

13th Annual

Asian American Heritage Conference

“Preserving Our Heritage: Globalization and Identity”

Northeastern Illinois University is immeasurably enriched by contributions from persons who are closely connected to the Asian, and Asian American cultures. We have the opportunity to learn from our students, faculty and staff of these cultures. The Asian American Heritage Conference provides the university community with an opportunity to increase awareness and to further our understanding and appreciation of the influence and rich traditions of Asian and Asian American culture in our global society.

Sharon K. Hahs, President

It is important, at this time in history, to build bridges of understanding that foster respect and appreciation in an increasingly diverse global environment. Understanding and appreciating the influence of Asian, and Asian American cultural heritage strengthens our knowledge and promotes a better awareness of the rich diversity that exists within our community. The Asian, and Asian American Heritage Program will afford us the opportunity to expand our knowledge of the significant contributions made in the arts and intellectual pursuits of the cultures represented.

Murrell J. H. Duster, Dean, Academic Development

Calendar of Events

March 20 through April 3 - 2nd Floor Student Union Art Gallery

Images of Burma: A 3-part Photo Exhibit

by **Stacie Freudenberg**, Professional Photojournalist, filmed on location in Burma and Thailand

This pictographic portrayal spans Freudenberg's two-month stay along the Thai/Myanmar border, of Burmese nationals living along the border—refugees, illegal migrants and hill tribes. Their deepest desire is freedom from oppression and the return to power of the hotly contested democratic leader-Aung San Suu Kyi (Ang-Sa-Suu-Chi) currently under house arrest. Titled *Barbed Wire Prison, Organic Sweat and Freedomless*, these pictures tell the story of a country's ethnic minorities who are constant victims of torture, abuse and murder at the hands of their own government.

March 31 through April 7 - 2nd Floor Fine Arts Gallery

International Art Exchange Exhibition from Our Sister University,

Northeastern in Shenyang, China

Organized by **Shencheng Xu**, Professor, Art, NEIU

Xin Zhao; Bowen Zha; Xiaohang Xu, NEIU exchange students

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm _____ **SU-214**

“NowRuz – A Celebration of Iranian New Year”

NowRuz, or new day, is the celebration of Spring Equinox. It is the most cherished of all Iranian festivals and has been observed in one form or another by major cultures of ancient Mesopotamia. Today NowRuz, with its uniquely Iranian characteristics, is a celebration of Spring and the Creation of Life. Seven trays filled with symbolic objects representing truth, justice, good thoughts, good deeds, virtue, prosperity, generosity and long life are displayed. Stop by and sample food, see displays of traditional NowRuz tables, Iranian books and handicrafts.

Sponsored by (Persian) Iranian Faculty and Staff, NEIU

7:30 pm – 9:30 pm _____ **Recital Hall**

A Live Performance by ROKSONAKI

Introduction: **Russell Zanca**, Associate Professor, Anthropology, NEIU

A smash hit at the 2002 Smithsonian Folklife Festival, **Roksonaki**, Kazakhstan's talented avant-garde artists pioneered the creation of a unique sound that integrates ancient Kazakh instrumentation with contemporary rock and jazz using motifs drawn from Eurasia's indigenous religious traditions. This performance gives lucky audiences an opportunity to learn about Central Asian culture directly from the source. www.mosaiga.com. Performance facilitated by the Central Asian Cultural Exchange, the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the USA, Air Astana, Lancaster Group, the Kazakh-American Business Association, Keleshek Kazakhstan Public Foundation, and Turkish Airways.

Co-Sponsored by The Office of Cultural Events, NEIU

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

9:00 am – 9:50 am _____ **Golden Eagles**

Asian Values and Globalization

Welcome /

Introduction: **Hossein Birjandi**, Instructor, Management and Marketing, NEIU

Presenters: **Andy Chen**, Assistant Professor, Accounting, Business and Management, NEIU

D.S. Sundaram, Associate Professor, Management and Marketing, NEIU

Hamid Akbari, Associate Professor and Chair, Management and Marketing, NEIU

10:00 am – 10:50 am _____ **Golden Eagles**

National Autonomy: Examining the 60th Anniversary of India's and Burma's Independence

Welcome /

Introduction: **Sharon K. Hahs**, President, NEIU

Moderator: **Hamid Akbari**, Chair and Associate Professor, Management and Marketing, NEIU

Presenters: **Honorable Ashok Kumar Attri**, Consul General of India, Chicago

Kyi May Kaung, Artist and Poet, Burmese activist

11:00 am – 11:50 am _____ **Golden Eagles**

Contemporary Asian Cinema: Korea and Iran

Introduction /

Moderator: **Rodney Higginbotham**, Associate Professor, Communications, Media and Theater, NEIU

Presenters: **Honorable Jung-Il Han**, Consul, South Korea, Chicago

Man-Sung Son, President, SMS Productions

Jason Mohaghegh, Assistant Professor, Philosophy, NEIU

12:00 noon – 1:30 pm _____ **Auditorium Hallway**

Taste of Asia: Chinese, Japanese Food, Indian and Korean Student Clubs, Geisha Performance by Sally Suzuki and Break Dancing by Chris Santiago and Friends

Coordinated by **Masami Takahashi**, Assistant Professor, Psychology, NEIU

Noon - 1:30 pm _____ **Fortune Cookie Distribution**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

Two Decades since Dictatorship in the Philippines and South Korea

Introduction: **Sangmin Bae**, Assistant Professor, Political Science, NEIU

Moderator: **David Leaman**, Associate Professor, Political Science, NEIU

Presenters: **Namhee Lee**, Assistant Professor, Modern Korean History, UCLA

Reynaldo Ty, Doctoral Candidate, Counseling, Adult and Higher Education, Northern Illinois University; Former Assistant Professor, University of Philippines

Comment: **Priscilla Litorja**, Instructor, English, NEIU

In 1986 in the Philippines, a long-running dictatorship was ended and a democratically elected president took office. In 1987 in South Korea, the military authoritarian government left power and gave way to elected civilian government. This panel highlights the momentous political transitions in these two Asian nations two decades ago and assesses the political developments in these two nations in the two decades since.

Co-sponsored by National Unification Advisory Council

2:00 pm – 2:50 pm _____ **SU-214**

Role of Ethnic Mass Media in the Asian Community

Introduction: **Hans Upadhyay**, Professor, Earth Science, NEIU

Presenters: **Nancy Loo**, Anchor, Morning News, Fox News Chicago, WFLD-TV; Emmy Award

Winning News Journalist

Rajinder Bedi, Managing Director, Office of Commerce and Trade, State of Illinois

2:25 pm – 3:40 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

15 Years of Market Economy in India

Welcome /

Introduction: **Varkey Titus**, Dean, College of Business and Management, NEIU

Presenter: **Girish Rishi**, Vice President and General Manager, Motorola Corporation, Chicago

4:15 pm – 5:30 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

Impact of War on Globalization

Introduction: **T.Y. Okosun**, Assistant Professor, Justice Studies and African and African American Studies, NEIU

Presenters: **Thomas Hoff**, Instructor, History, NEIU

Namhee Lee, Assistant Professor, Modern Korean History, UCLA

5:40 pm – 6:55 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

The Role of IMF in the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis

Introduction /

Moderator: **Crystal Xiaobei Chen**, Assistant Professor, Accounting, Business Law and

Finance; Faculty Advisor, FMA-NEIU Chapter, Student Finance Club, NEIU

Presenter: **Jin Wook Choi**, Professor, Economics, DePaul University

7:05 pm – 7:55 pm _____ **SU-214**

Globalization: Teaching Chinese Language and Culture

Introduction /

Moderator: **Andrew Eisenberg**, Associate Professor, History, NEIU

Presenter: **Robert Davis**, Director, The Confucius Institute, Chicago

7:00 pm – 9:45 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

Korean War; Prospect of Reunification: Liberty in North Korea

Welcome: **Sharon K. Hahs**, President, NEIU

Greetings: **Honorable Sung Hwan Son**, Consul General of Republic of Korea, Chicago

Introduction: **John Kwon**, NUAC - Midwest Chapter

Presenters: **Namhee Lee**, Assistant Professor, Modern Korean History, UCLA

Martyn de Bruyn, Assistant Professor, Political Science, NEIU

Adrian Hong, Executive Director, Link, Washington, D. C.

Sponsored by National Unification Advisory Council

8:00 pm – 9:45 pm _____ **Recital Hall**

A Vocal Recital: Chinese Songs, Famous Operatic Arias and Art Songs by Professor Dexiang You, Deputy Director, School of Music, Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing, China

Introduction: **Peter Chang**, Professor, Music, NEIU

Thursday, April 3, 2008

9:25 am - 10:40 am _____ **Golden Eagles**

Role of Ethnic Mass Media in the Asian Community

Introduction: **Rohit Joshi**, Learning Center, NEIU

Moderator: **Edie Rubinowitz**, Assistant Professor, Communications, Media and Theater, NEIU

Presenters: **Ravi Baichwal**, Weekend Anchor and Reporter, ABC 7 News

Monica Eng, Reporter/Writer, Chicago Tribune

10:50 am - 12:05 pm _____ **SU-214**

English as a Global Language

Introduction: **Richard Hallett**, Associate Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Presenters: **Masahiro Kasai**, Director, Assessment and Testing, NEIU

Angela Laughlin, Graduate Student, Linguistics, NEIU

10:50 am - 12:05 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

Prospects for Peace and Democracy in Burma: A Panel Presentation

Introduction: **Hamid Akbari**, Associate Professor and Chair, Management and Marketing, NEIU

Discussants: **Kyi May Kaung**, Artist and Poet, Burmese Activist

Nora E. Rowley, U.S. Campaign for Burma

Stacie Freudenberg, Professional Photo Journalist

12:15 pm - 1:30 pm _____ **Auditorium Hallway**

A Korean Culinary Arts Extravaganza: Demonstration and Tasting

Introduction: **Yasmin Ranney**, Assistant Dean, Academic Development, NEIU

Presenter: **Esther Won**, President, Institute of Korean Traditional Cuisine

Co-Sponsored by Korean American Students' Association

1:00 pm - 2:50 pm _____ **Auditorium Hallway**

Asian Hip Hop and Rappers by Chris Santiago and Friends; Emcee II Moon Jo

2:50 pm - 4:05 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

Global Hip Hop

Moderator: **Richard Hallett**, Assistant Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Shahrzad Mahootian, Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Discussants: **Jill Ward**, "*Indexing Identity Through a Global Medium*"

Matt Garley, "*Anglicism in the Hip-Hop Community*", Doctoral Candidate, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Angie Williams, "*Palestinian Hip-Hop*", Doctoral Candidate, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

4:15 pm - 5:30 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

A Keynote Address: UNESCO's Role in the Preservation of Endangered Languages and Culture

Welcome/Introduction: **Murrell J. H. Duster**, Dean, Academic Development / Diversity and

Multicultural Programs, NEIU

Moderator: **John Boyle**, Assistant Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Keynote Address: ... **Helene Marie Gosselin**, Director, UNESCO, United Nations

Discussants: **Shahrzad Mahootian**, Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Marit Vamarasi, Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Russell Zanca, Associate Professor, Anthropology, NEIU

4:15 pm - 6:55 pm _____ **SU-214**

Burma: Images and Stories from Refugees Camps

Introduction: **Edie Rubinowitz**, Assistant Professor, Communication, Media and Theater, NEIU

Presenters: **Nora E. Rowley**, U.S. Campaign for Burma

Stacie Freudenberg, Professional Photo Journalist

5:40 pm - 6:55 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

A Round Table Dialog: Language, Identity and Cultural Diffusion

Introduction / Moderator: **Suzanne Gaskins**, Professor, Psychology, NEIU

Discussants: **Chris Schroeder**, Associate Professor, English, NEIU

Judy Kaplan-Weinger, Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Russell Zanca, Associate Professor, Anthropology, NEIU

Josh Thusat, Graduate Student, Linguistics, NEIU

7:05 pm - 9:45 pm _____ **Golden Eagles**

A Panel Presentation: Cultural Identity in the 21st Century

Introduction: **Julie Kim**, Professor, English, NEIU

Panelists: **Tim Libretti**, Professor, English, NEIU

Sandra Hunt, Professor, English, NEIU

Anita Ambardar, Professor, Reading, NEIU

Chielozone Eze, Assistant Professor, English, NEIU

Judy Kaplan-Weinger, Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Friday, April 4, 2008

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm _____ **El Centro**

Asian Rap Music by Leo Arias

Introduction: **Maria Luna-Duarte**, Associate Director, El Centro

Moderator: **Anthony Gilbert**, Instructor, El Centro

Monday, April 7, 2008

10:00 am – 10:40 am _____ **Golden Eagles**

Where in the World is the Middle East?

Introduction: **Shahrzad Mahootian**, Professor, Linguistics, NEIU

Presenters: **Saba Ayman-Nolley**, Professor, Psychology, NEIU

Simin Hemmati-Rasmussen, Teacher Education, NEIU

Rasoul Rezvanian, Professor, Accounting, Business Law and Finance, NEIU

10:45 am – 11:15 am _____ **Golden Eagles**

The Iranian Poetic Imagination

Presenter: **Jason Mohaghegh**, Assistant Professor, Philosophy, NEIU

11:20 am – 11:50 am _____ **Golden Eagles**

Assessing the U.S.-Pakistan Relationship: The Compatibility of Democracy and Stability

Presenter: **Russell Zanca**, Associate Professor, Anthropology, NEIU

Noon – 3:00 pm _____ **Village Square**

A grassroots' initiative by women of Iran - "One Million Signature Campaign" and "Change for Equality Campaign"

A table display by Amir Noormandi, Chicago-based professional photographer

and Women's Rights Activist

8:00 pm – 9:30 pm _____ **Auditorium**

Korean Traditional Music and Dance by Korean Folk Art Center, 'PAN', Seoul, Korea

Sponsored by Chicago Region Korean Traditional Artists' Association