Message from the Director

One of the downsides of being the director of an academic center is the flurry of reports due at the end of each academic year. Completing these reports after my first year as Director of the Sigur Center, though, was an illuminating reminder, for me, of the enormous progress that has been made in the development of Asian Studies at GW since I arrived here in 1994.

One of the most significant measures of this progress is the growth of faculty at GW with specializations on Asia. In 1994, GW barely had a dozen specialists on Asia. Today, over 90 GW faculty with an Asian focus in their teaching or research interests are affiliated with the Sigur Center.

This growth of faculty has also resulted in an explosion of research productivity. The Sigur Center, and its affiliated programs and faculty, submitted a record number of over forty research grant applications in 2011-12, more than half of which have already been approved, generating over $2 million in research funds. Over the same period, GW’s faculty published 19 books and over 60 journal articles or book chapters focusing on Asia, and gave over 100 paper presentations or professional talks.

This is the hard data behind GW’s growing reputation as not only a national but also an international center for research on Asia. While this achievement is obviously the result of the work of the entire faculty, I took special pleasure in being able to sign my name at the end of reports that enumerated all these accomplishments.
The Sigur Center for Asian Studies marked its 20th anniversary with its Annual Gaston Sigur Memorial Lecture on April 4, 2012. The Memorial Lecture and the 20th anniversary were closely connected as Gaston Sigur was instrumental in the founding of the center that bears his name.

Dr. Ezra Vogel, a world-renowned scholar on Asian studies, was invited to be the speaker for the occasion. Dr. Vogel gave a comprehensive and enlightening lecture entitled “China as Number One? Managing the End of Rapid Growth in Japan and China.” Dr. Vogel has had a long, distinguished career during which he has gained expertise in modern Japan and China. Notable posts during his career include his time as Director of the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations at the Center for International Affairs (1980-1987) and as National Intelligence Officer for East Asia at the National Intelligence Council (1993-1995). While he officially retired in 2000, he remains active in research and East Asia related activities. His most recent publication is Deng Xiaoping and the Transformation of China (2011).

The Sigur Center was founded in 1991 as the “Sigur Center for East Asian Studies” in recognition of both Dr. Sigur’s distinguished service to the nation and to GW. In 1997 the Center renamed itself the “Sigur Center for Asian Studies” to signal its new pan-Asian focus and expertise. In 2003 the Center was recognized as one of GW’s seven original “Centers of Academic Excellence,” a designation it continues to hold today.
Rising Powers Initiative

The Rising Powers Initiative (RPI) had a productive Spring semester in 2012. The RPI held two high-profile conferences, with one major forthcoming publication, Worldviews of Aspiring Powers: Domestic Foreign Policy Debates in China, India, Iran, Japan and Russia by Oxford University Press, edited by Henry Nau and Deepa Ollapally. The RPI consists of three distinct projects, which yielded numerous events and publications this Spring.

Worldviews of Aspiring Powers: Exploring Foreign Policy Debates Abroad

With the generous support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and with the co-sponsorship of the Center for a New American Security (CNAS), the RPI held a major conference on India. On January 23, 2012 the RPI turned its attention to India in hosting “India as a Global Power: Contending Views from India.” Using a debate-style format, an impressive line-up of speakers representing a wide spectrum of viewpoints, responded to questions posed by moderators. Panelists from India included

♦ Mani Shankar Aiyar, Member of Indian Parliament, Rajya Sabha (Council of States);
♦ Bharat Karnad, Research Professor in National Security Studies, Centre for Policy Research;
♦ Lalit Mansingh, Former Foreign Secretary of India and Ambassador to the United States
♦ TN Ninan, Chairman and Chief Editor of the Business Standard

The morning of January 23 included two sessions on Indian Views on National Security and Defense and Indian Views on Economics, International Institutions, and Transnational Issues. The first panel, chaired by co-PI Deepa Ollapally, elicited the Indians’ diverging views on national security and defense topics. Specifically, panelists debated Indian foreign policy on Pakistan, China, the South China Sea, Afghanistan, and Iran.

Richard Fontaine (CNAS) chaired a second panel which featured a discussion among our four Indian guests on economics, international institutions, and transnational issues. The audience heard vigorous debate about how India should use a potential UN Security Council seat – or even if such a seat should be a goal for India. The panel also discussed at length Indian views on US-led sanctions on Iran.

Nirupama Rao, Indian Ambassador to the United States, delivered a keynote speech during lunch, which gave an insider’s perspective on the Indo-US relationship. Amb. Rao also shared her views on US talks with the Taliban. The Ambassador’s talk was co-sponsored by the India Initiative.

Following lunch, a panel of four strategic thinkers on US-Indian relations and U.S. foreign policy toward South Asia, who represent four different schools of thought in US foreign relations, took the stage to respond to the morning’s discussion. Co-PI Henry R. Nau moderated the panel which included

♦ Doug Bandow, Cato Institute
♦ Sadanand Dhume, American Enterprise Institute;
♦ George Perkovich, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
♦ Dan Twining, German Marshall Fund of the United States

As with the Indian panelists, the Americans illustrated key differences among U.S.-based schools of thought on many of the same issues debated by the Indians during the morning. The Indian delegation returned to the podium in the conference’s final session, and shared their reactions to the preceding discussion among the US analysts.

TN Ninan - Chairman and Chief Editor, Business Standard

“I don’t believe India will get there [the UNSC], until it is seen by the U.S. as a quasi-ally, at the very least.”

India as a Global Power: Contending Worldviews from India, Sigur Center Policy Report (March 2012).
Power and Identity in Asia: Implications for Regional Cooperation

The Power and Identity project, generously supported by the MacArthur Foundation, aims to deepen understanding of how identity issues and power transitions affect the international relations of China, India, Japan, Korea and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). On April 16, 2012 the RPI hosted a culminating international research conference: "Power, Identity, and Security in Asia: Views on Regional Cooperation and the U.S. Role" at GWU. The issue of power and identity in India, Japan, Korea, ASEAN and China was discussed. The theoretical lenses through which these issues are examined were also a point of discussion, as John Ikenberry and Charles Glaser presented the Liberal Internationalist and Realist views as they relate to U.S. foreign policy.

Panels and participants included:

**Power and Identity in India**
- Alyssa Ayres (State Department)
- Deepa Ollapally (GWU)
- Amitabh Mattoo (Jawaharlal Nehru University)
- Jonah Blank (RAND Corporation)

**Power and Identity in Japan**
- Edward J. Lincoln (GWU)
- Mike Mochizuki (GWU)
- Isao Miyaoka (Keio University)
- Sheila Smith (Council on Foreign Relations)

**Power and Identity in Korea**
- Thomas Hubbard (Former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea)
- Gregg Brazinsky (GWU)
- Jong-dae Shin (University of North Korean Studies)
- Ji-Young Lee (American University)

**Keynote Address**
- Chas W. Freeman, Jr. (Former Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs)

**Power and Identity in ASEAN**
- Satu Limaye (East-West Center)
- Amitav Acharya (American University)
- Allan Layug (Sophia University)
- Alice Ba (University of Delaware)

**Power and Identity in China**
- Evan Medeiros (National Security Council)
- Allen Carlson (Cornell University)
- Taylor Fravel (MIT)

**Implications for U.S. Foreign Policy**
- G. John Ikenberry (Princeton University)
- Charles Glaser (GWU)
The Rising Powers Initiative (RPI) and Friends of Korea Studies co-sponsored a two-day conference with the International Council on Korean Studies on June 27-28. The conference, The Korean Peninsula After the 2012 Presidential Elections in the U.S., South Korea, and Regional States focused on the diplomatic, economic and defense ties between South Korea and the U.S. and how this important relationship may change after the upcoming presidential elections in both countries.

The first day placed a heavy emphasis on the political relationship between the two countries and how the elections may impact this. The day was concluded by a dinner speech entitled "A Free North Korea" by Lt. Gen. Wallace "Chip" Gregson, former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs. Lt. Gen Gregson remarked on the obstacles to a free and democratic North Korea. These include North Korea’s history of occupation and suspicion of foreign powers, its precarious geography and its atomic capabilities. Internal change depends just as much on the policies of outside powers as it does on the decisions of Pyongyang.

The second day of the conference saw the discussion turn to economic and military-defense relations between the United States and Korea. In between the economic and military panels, attendees were treated to a luncheon address by the Honorable Doris Kathleen Stephens, former U.S. Ambassador to the R.O.K.

Her speech, entitled "The U.S.-R.O.K. Partnership and the Peace and Prosperity in East Asia" was particularly timely as it was given one month after the 32nd anniversary of the end of the Gwangju Uprising. As Ambassador Stephens remarked, the Gwangju Uprising was a large-scale revolt by ordinary Koreans against authoritarianism and corruption and became a symbol of South Koreans’ struggle against authoritarian regimes and their fight for democracy. It is widely considered to have paved the way for later movements in the 1980s that eventually brought democracy to South Korea.

Other speakers included

- Celeste Arrington (GWU)
- Doug Bandow (Cato Institute)
- Claude Barfield (American Enterprise Institute)
- Bruce Bechtol, Jr. (Angelo State University)
- Gordon Chang (Forbes.com)
- Nicholas Eberstadt (American Enterprise Institute)
- Sung Gui Hong (Kookmin University)
- Sung Pyo Hong (Ajou University)
- Joonkook Hwang (Embassy of the R.O.K.)
- Byungki Kim (Korea University)
- Bruce Klingner (Heritage Foundation)
- David Maxwell (Georgetown University)
- Michael O’Hanlon (The Brookings Institution)
- Changhee Park (Korean National Defense University)
- Yoon-shik Park (GWU)

Find a full list of speakers and a program HERE.
Recent Events

Taiwan Lecture and Conference Series

The Spring and Summer of 2012 saw several events directly related to Taiwan, including two roundtables, one conference, and two lectures/presentations. These events occurred in the months following Taiwan’s 2012 presidential elections.

**February 21, 2012: Experiencing the Taiwan Elections**, sponsored by the Organization for Asian Studies (OAS) with Edward McCord, Director, Sigur Center for Asian Studies; Associate Professor of History and International Affairs, GWU; Amy Hsieh, PhD Candidate, Political Science, GWU; Yu-Chieh Chou, MA Candidate, Asian Studies, GWU.

**February 22, 2012: Lessons From Taiwan's Elections**, with Emerson Niou, Professor of Political Science, Duke University; Suisheng Zhao, Professor and Director of the Center for China-US Cooperation, University of Denver; Michael Fonte, Washington Liaison, Democratic Progressive Party, Taiwan.

**April 6, 2012: Taiwan and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation**, with Joseph C. Y. Chang, Chief, APEC Affairs Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan; Visiting Scholar, Sigur Center for Asian Studies.

**April 30, 2012: Taiwan and Asia Pacific Economic Integration: ECFA, TPP, and Beyond**, with William Liu, Senior Executive Economic Officer, Economic Division, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States; Rupert Hammond-Chambers, President, U.S.-Taiwan Business Council; Matthew Goodman, Simon Chair in Political Economy, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Joseph C.Y. Chang, Visiting Scholar, Sigur Center for Asian Studies; Claude Barfield, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute; Derek Scissors, Senior Research Fellow, The Heritage Foundation.

Read the Asia Report [HERE](#).
June 18, 2012: Reflections on China and Taiwan: Deriving Critical Social, Political and Business Lessons, with Doug Guthrie, Dean of the George Washington University School of Business.

Faculty Lecture Series

In 2012 the Faculty Lecture Series included events covering South and Southeast Asian issues:

January 18, 2012: Marigold: The Lost Chance for Peace in Vietnam, with James Hershberg, Associate Professor of History and International Affairs, GWU.

February 2, 2012: Opportunities and Disappointments of the "Look North" Policy: Indian Strategies for Central Asia, with Marlene Laruelle, Research Professor of International Affairs, GWU (Co-Sponsored by the India Initiative).

February 9, 2012: Remembering Refugees: Stories from the 1947 Partition of India from Mumbai, and Beyond, with Kavita Daiya, Associate Professor of English and Director, MA Program in English, GWU (Co-Sponsored by the India Initiative).

Transnational and Subnational Asia Lecture Series

March 19, 2012: Myanmar in Transition: New Dynamics between ASEAN and Yangon, with Amitav Acharya, Professor of International Relations, American University; David Steinberg, Distinguished Professor, Georgetown University; Christina Fink, Discussant, Professor of Practice of International Affairs, George Washington University; Deepa Ollapally, Associate Director, Sigur Center for Asian Studies.
March 19, 2012: China’s International Energy Strategies: Global and Regional Implications, with Philip Andrews-Speed, Fellow, Transatlantic Academy, the German Marshall Fund of the United States; Associate Fellow, Chatham House.

March 20, 2012: China, India, and Water Security in the Greater Himalayas, with Katherine Morton, Associate Dean, College of Asia and the Pacific; Senior Fellow, Department of International Relations, Australian National University.

March 28, 2012: After the Earthquake and Tsunami: Japan’s Nuclear, Economic, and Political Challenges -- One Year Later, with Dr. Philippe Bardet, Assistant Professor of Engineering and Applied Science, GWU; Dr. James Kilpatrick, Adjunct Professor of Economics and International Affairs, GWU; Dr. Llewelyn Hughes, Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, GWU.

April 3, 2012: Burma After the By-Elections: Taking Gender and Human Security into Account, with Christina Fink, Professor of Practice, Elliott School of International Affairs; Tom Malinowski, Washington Director, Human Rights Watch; Mark Taylor, Senior Coordinator, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, State Department; Wenchi Yu, Senior Advisor, Secretary's Office of Global Women’s Issues, State Department.

April 10, 2012: China’s Impact on the International Order: Supporter or Revisionist?, with Dr. Lanxin Xiang, Professor of International History and Politics, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

Student Research Lecture Series

As part of the Student Research Lecture Series in Spring 2012, Karen Wenchao Mo discussed her experience as a Sigur Center Summer Research Fellow in Laos. In particular, she shed light on the effects of foreign direct investment in commercial tree plantation on local communities.

April 5, 2012: Modernization and Its Discontents: A Field Study of Foreign Direct Investment in the Forest of Laos, with Karen Wenchao Mo, MA Candidate, International Development Studies, GWU.
Visiting Scholar Roundtable

Charita A. Delos Reyes presents her research findings (05/21/2012)

May 21, 2012: When Education Meets Peoples and Cultures: Baguio City’s Transition from Colonial Hill Station to University Town, with Charita A. Delos Reyes, Visiting Scholar at the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, GWU.

The Organization of Asian Studies (OAS) student group completed a busy spring semester in which it hosted a variety of events for GW students interested in Asia.

March 9, 2012: OAS worked closely with the Japanese American Student Union to host a major event on Remembering 3.11 through the Eyes of Students from Japan, which attracted 90 people. The event reflected upon the earthquake and tsunami from the year before. Professors Mike Mochizuki and Edward Lincoln as well as Emma Chanlett-Avery from the Congressional Research Service presented on Japan’s political, economic, and foreign policy challenges. A delegation of 25 students from Japan, including some from the most devastated Tohoku region, shared their personal experiences in a panel presentation followed by small break-out groups.

Each year the Sigur Center hosts Visiting Scholars and Visiting Research Associates from around the world, who are selected on a highly competitive basis to conduct research related to Asia.

To learn more about our Visiting Scholar program, and to apply, please visit our site:

http://www.gwu.edu/~sigur/about/scholar_pgm.cfm

GW undergraduate student Owen Woo at Remembering 3.11 through the Eyes of Students from Japan (03/9/2011)
March 20, 2012: Dr. Emmanuel Teitelbaum, Director of the Asian Studies Program, presented his current research on “Red Vengeance: Political Inequality and Maoist Violence in India” as part of the Conversations with Scholars luncheon series. He explained the distinction between “old economy” and “new economy” regions in India and their unexpected correlations with incidence of Maoist violence. (Co-Sponsored by the India Initiative)
OAS continued its Asian Film Series at the Elliott School. Film screenings included *Blind Shaft* (China), *Summer Time Machine Blues* (Japan), *Formosa Betrayed* (Taiwan), and *Summer Pasture* (Tibet). The films were preceded by receptions with food from local Asian restaurants and were a big hit with undergraduate students. **Michael Fonte**, Washington Liaison of Taiwan’s Democratic Progressive Party, was a special guest speaker at the screening of *Formosa Betrayed*.

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**Dialogue on the Future of HIV/AIDS Community Based Organizations in China**

The Sigur Center hosted an event to coincide with the end of the 19th International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC. On **July 27, 2012**, members of Chinese Community Based Organizations (CBOs) focusing on HIV/AIDS as well as members of international NGOs discussed ways in which they could learn from one another and become more effective in tackling the spread of HIV/AIDS in China. The event was moderated by **Elanah Uretsky**, Assistant Professor of Global Health, Anthropology, and International Affairs at GWU and supported by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

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**2012 Annual Conference of the Chinese Military History Society**

On **May 10, 2012**, scholars gathered for the 2012 Annual Conference of the Chinese Military History Society at the Elliott School. Included in this group of scholars was **Dr. Edward McCord**, Director of the Sigur Center. Presenters discussed issues ranging from the Chinese Civil War of 1945-50 to comparisons between the evolution of the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) in China and the Korean People’s Army (KPA) in North Korea.
Partnerships for International Strategies in Asia (PISA) is hosted by the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. Directed by **Linda Yarr**, PISA prepares leaders for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st Century and mobilizes networks of scholars, policy makers, and advocates on both sides of the Pacific to address urgent national and transnational concerns.

PISA in Burma

In May, PISA Director, **Linda Yarr**, PISA Deputy-Director, **Suzanne Kelly-Lyal** and GW Professor **Christina Fink** traveled to Burma together as part of a needs assessment for PISA’s **Climate Leadership Initiative**. Over the course of a week, they met with many Burmese officials, held a group dialogue with twenty civil society activists, and collaborated with its NGO partner, **Economically Progressive Ecosystem Development (ECODEV)** which focuses on technology advancement, environmental governance and rural development initiatives in Burma.

PISA Global City in World Affairs Program

On August 27, PISA welcomed a delegation from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to participate in an eight-week program on The Global City in World Affairs. The delegation consists of eight Administrative Officers of the HKSAR’s elite Civil Service Bureau.

While in Washington, members of the delegation will learn cutting-edge strategies to manage agencies in global cities. The program comprises a special seminar, “The Global City: Political Economy, Security, and Culture,” a series of workshops on how to employ system dynamics for policy planning, and meetings with leading policymakers and faculty experts.

Recent Events Hosted by PISA

**March 21, 2012:** **Innovations in Inclusiveness and Accountability: How the ADB Ensures Responsible Development Investment in Asia**, with **Ms. Ann Quon**, Principal Director, External Relations Department, ADB, Manila; **Mr. Alessandro Pio**, Resident Director General, North American Representative Office; **Dr. Sean Roberts**, Associate Professor of Practice of International Affairs; Director, International Development Studies Program, GWU.

**June 22, 2012:** **Direct from the Rio +20 Summit on Sustainable Development: Impressions of a Chinese Scholar**, with **Yu Hongyuan**, Professor and Deputy Director of the Institute for Comparative Politics and Public Policy, Shanghai Institute for International Studies (SIIS).

**August 29, 2012:** **Making Urbanization in Asia Sustainable: Trends and Challenges**, with **Dr. Guanghua Wan**, Principal Economist, the Asian Development Bank (ADB); in partnership with the Institute for International Economic Policy (IIEP) at GWU as the first of four events in the Conversations on Development Series sponsored by the ADB at area universities.
**Summer 2012 Student Fellows**

In 2011-2012 the Sigur Center for Asian Studies awarded $138,530 for fellowship support to 11 students to travel to five Asian countries. This included nine research and language awards for the Summer 2012, and two GRAs. GRAs receive a full living stipend, full tuition for the academic year and a job at the Sigur Center. The two GRAs were Amy Hsieh, a PhD candidate in Political Science and Ithi Sophonpanich, a PhD candidate in History. The following students received field research and language study fellowships:

- **Nathaniel Austin** (BA - International Affairs). Chinese Language study - Taiwan
- **Kyle Churchman** (BA - International Affairs; Chinese Languages and Literatures). Chinese Language study - Taiwan
- **Diogo Bernardo de Castilho Penha Lemos** (PhD - Political Science). Asian Language (Hindi) study - India
- **Ian Everhart** (BA - Economics; Chinese). Chinese Language study - Taiwan
- **Varun Piplani** (PhD - Political Science). Field Research on “The Politics of Economic Reform: Explaining Privatization in the Indian States” - India
- **Nora Shetty** (MA - International Education). Field Research on “Increasing Educational opportunities for Girls: A Case Study of Non-Formal Education Models in Rural Karnataka, India” - India, Sri Lanka
- **Hyun-Jin Song** (PhD - Political Science). Field Research on “The Impact of Northeast Asian Countries’ Economic Dependence on a Rising China and Their Strategic Stance in the Security Arena” - Korea
- **Christopher Wang** (BA - International Affairs). Chinese Language study - Taiwan
- **Jackson Woods** (PhD - Political Science). Field Research on “Chinese Popular Nationalism and Assertive PRC Diplomacy, 2009-2011” - China

Check out some snapshots of their adventures abroad:

**INDIA/SRI LANKA - FIELD RESEARCH**

**Nora Shetty** in front of the “Temple of the Tooth Relic” in Kandy, Sri Lanka. Nora studied non-formal girls’ education in India then conducted research on higher education in Sri Lanka.

**TAIWAN - LANGUAGE STUDY**

**Christopher Wang** makes Aiyu Jelly at a cultural event sponsored by his language program at National Taiwan University.
Apply for Fellowships and Grants!

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies is an excellent resource for students wishing to conduct language study or field research abroad. For more information and to apply, visit our website at: [http://www.gwu.edu/~sigur/academics/fellowships.cfm](http://www.gwu.edu/~sigur/academics/fellowships.cfm).

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**CHINA - FIELD RESEARCH**

Jackson Woods gives a talk on American views of China to MA and PhD international relations students at Nankai University in Tianjin, China.

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**TAIWAN - LANGUAGE STUDY**

Ian Everhart on a field trip in Taiwan to make pineapple cakes.

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**INDIA - LANGUAGE STUDY**

Diogo Lemos in front of the Landour Language School, in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, India.

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**KOREA - FIELD RESEARCH**

Hyun-Jin Song in front of Lotte International Education Hall, Seoul National University.
Summer 2012 Faculty Fellows

This summer the Sigur Center for Asian Studies funded 15 faculty members with a total of $93,341 to travel to 11 Asian countries and the United States to conduct research. Awardees include:

- **Celeste Arrington** *(Political Science)*. Victim redress movements - Japan and Korea
- **Gregg Brazinsky** *(History)*. Sino-American competition in the third world, 1949-1980 - China
- **Wenjie Chen** *(International Business)*. Trade patterns within Chinese firms - China
- **Alexander Huang** *(English, Theatre)*. For a book in the "Oxford Shakespeare Topics" series - Taiwan, Hong Kong and The UK
- **Llewelyn Hughes** *(Political Science)*. Resource nationalism, energy security and competition for resources - Japan
- **Srividya Jandhyala** *(International Business)*. India’s global investment policies - India
- **Young-key Kim-Renaud** *(East Asian Languages and Literatures)*. Contemporary use of “honorification” - Korea and China
- **Joel Kuipers** *(Anthropology)*. The Aliran currents’ concept of Islamic politics - Indonesia
- **Deepa Ollapally** *(International Affairs)*. China and India’s economic interdependence - India
- **David Shambaugh** *(Political Science)*. China’s perspectives on global governance and the evolving international order - China
- **James Williams** *(International Affairs)*. Cambodia retention study and Sri Lanka/Malaysia higher education study - Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Cambodia
- **Jiawen Yang** *(International Business)*. China’s economic and financial policies and external impact - China
- **Linda Yarr** *(International Affairs)*. PISA Leadership Institute on Climate Change - Burma
- **Jing Zhong** *(Gelman Library)*. Development of the “Open Access” movement - China

**Professor David Shambaugh** interviews Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai in Beijing.

**Professor Young-Key Kim-Renaud** with Dr. Yuming Piao at the "Sacred Place" of Paektusan (Korean name)/Changbaishan (Chinese name), on the border between China and North Korea.
**Selected Publications**

**Books**


**Journal Articles and Book Chapters**


Celeste Arrington is the Korea Foundation Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at GWU and a Sigur Center faculty member. She specializes in South Korea, North Korea and Japan with a focus on social movements, state-society relations, democratic governance, and policy-making in comparative perspective. She also speaks Korean and Japanese.

Celeste traces the origin of her interest in Northeast Asia to an undergraduate seminar she took on Japanese politics and a homestay program she did while studying Japanese in Kanazawa, Japan early in her undergraduate days at Princeton University. Her interests began to extend to the Korean peninsula during her junior year, when she participated in a policy seminar in Princeton’s Woodrow Wilson School that examined the North Korean nuclear program and recommended potential policies for the United States and its allies.

The following Fall, Kim Jong-Il admitted that North Korean agents had abducted 17 Japanese citizens in the 1970s and 1980s. She happened to be in Japan researching the history of Japan-North Korea relations when the only five allegedly surviving abductees returned to Japanese soil. While in Japan at the time, “I became more acutely aware of the fact that the Korean peninsula could become a major factor in Japanese domestic politics.” Witnessing the influence that the 17 abductees’ families have had on the Japanese government’s decision-making processes “got me interested in how and when ordinary citizens affect policy decisions.”

Since that time Celeste has conducted extensive research on victim redress movements in Korea and Japan. Thanks to Sigur Center research funding in Summer 2012, Celeste was able to travel to Seoul, Tokyo, and Osaka to interview members of both countries’ hemophilia communities and other victim activists. Celeste recalls how listening to hemophilia patients infected with HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C from tainted blood products speak about their efforts to hold pharmaceutical companies and the government accountable “gave me hope about the ability of groups of ordinary citizen to make a difference in policy-making processes.”

Celeste’s research also analyzes the role that the media, NGOs and lawyers play in the process of citizens asserting their rights. She is teaching a course on state-society relations in East Asia for undergraduates this Fall and will teach courses on the politics of the two Koreas at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the Spring. She is currently completing a book manuscript that compares the ways in which victims of government wrongdoing and negligence claim redress in Japan and Korea.

Kalisha Holmes graduated from the Elliott School in May with a BA in International Affairs. She had the honor of being selected as a 2012 Elliott School Distinguished Scholar, an honor bestowed to students in the top two percent by GPA who have also distinguished themselves inside and outside the classroom.

In addition, Kalisha interned at the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs at the Department of State this past summer as a Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellow. She is now enrolled in the Public Policy Program at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government.

Kalisha’s general interest in international affairs began in high school. “I originally planned to be a teacher,” recounts Kalisha. “Then in my junior year, I found out about an international affairs academy at my
Featured Alumna -

Dr. Ahn Yinhay

Dr. Ahn Yinhay received a Ph.D in Political Science as a Presidential Scholar at GW in 1991. Since that time she has gone on to hold numerous posts in academia and government as well as become a prolific writer. She has served as a member of the Policy Advisory Council in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry of Defense in Korea. She was also a member of the Policy Advisory Council in the Ministry of Unification, and the National Security Council (NSC). In 2011, Professor Ahn won the 2011 People of the Year and Korean JK Culture Award.

Among her various articles and books is A Study on North Korean Elites (1992) and “Sino-American Relations and the North Korean Nuclear Issue” (2007). In 2002 she served as the Dean of the Division of International Studies, Korea University. Dr. Ahn is currently the president of the Korean Association of International Studies (KAIS). She recently attended a Sigur Center conference celebrating 130 years of the U.S.-Korea relationship.

high school and decided I would enroll, not knowing much about international affairs at the time. My teacher was so passionate about the field and it really opened my eyes to a lot of other cultures I wasn’t familiar with. Once I started, I realized that there was so much to learn about and I never wanted to stop learning because I feel that I can spend a lifetime in this field and still not know everything I want to know.”

Kalisha’s regional interest in China began after viewing a scene from Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, where one of the characters is practicing calligraphy. “It seemed just as much of an art form as a language, and once I saw that I was really inspired to learn Chinese.” Despite Chinese not being offered at her high school, she initially tried to teach herself, then was able to find a Chinese language partner to practice with. “My search for undergrad programs then became dominated by which one had the best Chinese program, and GW certainly had a great one.”

Once at GW, Kalisha spent six weeks abroad in China as a Sigur Center Summer Language Fellow. Upon returning and becoming an Elliott School peer advisor, Kalisha became a strong advocate for the Sigur Center. “I would direct students to the Center for Chinese language resources such as the tea-times as well as the great events put on by OAS. It’s been an enormous benefit to me academically and personally.”

Kalisha will be participating in an international internship in 2013 and one of her goals is to join the Foreign Service.
Gifts and Giving Opportunities

The Sigur Center for Asian Studies is grateful for support from the individuals, foundations, and corporations for its activities. Gifts to the Sigur Center for Asian Studies support our students, our special events, and our research. Even more importantly, gifts to the Sigur Center help us carry out our mission — to increase the quality and broaden the scope of scholarly research and publications on Asian affairs, promote U.S.-Asian scholarly interaction and serve as the nexus for educating a new generation of students, scholars, analysts, and policymakers.

If you wish to make a donation to the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, please contact Deepa Ollapally at deepao@gwu.edu OR follow our donation link below:

https://www.gwu.edu/online_giving/

Contact Us!

Give us a call or send us an email for more information about our various programs and opportunities. Also, we are always delighted to hear from our alumni and we would love to learn about the interesting things you have been up to since leaving the Sigur Center. Please don’t be a stranger!

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THANK YOU!

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