Abstract:

North Koreans who escape from their country of origin tend to be regarded with a mixture of fascination and pity afterward. But these individuals are rarely simply passive victims: they play an active and important --but often overlooked -- role in the politics of the Korean peninsula, with effects that echo around the region and the world. Both North and South Korea pay significant attention to the experiences, activities, and narratives put forward by these individuals, as does the international community. This panel seeks to elucidate the politics around North Korean defectors by examining their activities and the reception of their experiences on both sides of the peninsular divide. Sandra Fahy examines North Korea’s response to individual defector-activists whose testimony played a critical role in the United Nations’ recent Commission of Inquiry, while Christopher Green examines how Pyongyang attempts to use “re-defectors” who return to North Korea in order to further the regime’s political survival. Turning southward, Steven Denney examines the role that North Korean defectors play in evolving conceptions of South Korean national identity, while Sheena Chestnut Greitens analyzes why and how different ideas of citizenship in North and South have shaped the process of defector resettlement. Through a range of disciplinary approaches and methodologies, the panel illuminates both the centrality and complexity of the politics surrounding North Korean defectors and refugees.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Anthropology, Political Science, Sociology

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SUNDAY, 3 APRIL 2016 | 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM**

**A Reckoning and Retrospective on Korea’s Colonial Modernity**

Organizer | **Kyung Moon Hwang** | University of Southern California
Panel Abstract:

Since the publication in the 1980s and 1990s of seminal works on Korea’s colonial period by Bruce Cumings, Carter Eckert, Michael Robinson, Gi-Wook Shin, Ken Wells, and others, this roundtable analyzes the wide-ranging, long-term impact of this scholarship, which helped establish several major lines of historical inquiry surrounding the notion of “colonial modernity": the material transformation in the early 20th century, the birth of modern Korean culture, the role of collaborationism, and the structures and legacies of state domination.

In reviewing the development of these themes, each of the four historians on the panel will address their influence on his own scholarship and scholarly communities. This roundtable, however, will not only commemorate but also critique the legacies of this scholarship from the late 20th century, with each panelist providing comments on how its premises, findings, and paradigms have been—or should be— updated, revised, or overturned. This will establish the basis for a lively exchange with the audience, which will take up more than half of the panel’s allotted time.

The four roundtable panelists represent a diverse cross section of historical interests and

perspectives. Kyung Moon Hwang, who has researched the early 20th century structures of state and society, considers this scholarship’s insights, as well as oversights, concerning the interaction of historical forces and figures in the colonial period and beyond. Kirk Larsen, who has written on Korea’s trade relations with China in the late 19th and early 20th century, reviews this literature’s implications for a renewed understanding of modern East Asian economic history. Tae Gyun Park, a specialist on the modern Korean political economy, speaks to the impact and reception of this historiography on South Korean academia. And Michael Shin, who works on the intellectual and cultural history of the colonial period, will discuss the challenges of conceptualizing the colonial period within the flow of modern Korean history.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): History, Political Science, Sociology, Urban Studies

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|  | **KOREA PANEL SESSIONS**Detailed panel session information including paper titles, authors, paper abstract, chairs & discussants will post in January. |

**SUNDAY, 3 APRIL 2016 | 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM**

**War and Environment in the Korean Peninsula, 1598-1965**

Organizer | **John S. Lee** | Harvard University
Panel Abstract:

There has been a dearth of scholarship, in English or Korean, about the environmental history of Korea. This panel links Korea’s unexplored environmental legacies with the history of war on the peninsula. For centuries, international conflict—real and imagined, local and global—has shaped and re-shaped perceptions, uses, and the physical composition of Korea’s environment. Whether through the Chosŏn-era protection of pine forests for naval defense, the timber concession conflicts that culminated in the Russo-Japanese War, or the profound ecological implications of the carpet bombing campaigns of the Korean War, armed conflict has left a deep impression on the Korean landscape and its management.

We argue that the implications, costs, and legacies of war provide an effective lens into Korea’s early modern and modern environmental history. Beginning with an analysis of how the Imjin War and Manchu invasions altered government perceptions of deforestation, John S. Lee traces the expansion of military-run forests in late Chosŏn Korea. As David Fedman shows in his paper on fuel scarcity during the Second Sino-Japanese War, concerns over timber scarcity were only amplified under Japanese rule, as wartime industrial and military exigencies prompted strict conservation measures and calls for bodily sacrifice. The panel concludes with Lisa Brady's analysis of the application of Western scientific resource management techniques and the postwar legacies of agricultural improvement.

Area of Study: Korea

Discipline(s): Geography, History