Committee on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies

2015-2016 Membership

Jay Garfield, chair & newsletter editor (2017)

Bina Gupta (2016)
Leah Kalmanson (2016)
Amy Donahue (2017)
Jonathan Y. Tsou (2017)
Manyul Im (2018)
Ethan Mills (2018)

Prasanta S. Bandyopadhyay, newsletter editor
Annual Report of the APA Committee on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies

Ms Linda Nuoffer
American Philosophical Association

The APA Committee on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies sponsored panels in all three meetings of the American Philosophical Association. At the Eastern Division meetings we sponsored two panels. The first was entitled, “The Analytic Tradition and Chinese Philosophy.” Speakers included Linyu Gu (Hawaii), Chung-Ying Chen (Hawaii), Michael Beaney (York) and Rainer Schaefer (Peking and Heidelberg), Chen Bo (Peking, China), Xinzhong Yao (Renmin University of China and King’s College London), Susan Haack (University of Miami), Chung-Ying Cheng (Hawaii) and Gary Mar (Stony Brook University).

The second was “Building Bridges in Indian Philosophy: Across Traditions and World-Views.” This one featured Malcolm Keating (Yale-NUS College), Keya Maitra (University of North Carolina at Asheville), Emily McRae (University of New Mexico), Shalini Sinha (University of Reading, Ethan Mills (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga), Prasanta Bandyopadhyay (Montana State University) and Birdie Kushner (Montana State University). Together, these represented a broad range of Asian philosophy presented by a nice mix of young and established philosophers from the United States and Asia.

At the Central Division, we also presented two panels. The first was an author meets critic panel on Peter K. J. Park’s Africa, Asia and the History of Philosophy: Racism and the Formation of the Philosophical Canon. The critics were Leah Kalmanson (Drake University), Alejandro Barcenas (Texas State University), Dan Flory (Montana State University), Peter K. J. Park (University of Texas at Dallas) with JeeLoo Liu (California State University, Fullerton) and Chenyang Li (Nanyang Technological University) as commentators.

We also presented “Applying the Chinese Gongfu Method to Philosophy—Eastern or Western.” This panel included, Huaiyu Wang (Georgia College & State University), Peimin Ni (Grand Valley State University), Suk Choi (Towson University), Xinyan Jiang (University of Redlands, Rina Camus (Nanyang Technological University), Yong Huang (The Chinese University of Hong Kong) and Timothy Connolly (East Stroudsburg University).

At the Pacific Division meetings, we presented three panels. “The Moral Significance of Shame and Disgust: Chinese and Western Perspectives” featured Justin Tiwald (San Francisco State University), JeeLoo Liu (California State University, Fullerton), Hagop Sarkissian (Baruch
College, Raffaele Rodogno (University of Aarhus) and Joshua May (The University of Alabama at Birmingham).

Our second panel was “What Can’t Be Said: Paradox in Contradiction in East Asian Philosophy.” Participants included Brook Ziporyn (Chicago), Yasuo Deguch (Kyoto), Jay Garfield (Yale-NUS College), Graham Priest (CUNY Graduate Center) and Robert Sharf (University of California, Berkeley).

Finally, we presented an author meets critics panel on Barry Allen’s Vanishing into Things. The critics were Chenyang Li (Nanyang Technical University), Nico Silins (Yale-NUS College and Loy Hui-chieh (National University of Singapore), Chenyang Li (Nanyang Technological University) Nicholas Silins (Cornell University and Yale-NUS College) Hui-chieh Loy (National University of Singapore), thus constituting an entirely Singaporean panel of critics. Once again, we note the variety of traditions we address, and the balance between Asian and Western philosophers and universities.

In 2017, we anticipate a continued high profile at the APA meetings, with 2-3 panels projected for each meeting, once again bringing together younger and more established figures, philosophy form East and South Asia, and philosophers from North America and from Asia. We will also address more issues relevant to Asian-American philosophers next time around.

Our newsletter, under the able editorial leadership of Prasanta Bandyopadhyay once again published two fine issues: Vol 15:1 addressed topics in Indian philosophy and included the following articles:

- Nalini Bhushan and Jay L. Garfield
  Self and Subjectivity in Colonial India: A. C. Mukerji and K. C. Bhattacharyya

- Simon Dixon
  Indian Film as Film: Re ections on the Bollywood Aesthetic

- Michelle Maskiell
  The Rhetoric of Indian Exoticism and Work, circa 1600 to 2014

- Himadri Banerjee
  Nuancing the Notion of Diaspora: A Case Study of Indian Sikhs

Vol 15:2, guest edited by Amy Olberding, focused on Chinese philosophy. It included:

- Amy Olberding
  Chinese Philosophy and Wider Philosophical Discourse: Including Chinese Philosophy in General Audience Philosophy Journals

- David B. Wong
  Some Re ections on the Status of Chinese Philosophy in U.S. Graduate Programs

- Erin M. Cline
  What’s Missing in Philosophy Departments? Specialists in Chinese Philosophy

- Alexus McLeod
  May You Live in Interesting Times: The State of the Field of Chinese Philosophy

- Yong Huang
  The “Double Bind” on Specialists in Chinese Philosophy

- Bryan W. Van Norden
  Problems and Prospects for the Study of Chinese Philosophy in the English-Speaking World
Over the next year we will be discussing ways to increase the presence of Asian philosophy in the curricula of philosophy departments in North America and to call Asian and Asian-American philosophy to the attention of philosophers otherwise not aware of this work.

Respectfully submitted

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