



University  
of Victoria

Centre for  
Asia-Pacific Initiatives

# Annual Review 2020-2021





This report covers the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

Design - **Katie Dey**

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Cover photograph: Shwedagon Pagoda, Yangon, Myanmar - CAPI Intern **Nick Harrison**



**University  
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# CONTENTS

ABOUT CAPI	2
DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE	3
OUR PEOPLE	4
CHINA CHAIR	6
CHAIR IN ASIA-PACIFIC LEGAL RELATIONS	8
JARISLOWSKY JAPAN CHAIR	9
SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS	10
MIGRATION AND MOBILITY PROGRAM	12
LANDSCAPES OF INJUSTICE	14
ASIA IN AFRICA	16
SOUTH ASIA GLOBAL FORUM	17
GLOBAL SOUTH COLLOQUIUM	18
SOUTHEAST ASIA IN GLOBAL CONTEXT	19
QES-AS PROGRAM	20
CAPI INTERNSHIP PROGRAM	21
SPECIAL EVENTS	22
TALKS AND EVENTS	24
TRAINING PROGRAMS	28
AWARD WINNERS	29



On the summer solstice, some of the CAPI team joined colleague Robyn Fila and friends as she marked 365 consecutive days of immersion in the Pacific Ocean

## ABOUT CAPI

The Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) was established in 1988 at the University of Victoria (UVic) in recognition of the importance of Canada's relationship with the burgeoning Asia-Pacific region. For over three decades CAPI has served as a bridge for academics, students, policy-makers and civic leaders to undertake a diverse range of initiatives on both sides of the Pacific. CAPI has broad capacity: from hosting conferences, supporting original research, and fostering institutional capacity building, to administering scholarly exchanges and professional training programs.

### **Our Vision Statement**

Through the continued excellence of its research and programming, CAPI will be recognized as the pre-eminent Asia-Pacific focused academic centre in North America. The Centre will engage with institutions, civil society and leading scholars at the University of Victoria and across the world to broker and facilitate meaningful relationships that will make a difference.

### **Our Mandate**

By providing a supportive environment for scholarly excellence and community engagement, CAPI will deepen the connection between the University of Victoria and the Asia-Pacific region. Through the work of CAPI's Chairs and programming, CAPI will be a catalyst for the creation, recognition and dissemination of knowledge concerning issues affecting the region.

### **Our Goals**

- To create and maintain connections between the UVic community and the Asia-Pacific region.
- To create and provide research programs and learning opportunities of such quality as to ensure CAPI's leadership among Asia-Pacific research centres in North America.
- To recruit, retain and support talented faculty, students and staff at the Centre, supporting them to achieve their highest potential.
- To access external funding to increase our programming and thus to increase the benefit to the University and the wider community.



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The ability of societies to adapt to fundamental changes might give us some hope as we look to the next phase of the Covid-19 pandemic and ahead other global challenges that await us. This report covers a full year of activities under pandemic conditions. The ability of our Centre to adapt, and to do so with enthusiasm and commitment is cause for optimism - even as we acknowledge the pandemic's heavy toll, and its uneven consequences around the world.

This report recounts a year of oscillating between in-person and virtual, between meeting in person for an outdoor meal - and working from home, "zooming" with colleagues. We were delighted to be able to collaborate with partners in Australia, Greece, Hong Kong, and Vietnam, on virtual conferences and workshops, and to host speakers from across Asia and around the world. We also managed to shift some of our inbound programming online, welcoming students from Kagoshima University to a five-day virtual workshop. Although our flagship internship program remained grounded, we managed to navigate the complex world of pandemic travel and quarantine rules to welcome visiting researchers from South Korea and Thailand on extended visits. As the 2020-2021 academic year drew to a close, we bade farewell to our friends and colleagues Keren Huang, Qian Liu, and Thanh Phan as they took up exciting opportunities in Vancouver, Calgary, and Toronto, respectively, and we happily anticipated the arrival of CAPI's newest member, Jarislowsky Japan Chair Endo Takahiro who joined us from Hitotsubashi University in Japan. As always, facilitating the work of our chairs, fellows, associates, and visitors is a team effort, and - along with Keren, Qian, and Thanh - Mike Abe, Katie Dey, Robyn Fila, Helen Lansdowne, and Jon Woods have been at the heart of everything we do.

We are proud of how seamlessly we've been able to adapt to the pandemic in our daily activities and our programming - and for the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues in Asia, in particular, in ways we had not fully explored. At the same time, we have come to appreciate and value even more the importance of the personal - of the spontaneous exchange of ideas on the sidelines of a conference, over a coffee, a meal or a hike. Those days will return, soon we hope, and when they do, we will be sure to savour them. In the meantime, stay well and healthy, wherever you are. We hope to see you in person soon.

**- Victor V. Ramraj**

CAPI Director, Chair in Asia-Pacific Legal Relations, UVic Professor of Law



Some of the faces we see on our screens regularly at CAPI events and meetings

## Staff

**Victor V. Ramraj**  
Director

**Helen Lansdowne**  
Associate Director

**Michael Abe**  
Landscapes of Injustice Project  
Manager

**Katie Dey**  
Office Administrator

**Robyn Fila**  
International Student Internship  
Program Manager

**Keren Huang**  
International Youth Leadership Program  
Coordinator

**Qian Liu**  
Events and Research Coordinator

**Thanh Phan**  
QES-AS Project Manager

**Jonathan Woods**  
Communications Officer

## Senior Research Fellows

**Neilesh Bose**  
History

**Phil Calvert**  
Former Canadian Ambassador to Thailand,  
Cambodia and Laos

**Daniela Damian**  
Computer Science

**Feng Xu**  
Political Science

## Research Chairs

**Victor V. Ramraj**  
Chair in Asia-Pacific Legal Relations

**Endo Takahiro**  
Jarislowsky Japan Chair

**Guoguang Wu**  
Chair in China and Asia-Pacific Relations

## Steering Committee

**Victor V. Ramraj (Chair)**  
Director, CAPI

**Susan Breau**  
Dean, Faculty of Law

**Richard Fox**  
Chair, Pacific and Asian Studies

**Lisa Kalynchuk**  
Vice President Research

**Saul Klein, Dean**  
Dean, Faculty of Business

**Helen Lansdowne**  
Associate Director, CAPI

**Pooja Parmar**  
Faculty of Law

**Real Roy**  
Biology

**Guoguang Wu**  
CAPI China Chair

**Feng Xu**  
Political Science



The CAPI team enjoy a summer drink while wishing all the best to Qian Liu, who will be leaving us to take up a position at the University of Calgary. Pictured left to right: Qian Liu, Helen Lansdowne, Mike Abe, Robyn Fila, Victor Ramraj, Katie Dey. Photo: Jon Woods

## CAPI Associates

### Jessica Ball

UVic School of Child and Youth Care

### Sikata Banerjee

UVic Gender Studies

### Melia Belli Bose

UVic Art History & Visual Studies

### James Boutilier

Special Advisor at Canada's Maritime Forces Pacific

### Leslie Butt

UVic Anthropology

### Angie Chau

UVic Pacific and Asian Studies

### Raveendra Chittoor

UVic Gustavson School of Business

### Deborah Curran

UVic Faculty of Law

### Daniela Damian

UVic Computer Science (Software Engineering)

### Donna Greschner

UVic Faculty of Law

### Jingjai Hanchanlash

President of the Thai-Canada Economic Cooperation Foundation

### Asad Kiyani

UVic Faculty of Law

### Sujin Lee

UVic Pacific and Asian Studies

### Qian Liu

University of Calgary, Sociology

### Isabel Lloyd

CIDA, UN Development Fund for Women

### Andrew Marton

UVic Pacific and Asian Studies

### Ted McDorman

UVic Faculty of Law

### Catherine Morris

UVic Faculty of Law

### Renée Mulligan

Legal Counsel, BC Attorney General, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

### Sudhir Nair

UVic Gustavson School of Business

### Sada Niang

UVic French

### Pooja Parmar

UVic Faculty of Law

### Thanh Phan

PhD graduate, UVic Faculty of Law

### Cody Poulton

UVic Pacific and Asian Studies

### Supriya Routh

UVic Faculty of Law

### Daromir Rudnyckj

UVic Anthropology

### Hugh Stephens

Pacific Economic Cooperation Council, Trans-Pacific Connections Consulting

### Reeta Tremblay

UVic Political Science

### Jeremy Webber

UVic Faculty of Law

### Jae Woon Lee

Chinese University of Hong Kong

# CHINA CHAIR

## Guoguang Wu

Professor, UVic Departments of Political Science and History

### Publications

Guoguang Wu, "Spread of Information versus Spread of Virus: China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong," in Victor V. Ramraj ed., *Covid-19 in Asia: Law and Policy Contexts* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020), pp. 73-84.

Guoguang Wu, "Globalization and the Rise of the Economic State: PRC and USA in Comparison," in Ino Rossi ed., *Challenges of Globalization and Prospects for an Inter-civilizational World Order* (New York: Springer, 2020), pp. 241-259.

Guoguang Wu, a book review (*End of an Era: How China's Authoritarian Revival is Undermining Its Rise*, by Carl Minzner), *Pacific Affairs*, vol. 94, no. 1 (March 2021), pp. 154-156.

Guoguang Wu, "Continuous Purges: Xi's Control of the Public Security Apparatus and the Changing Dynamics of CCP Elite Politics," *The China Leadership Monitor*, the December issue, 2020, <https://www.prcleader.org/>

Guoguang Wu, "Forewords," to Li Nanyang ed., *The Three Gorges*, Keller, Texas: Fellows Press of America, 2020.

Guoguang Wu, Yuan Feng, and Helen Lansdowne eds., *Gender Dynamics, Feminist Activism, and Social Transformation in China*, London: Routledge, 2020, x + 281 pp., paperback (the hardcover edition and e-edition were originally published in January 2019).

Guoguang Wu, "Shaping Politics with Violence: Why Did the CCP Conduct Land Reform with Violence?" in Song Yongyi ed., *Reassessing Mao's Land Reform*, Hong Kong: Greenfield Books, 2020, pp. 440-468 [in Chinese].

Guoguang Wu, "The Tiananmen Military Coup D'état of 1989: A Neglected Aspect of History from a Comparative-Politics Perspective," in Huang Xiuduan and Huang Mo eds., *Retrospect on the Tiananmen Crackdown and Prospect on China's Democracy*, Taipei: Press of Yunchen Culture and Center for Human Rights, Soochow University, 2020, pp. 55-85 [in Chinese].

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### Conference Papers and Public Presentations

- "The Hong Kong Crisis: A Perspective on Beijing," a presentation at the UVic CAPI forum "The Hong Kong Crisis from Multiple Perspectives," Victoria, BC, September 17, 2020.
- "Spread of Information versus Spread of Virus: China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong in a Comparative Perspective," a paper presented at the CAPI forum "Covid-19 in East Asia: Information Transparency, State Surveillance, and Supply Chains," University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, October 8, 2020.
- Presentation and panel discussion on "CCP Foreign Policy," an online workshop, National Security Policy Center, University of Virginia, USA, February 22, 2021.
- Presentation and panel discussion on "The China Strategies of USA," Stanford Center for Chinese Economy and Institutions, Stanford University, USA, February 24, 2021.
- "Globalization and the Rise of the Economic State: PRC and USA in Comparison," an invited online public talk, Scottish Centre for China Studies, University of Glasgow, UK, March 3, 2021.
- "Interpreting Three Myths of the CCP History: National interest, the people's wellbeing, and powerful China," an invited online public talk, the Hong Kong Alliance for Democracy, May 7, 2021 [https://hka8964.files.wordpress.com/2021/05/6432-talk1\\_sq.jpg](https://hka8964.files.wordpress.com/2021/05/6432-talk1_sq.jpg)
- "A History of Elections within the Chinese Communist Party," an invited online public talk, Clubhouse, June 21, 2021 <https://www.clubhouse.com/join/党政办/7aaYPUhG/m3okG25Y>
- "Understanding Foreign Relations of the Rising China," an invited talk for the BC Parliamentary Interns Program, June 23, 2021





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## Teaching and Graduate Supervision

- Fall 2020 POLI 371/HSTR 365D Chinese Politics
- Spring 2021 POLI 319/HSTR 365C China and the World
- Supervising three PhD students in Poli, ongoing
- Supervising two MA students in Poli, one ongoing and one completed the degree in July 2020
- Supervising one MA student in History, the degree completed in November 2020
- As Exam Committee member of one MA thesis (with Dept. of Pacific and Asian Studies), August 2020
- As member of doctoral students' comprehensive exam committee for one student (with Poli), March 2021

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## Service and Outreach

- Organizer, the CAPI forum "The Hong Kong Crisis in Multiple Perspectives," Victoria, BC, Sep 17, 2020
- Member, CAPI Steering Committee
- CAPI committee work (selection of student scholarships), April 2021
- Assessment of 3 research proposals for the Research Grant Council of Hong Kong, China, February and March 2021
- Review of 2 journal articles for *Journal of Politics* (Dec 2020) and *Journal for Contemporary China* (Mar 2021)
- Assessment of 1 research proposal for Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, August 2020

Continuous services through 2020-2021 to editorial board/academic board of the following scholarly journals, academic institutions, and public-intellectual outlets:

- Member, the Editorial Board, *China: An International Journal* (National University of Singapore).

Member, the Editorial Board, *China Perspectives / Perspectives Chinoises* (French Centre for Research on Contemporary China, Hong Kong and Paris).

- Member, the Editorial Board, *East Asia: An International Quarterly* (University of Durham, UK).
- Member, the Editorial Board, *International Journal of Politics and Good Governance* (St. John's College, Agra, India).
- Member, the Editorial Board, *Journal of Contemporary China Studies* (Waseda University, Tokyo).
- Member, the Standing Review Board, the Humanities and Social Sciences Panel of the Research Grant Council of Hong Kong, China.
- Member, the Academic Board, the China Democracy University (Hong Kong)
- Member, the Academic Board, the Tiananmen Academy of Democracy (San Francisco, USA).
- Member, the editorial Board, *China: History and Future* (<https://www.chinese-future.org/info>) (Paris, France) (since May 2020).
- Member, the Editorial Board, *China in Perspective* ([www.Chinainperspective.com](http://www.Chinainperspective.com)) (Washington DC, USA).
- Member, the Editorial Board, *East Asian Policy* (East Asian Institute, Singapore).
- Member, the Editorial Board, the journal of *Public Intellectuals* (Taipei, Taiwan).
- Media interviews: BBC, June 17, 2021.

# CHAIR IN ASIA-PACIFIC LEGAL RELATIONS

## Victor V. Ramraj

Aside from my duties as CAPI Director, I continued in my role as CAPI's Chair in Asia-Pacific Legal Relations. I am pleased to report on my general activities, my research activities (publications and presentations), and my teaching and graduate supervision.

### General Activities

This year marked my fourth year as project director for a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarships Advanced Scholars (QES-AS) project **Regulating Globalization in South and Southeast Asia**, with institutional partners in Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Thailand, and Vietnam. The funding for the project was extended due to the pandemic, which allowed us to continue our work and to include several new scholars into the research network, including Thanh Phan as an outbound Canadian scholar and Kitpatchara Somanawat and Ploykaew Porananond as inbound scholars from Chiang Mai University. A full QES-AS project report is included elsewhere in this annual report. I also continue my editorial work, with QES-AS scholars Nima Dorji and Pooja Parmar, and religious studies professor Ben Schonthal from the University of Otago, on the papers presented at two conferences with the JSW School of Law (in Bhutan in July 2019 and online based in Victoria in June 2020). I also served on numerous Faculty of Law and university-level committees, and served as an ad hoc reviewer of article and book manuscripts for a variety of publishers, including Hong Kong University Press.

### Research: Publications & Presentations

In the fall of 2020, I delivered a keynote address at the book launch of Cora Chan and Fiona de Londras's edited book, *China's National Security: Endangering Hong Kong's Rule of Law?* at an online webinar hosted by the Centre for Comparative Public Law, University of Hong Kong (28 September 2020), and presented a paper, "Gross National Happiness through a Global Lens," by videolink at the Second Conference on GNH and the Law, hosted by the JSW School of Law, Thimphu, Bhutan (11 November 2020) (subsequently accepted for publication). In December 2020, my edited collection, *Covid-19 in Asia: Law and Policy Contexts*, was published by Oxford University Press. The book consists of 30 chapters by 61 contributors from around the world (including two co-authored by me).



In the months following publication, I participated in several online events connected to the book, including: (1) an online webinar hosted by the Centre for Medicine Ethics, and Law and the University of Hong Kong (17 March 2021); (2) an author-meets-reader event hosted jointly by CAPI and the Faculty of Law at UVic (25 March 2021); (3) a presentation to on Covid-19 vaccines hosted by the UVic Graduate Student Law & Society Research Group (9 April 2021); and (4) a book event hosted jointly by CAPI and the Centre for Asia Pacific Law, University of Sydney (CAPLUS) (27/28 May 2021). I also was a speaker-moderator at a "Roundtable on Covid-19 in Asia: Law and Policy Contexts" (with Susan Breau, Maartje De Visser, Charles Krusekopf, Rawin Leelapatana, Arun K. Thiruvengadam, and Sonam Tshering), as part of the Association of Asia Studies 2021 Annual (Virtual) Conference (21 March 2021). With Phil Calvert, I co-organized CAPI's 11th and 12th roundtables on **Southeast Asia in Global Context**, respectively: "US Election Debrief: Implications for Southeast Asia" (19 November 2020) and "Water Governance in Southeast Asia: A Roundtable Discussion on the Mekong River Basin" (8 March 2021). During this period, a chapter I wrote, "Democracy and Authoritarianism," was published in Peter Cane et al., eds., *Oxford Handbook of Comparative Administrative Law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020).

### Teaching & Graduate Supervision

In the winter term of 2020, I taught a seminar course at the Faculty of Law, "Law and Society in Southeast Asia" (Law 370) as



well as a 45-hour course on “Transnational Law in Theory and Practice” at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand, as part of the UVic Faculty of Law’s contribution to the LLM in Business Law. On 29 June 2021, I participated in an online panel discussion, “Explaining Patterns of Covid Response,” as part of a seminar class at the Lauder Institute of Management & International Studies at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, USA. As of August 2021, I had four PhD students under my direct supervision (Ngozi Nwoko, Nima Dorji, Ratana Ly, and Panch Rishi Dev Sharma) and was a supervisory committee member for three students in the Department of Political Science (Husnain Iqbal, Lynn Ng Yu Ling and Marta Kleiman).

## JARISLOWSKY JAPAN CHAIR

### Endo Takahiro

CAPI was delighted to virtually welcome Dr. Takahiro Endo to the Centre in advance of his arrival in September

2021. Endo Takahiro was born and raised in Hitachi city, Japan. He joined the University of Victoria as Associate Professor at Peter B. Gustavson Business School and Jarislowsky CAPI Chair in East Asia (Japan) in 2021. Previously, he was Associate Professor at Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo, and Kobe University after completing a two-year postdoctoral research position at Cardiff. He obtained his PhD from Cardiff University, Wales, and MA and BA from Hitotsubashi University. He has been a research fellow at Kobe University, Research Institute for Economics and Business Administration.

Dr. Takahiro’s scholarly interests lie in the translation of sustainability ideas and practice in business and management, legal structure and business organizations, commensuration processes and their impacts, and innovation and invention of tradition. As the principal investigator, he has conducted two Japanese Society for Promoting Science funded research projects examining corporate lobbying and its impacts in traditional and new economic sectors. Moreover, he has joined several inter-disciplinary and internationally funded projects examining the translation of renewable energy, commensuration in higher education, and gender issues in professional service firms. He has published academic as well as practitioner-oriented articles both in Japanese and English.



## Neilesh Bose

*Associate Professor of History, UVic and Canada Research Chair in Global and Comparative History*

During this time, Neilesh has been focused on the research and writing of two books as well as continuing the work of the **Global South Colloquium**. One book is a research monograph, tentatively titled *Religion before Gandhi: Universalism, Comparison, and Resources for Modern Religion*, which is heading for submission by mid-2022. Another is *Lands of Liberty, Countries of License: The Life and Times of Taraknath Das, 1885 -1958*. The latter is slated for submission in late 2022. Finally, he completed an Oxford Research Encyclopedia entry titled "Late Colonial Muslim Literary Culture in South Asia," scheduled for online publication in early 2022.

The Global South Colloquium (see page 18) continued, with four visiting scholars speaking about recent works produced under the 2020-21 theme of empire and decolonization in global history. Scholars include Adom Getachew (Chicago), Manu Karuka (Barnard), Nicole CuUnjieng Aboitiz (Cambridge), and Sujit Sivasundaram (Cambridge).

During the 2020-21 academic year, Neilesh participated in public launches of his recently edited volume, *South Asian Migrations in Global History*, at Delhi's Centre de Sciences Humaines, the Exeter Centre for Global History, and the Cambridge Centre for South Asian Studies. He also delivered public presentations via Zoom about his research in the U.S.A. at several venues. These included the Massachusetts Historical Society, Bentley College (Waltham, MA), the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (Los Angeles), the Association for Asian Studies, and the University of Pittsburgh's Asian Studies Center. Neilesh also delivered presentations for audiences in India at Jamia Millia Islamia (Delhi), Bennett College (Delhi), West Bengal Teachers Association (Kolkata), and the Annual Nazrul Conference (Asansol).



## Phil Calvert

*Former Canadian Ambassador to Thailand, Cambodia & Laos, and former Canadian Deputy Head of Mission in the Canadian Embassy in Beijing*

Phil was actively involved in CAPI's activities throughout 2020-21. As a former diplomat who served as Canada's ambassador to Thailand, Cambodia and Laos, as well as serving for 10 years in China, he has been able to contribute his experience and contacts to CAPI's activities. Phil has been active in building ties between CAPI and other institutions, government departments, media and the private sector. Along with Professor Asad Kiyani from UVic's Law school, he participated in a panel following up on the Meng Wanzhou/Huawei issue (September 2020). With CAPI Director Victor V. Ramraj, he helped organize and co-chaired two roundtables in CAPI's ongoing **Southeast Asia in Global Context series**: "US Election Debrief Roundtable: Implications for Southeast Asia" (November 2020) and "Water Governance in Southeast Asia" (March 2021). He facilitated and cohosted a talk by Phil Robertson, Deputy Director of Human Rights Watch's Asia Division (resident in Bangkok), on the state of protests and emergency powers in Thailand (October 2020). As one of the contributing authors of *Covid-19 in Asia: Law and Policy Contexts*, edited by Victor Ramraj, he also participated in two sessions discussing the contents of the book. Phil also participated in CAPI's informal discussions on a range of issues related to Asia.



## Daniela Damien

*Professor of Software Engineering, UVic*

Daniela was actively involved in CAPI's activities throughout 2021. In collaboration with postdoctoral fellow and QES-AS Scholar Thanh Phan, she led a project that explored the legal and technological aspects of smart cities in Asia. On January 27, she led the organization of an online conference "The Legal Aspects of Smart Cities in Asia", and which involved researchers and policy makers from academic and governmental institutions in Vietnam, Thailand, South Korea, New Zealand and Canada, discussing topics of Technology and Governance, and Privacy and Data Protection in the development of smart cities. Following the conference success, Daniela and Thanh co-edited a book entitled *Smart Cities in Asia: Regulations, Problems and Development*; the book includes contributions from the conference participants as well as additional chapters authored from Singapore, Hong Kong and Canada. The book is published by Springer Nature and is planned to appear in early 2022. Throughout 2021 Daniela has also engaged in the establishment of a UVic program **INSPIRE: STEM for Social Impact**, a collaboration between CAPI, Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, and the Faculty of Science.



## Feng Xu

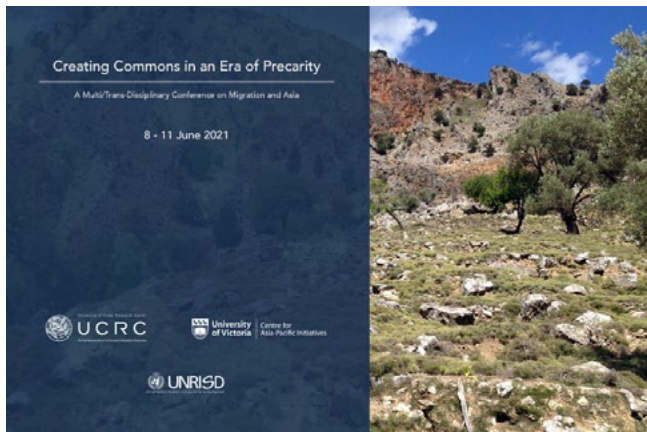
*Associate Professor and Graduate Director, Department of Political Science, UVic*

As a newly appointed Senior Research Fellow, Feng Xu continues to work on CAPI's **Migration and Mobility** Programming and is Editor-in-Chief of its online, open-access and peer-reviewed journal *Migration, Mobility & Displacement (MM&D)*. The COVID-19 pandemic has made research and conference travel to China impossible, even when travel briefly opened up for North America. During the past year, Xu has been working with Dr. Xiaobei Chen at Carleton University, on a special issue of MM&D focusing on Anti-Chinese and Anti-Asian Racism in the context of the Covid-19 Pandemic. The special issue is to be published in Spring 2022.

Xu was also one of the co-organizers for the academic conference "Creating Commons in an Era of Precarity: a Multidisciplinary/Trans-disciplinary Conference on Migration and Asia", 8-11 June 2021 (see page 12-13). She has since been working on, with the MM&D journal's board members, a special issue with papers collected from the conference presenters. Xu and her co-author Liu Qian, presented their chapter "China: Community Policing, High-Tech Surveillance, and Authoritarian Durability", on the panel "Covid-19 in Asia: China, Japan, Indonesia, and Malaysia in focus". Xu served as a member of the steering committee for the Global Affairs Canada's inaugural Margaret Meagher Fellowship. Xu was awarded the Inaugural Faculty of Social Sciences Research Fellowship. Xu continues to collaborate with Dr. Kendra Strauss at Simon Fraser University on their SSHRC funded project, "Workers in the Aging City: Eldercare Labour Markets in Vancouver and Shanghai". Finally, she is a co-applicant of a successful SSHRC Partnership Grant "Understanding Precarity in BC".

# MIGRATION AND MOBILITY PROGRAM

During this academic year, CAPI hosted the third MMP conference, “Creating Commons in an Era of Precarity”, held virtually from the 8 to 11 June 2021. This was a joint project between CAPI and the University of Crete Research Center for the Humanities, the Social Sciences and the Sciences of Education (UCRC). The conference was endorsed by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD).



The conference brought together more than 40 researchers and activists of migration, including leading scholars, graduate students, filmmakers, and migrant rights advocates, for a multidisciplinary discussion and boundary-pushing transnational exercise on migration. Focusing on the theme of “creating commons,” this conference explored the intersections between the temporary, yet permanent nature of contemporary migration, the reduction of public space available to mobile people, and patterns of resilience and resistance in contemporary migrant experiences.

The annual Albert Hung Lecture series provided funding for the keynote address and was given by Xiang Biao from the University of Oxford and the Max Planck Institute, entitled “Reproduction-driven labour migration from China” (see page 23). The presentation focused on the importance of Social Reproduction theory when thinking about labour migration, specifically Chinese migrant experiences, as well as challenging the usefulness of the term ‘precarity’.

Emerging themes identified at the conference included:

- **Temporary migration and precarity:** Permanent temporariness has become the norm in migrants’ experience of migration, leading to increased precarity. Under the logic of temporary migration, migrants are deemed good enough to work, but not good enough to stay. Migrants are subject to diverse temporalities of migration, with hierarchies of status and citizenship rights.
- **Creating Commons:** Through creating commons in mobility, migrants and refugees become creative agents of change. Centering migrants and refugees as protagonists shine a spotlight on the human desire for free movement, and their struggles are what matter in changing their lives for the better.
- **Migration infrastructure:** state and non-state actors (e.g. labour migration brokerage, human smugglers) play crucial roles contributing to (im) mobility and precarity of migrants/refugees.
- **Social reproduction and migration:** Domestic workers are predominantly racialized women from the Global South. They migrate to take up social reproductive labour that is made invisible and devalued. In addition, some migrants who are not domestic workers also migrate – not for immediate survival, but for inter-generational social reproductive reasons (e.g. children’s education).
- **The ethics of research and knowledge dissemination:** We are confronted with a fraught relationship between activists, academics and advocacy groups. What counts as knowledge; who produces knowledge; and what knowledge is for, are important questions that must be asked.

The conference was designed to showcase the work of graduate students and in light of this endeavour, CAPI hosted two graduate student workshops, the first held in December 2019 and the second workshop in April 2021. The workshop brought together nine graduate students and the MMP committee (Leslie Butt, Marlea Clarke, Catherine Costigan, Helen Lansdowne, Annalee Lepp, and Feng Xu) for a morning full of student presentations and corresponding feedback. The program was designed to prepare the students for their presentations at the June conference. Owing to COVID protocols, the workshop was held virtually. Thanks to the Office of the Dean of Social Sciences that provided support for the first of the two workshops.

- Helen Lansdowne, Migration & Mobility Program Committee Member



A still from the documentary film 'Feeling of a Home' by Io Chaviara and Michalis Kastanidis which was screened at the conference

## Creating Commons in an Era of Precarity - A Multi/Trans-Disciplinary Conference on Migration and Asia

8-11 June 2021

### Participants - University of Victoria

**Jessica Ball** - Professor, Child and Youth Care

**Claude Beaupre** - PhD candidate, Political Science

**Leslie Butt** - Associate Professor, Anthropology

**Marlea Clarke** - Associate Professor, Political Science

**Cathy Costigan** - Professor, Psychology

**Rashin Lamouchi** - Research Assistant  
**Helen Lansdowne** - Associate Director, Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives

**Annalee Lepp** - Associate Professor, Gender Studies

**Qian Liu** - Research Associate, Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives

**Anureet Lotay** - PhD candidate, Anthropology

**Xue Ma** - PhD candidate, Anthropology

### Participants - University of Crete

**Valia Aranitou** - Associate Professor, Political Science

**Vassilis Arapoglou** - Associate Professor, Urban Sociology

**Aspasia Chatzidaki** - Professor, Primary Education

**Georgia Dimari** - Post-doctoral researcher, Political Science

**Christina Georgiadou** - PhD Candidate, Sociology

**Stefania Kalogeraki** - Associate Professor, Sociology

**Evangoulos Karademas** - Professor of Clinical Health Psychology

**Christina Karakioulafi** - Assistant Professor, Sociology

**Evangelia Kateria** - Adjunct Lecturer, Psychology

**Charoula Kokkinou** - PhD Candidate, Sociology of Work

**Maria Kousis** - Professor of Sociology, Director of UCRC

**Angelos Loukakis** - Post-doctoral researcher, UCRC

**Haris Malamidis** - Post-doctoral researcher, Sociology

**Regina Mantanika** - Post-doctoral researcher, Sociology

### Other Participants

**Simone Baglioni** - Professor, Economics and Management, University of Parma, Italy

**Duncan Chalmers** - Community Engagement and Grants Coordinator, The Mustard Seed Church, Victoria BC

**Andy Chang** - Assistant Professor, Southeast Asian History & Politics, Singapore Management University

**Io Chaviara** - PhD candidate, Social Anthropology, Panteion University

**Claudyne Chevrier** - Institute for Global Public Health, University of Manitoba

**Katja Hujo** - United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) Geneva, Switzerland

**Maria Cecilia Hwang** - Assistant Professor, East Asian Studies, McGill University

**Dimitra Kampeli** - Head of Communication & Networking Dept, Heraklion Development Agency

**Michalis Kastanidis** - Filmmaker and co-founder of Fabula Productions, Athens

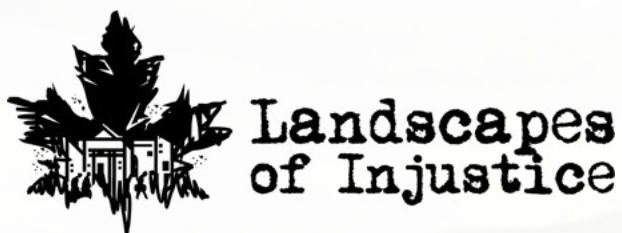
**Karen Liao** - PhD candidate, Geography, National University of Singapore

**Ansley Sawyer** - Filmmaker, TORQ World

**Biao Xiang** - Professor of Social Anthropology, Oxford University, UK



Project Manager Michael Abe pictured in the Japanese garden at Esquimalt Gorge Park



Landscapes of Injustice has launched all of the project outputs that it set out in its grant application. And then some. The Broken Promises Museum Exhibit was launched on September 26, 2020 with live and recorded speakers and videos broadcast from inside the exhibit. The virtual launch had over 320 viewers that day and over 5,000 views of the original and **edited version of the exhibit launch event** since then. The museum exhibit was at the Nikkei National Museum until June 27, 2021 and now it begins its national tour, with stops in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia. The full schedule of the Broken Promises Museum Exhibit and mini condensed traveler exhibit can be found on our website [www.landscapesofinjustice.com](http://www.landscapesofinjustice.com)

Free self-guided tour apps have been developed for the iPhone and Android as well as a **Matterport 3D Virtual Tour of the Broken Promises Exhibit**. A free e-catalogue has been produced in **English and French** and a complementary **digital storytelling website** presents the findings of Landscapes of Injustice in an accessible and compelling narrative format.

We were extremely excited and proud to launch the **secondary school and elementary school** teacher resource websites, with lesson plans and learning modules based on primary resources.

The long awaited **Research Database**, allowing researchers and members of the Japanese Canadian community to access the archival documentation of this history, was launched at the end of March 2021 and has already received over 20,000 visitors. Our team introduced the Research Database at community-based sessions (**Exploring JC Family History session 1 and session 2** in July 2020) and in public presentations on **March 28 and March 31**. These sessions relate the first-hand and often troubling experiences of community members as they delve into voluminous government records of their families during the internment era.

Already the research has led to some wonderful family discoveries including the return of a piece of handcrafted furniture to its owner after 80 years

- **The Journey of a Piece of Furniture, A Piece of Family History**
- **My Grandfather found out how to get some of his things lost in the Internment**
- **Heroism in the every day: Soul friendship**

To supplement these outputs, short videos were produced highlighting the museum exhibit, **research database, teacher resources**, and the **Landscapes of Injustice book**.

This year also saw the launch of the **Writing Wrongs Virtual Museum Exhibit**, which was inspired by the original research of Landscapes of Injustice with letters of protest written by Japanese Canadians in the 1940s. The project was funded by a \$250,000 grant from the Virtual Museum Canada to the Nikkei National Museum with the partnership of Landscapes of Injustice.

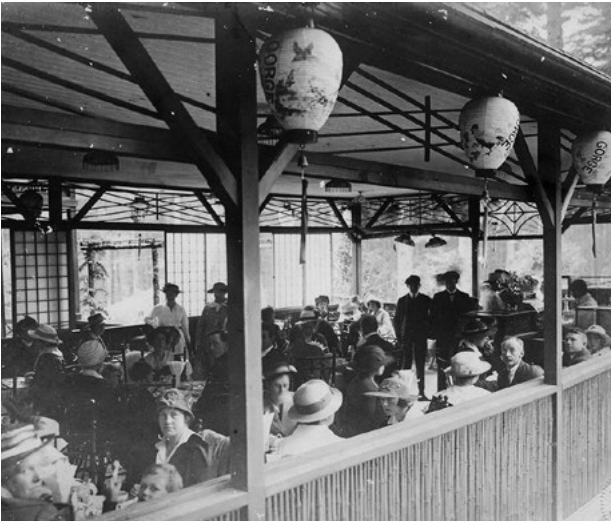
The book, **Landscapes of Injustice: A New Perspective on the Internment and Dispossession of Japanese Canadians** was released in August 2020 and has been the focus of a series of presentations via Zoom with authors and scholars in a variety of formats.

- **Re: Persons of the Japanese Race**
- **Implicated Subjects and the Landscapes of Injustice**
- **Wilson Institute Book Lecture series**
- **Midge Ayukawa Commemorative Lecture**
- **NAJC Chat with Landscapes of Injustice chapter authors**

The book was shortlisted for the UBC's Basil Stuart-Stubbs Prize for 2021, recognizing the best scholarly book published on a British Columbia subject by a Canadian author.

The Landscapes of Injustice project also supported the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society in their campaign to have a teahouse built at the Esquimalt Gorge Park to commemorate the Takata Japanese Garden and Teahouse that existed and thrived from 1907 until World War II. The campaign reached a successful conclusion and construction of the multipurpose building broke ground and is due to be completed in early 2022.





The Japanese Teahouse at the Gorge, c. 1915. Esquimalt Municipal Archives V986.18.6

The project also saw a number of media including being involved in the making of a documentary.

- [podcast] Arshy Mann “Real Estate #3 – Terminal City” Jordan Stanger-Ross and Michael Abe Canadaland Commons podcast May 26, 2021
- [television] Melanie Nagy with Laura Saimoto, Michael Abe and Jordan Stanger-Ross CTV News May 23, 2021
- [documentary] Sun-Kyung Yi “Re:Location – Japanese Canadian Internment” Canadian Geographic and Sound Venture Production for Cable Public Affairs Council May 14, 2021
- [television] Tracy Nagai “Japanese Canadians in Calgary voice concerns about Alberta draft curriculum” *Global News* April 18, 2021
- [web] Stephanie Harrington “Stories light a dark history” *UVic News* University of Victoria March 29, 2021
- [web] Jennifer Kyffin “Canadians inherit a Landscape of Injustice” Community Research Snapshots University of Victoria February 26, 2021
- [podcast] Greg Marchildon with Jordan Stanger-Ross “New Perspectives on the Internment and Dispossession of Japanese Canadians” *Witness to Yesterday* Apple Podcasts February 18, 2021
- [web] Tara Sharpe “Day in the Life: Michael Abe” *The Ring* University of Victoria January 7, 2021
- [radio] Rohit Joseph with Natsuki Abe “Why Journal 2020?” *On the Island* with Gregor Craigie December 23, 2020
- [web] [print] Jenny Manzer “Building bridges: Far from home” *The Torch* University of Victoria November 27, 2020
- [web] Jessica Hester “How Japanese Canadians Survived Internment and Dispossession: A new exhibit traces the experiences of seven narrators before, during, and after World War II” *Atlas Obscura* October 16, 2020
- [podcast] Samantha Cutrara “Source Saturday: ‘Letter of Protest’ (1944) with Dr. Jordan Stanger-Ross” *Meaningful Learning* with Samantha Cutrara October 3, 2020
- [OpEd] “Exhibition exposes multi-generational trauma caused by dispossession of Japanese Canadians,” Jordan Stanger-Ross with Leah Best, Nicholas Blomley, Audrey Kobayashi, and Sherri Kajiwara, *Vancouver Sun*, October 3, 2020.
- [print] “Exhibition Exposes Multi-Generational Trauma Caused by Dispossession of Japanese Canadians,” *Vancouver Sun*, October 2, 2020
- [web] Craig Takeuchi “Japanese Canadian internment exhibit Broken Promises to open in Burnaby before travelling across Canada” *Georgia Strait* September 28, 2020
- [radio] CBC Radio “On The Coast” Jordan and Sherri Kajiwara talk about the upcoming museum exhibit and launch September 25, 2020 Featured from 44:36 -53:57
- [radio] New UVic-led museum exhibit shines light on untold stories of Japanese-Canadian internment CBC Radio “All Points West” Michael and Natsuki Abe talk about how their family history has and hasn’t been passed down September 24, 2020
- [web] [print] Janelle Swift “PHOTOS: Gallery explores ‘broken promises’ during Japanese Canadian internment in the 1940s” *Peace Arch News*, *trailtimes.ca*, *saanichnews.ca*, *westerlynews.ca* September 24, 2020
- [web] [print] “National exhibit shares untold stories of Japanese Canadians” *The Ring* September 22, 2020

The year was capped off by two awards recognizing the work of our collective. Our project was awarded a 2021 Public History Prize from the Canadian Historical Association, in the category of public history ‘Practice.’ We’re also proud to have been given the 2021 Outstanding Award in the Education, Communications, and Awareness category from Heritage BC, their highest honour. LOI has won a few kudos over the years, but this one is especially meaningful because the community nominated the project. We are very proud to have completed all the work that we have done with this community.

The Landscapes of Injustice team has advanced to the second stage of a new SSHRC grant Past Wrongs, Future Choices that will extend the research outputs in Canada and investigate and compare the mistreatment of Nikkei citizens globally during World War II including the US, Brazil and Australia. We are pleased to have CAPI as a major partner once again in this application.

- Michael Abe, Project Manager



Nairobi Terminus Standard Gauge Railway Station Photo credit - Inezi (Wikimedia/CC BY-SA 4.0)

# ASIA IN AFRICA

## Online Conference: Belt and Road Initiative in Africa: Addressing the Issues of Debt, Dispute Resolution, and Transparency

23-25 February 2021

Co-sponsored by CAPI and the Centre for Comparative and Public Law (CCPL) at the University of Hong Kong.

This three-day webinar assembled prominent scholars, policymakers, and practitioners from law, political economy, and sociology to unpack governance issues arising from China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in Africa through the prisms of debt sustainability, dispute resolution, transparency and good governance.

- **Keynote: Deborah Brautigam**, Professor of International Political Economy and Director of China-Africa Research Initiative at Johns Hopkins University, USA
- **Po Jen Yap**, Director, Centre for Comparative and Public Law, The University of Hong Kong

- **Victor V. Ramraj**, Director, CAPI
- Moderated by **Marlea Clarke**, Political Science, UVic

### Panel 1: Debt Sustainability

- Moderated by **Ching Kwan Lee**, Division of Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- **Deborah Brautigam**, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, USA
- **Stephen Harder**, New York University, Shanghai
- **Gu Bin**, Law School, Beijing Foreign Studies University

### Panel 2: Transparency and Good Governance

- Moderated by **Muna Ndulo**, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of International & Comparative Law, Cornell University Law School, USA
- **Larry C. Backer**, W. Richard and Mary Eshelman Faculty Scholar, The Pennsylvania State University Law School, USA

- **Bady Baldé**, Deputy Executive and Africa Director, Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, Norway
- **Yves Tiberghien**, Political Science, University of British Columbia & Distinguished Fellow at the Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada

- **Ngozi S. Nwoko**, conference co-convenor, PhD Candidate, Faculty of Law, UVic

### Panel 3: Dispute Resolution

- Moderated by **William P. Alford**, Law School, Harvard University
- **Mariel Dimsey**, CMS Hasche Sigle, Hong Kong LLP
- **Heng Wang**, University of New South Wales Law School, Australia
- **Won Kidane**, School of Law, Seattle University, USA
- **Weixia Gu**, Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong
- Closing Remarks **Ying Xia**, conference co-convenor, Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong

# SOUTH ASIA GLOBAL FORUM

Established in 2016, CAPI's South Asia Global Forum promotes academic research, teaching and public engagement with South Asia and multi-faceted South Asian diasporic populations as a link to globally-situated questions and conversations.

The forum sponsors a regular lecture series and other events of academic interest, such as book launches, film screenings and roundtable discussions about issues of historical and contemporary concern. Additionally, the forum serves as an informational clearinghouse for faculty, students and UVic community members interested in South Asia and related topics in Victoria and beyond.

Associated faculty include scholars who centre South Asia and/or South Asian diasporas within their research questions and agendas. Spread across many units of the university, the forum is led by a committee of about a dozen faculty members who specialize in art history and visual culture, business, gender studies, history, law, and political science.

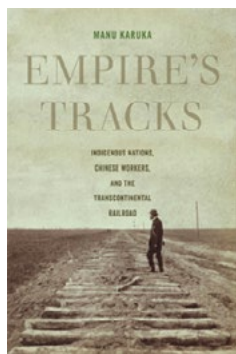
Sri Lankan Temple Photo credit: Agnieszka Kowalczyk (Unsplash)





# GLOBAL SOUTH COLLOQUIUM

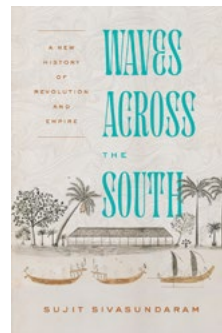
Hosted by Neilsh Bose, CAPI Senior Research Fellow and UVic History Canada Research Chair, the Global South Colloquium provides a forum for regular interdisciplinary exchange and intellectual exploration on the history and politics of globalization. The colloquium focuses its attention on the "Global South," traditionally referring to those states that emerged out of the shadows of European imperialism.



## **Empire's Tracks Indigenous Nations, Chinese Workers, and the Transcontinental Railroad**

5 November 2020

Author: **Manu Karuka**, Assistant Professor of American Studies at Barnard College, with responses by **Heidi Stark**, UVic Political Science and **Jason Colby** UVic History

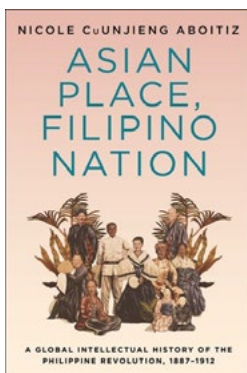


## **Waves Across the South: A New History of Revolution and Empire**

8 April 2021

Author: **Sujit Sivasundaram**, Professor of World History, University of Cambridge.

Discussants: **Renisa Mawani**, Professor, UBC Department of Sociology, **John Rogers**, US Director, American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies

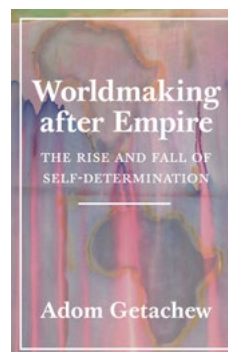


## **Asian Place, Filipino Nation: A Global Intellectual History of the Philippine Revolution, 1887–1912**

11 March 2021

Author: **Nicole CuUnjieng Aboitiz**, Research Fellow, Clare Hall, University of Cambridge; Executive Director, Toynebee Prize Foundation

Discussants: **Greg Blue**, Emeritus Professor, UVic Department of History, **Sujin Lee**, Assistant Professor, UVic Department of Pacific and Asian Studies



## **Worldmaking after Empire: The Rise and Fall of Self- Determination**

15 October 2021

Author: **Adom Getachew**, Neubauer Family Assistant Professor of Political Science and the College at the University of Chicago

Discussants: **Andrew Wender**, UVic History and Political Science, **Elizabeth Vibert**, UVic History



# SOUTHEAST ASIA IN GLOBAL CONTEXT

## ROUNDTABLE SERIES

*Situated between India and China, along the busiest maritime sea routes in the world, Southeast Asia remains today at the crossroads of ideas, commerce, migration, language, religion, and law, as it has for centuries. With a total population greater than that of the European Union, the countries of Southeast Asia have been working through the ASEAN—the Association of Southeast Asian Nations—to integrate their economies and cooperate politically and economically on matters of common concern, increasing the region’s influence on global affairs. This roundtable series situates contemporary Southeast Asia in Asia and the wider world, examining the many ways the pressing issues in the region affect us all.*

### US Election Debrief Roundtable: Implications for Southeast Asia

19 November 2020

Chairs: **Phil Calvert**, CAPI Senior Research Fellow  
**Victor V. Ramraj**, CAPI Chair in Asia-Pacific Legal Relations

Discussants:

- **Nirmal Ghosh**, US Bureau Chief, The Straits Times
- **Ratana Ly**, PhD candidate, UVic Law; Researcher, Center for the Study of Humanitarian Law, Cambodia
- **Kai Ostwald**, Assistant Professor, UBC Political Science and School of Public Policy & Global Affairs; Director, UBC’s Centre for Southeast Asia Research
- **Thitinan Pongsudhirak**, Executive Director & Professor, Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
- **Bridget Welsh**, Honorary Research Associate, University of Nottingham Asia Research Institute Malaysia; Senior Research Associate, Hu Feng Center for East Asia Democratic Studies, National Taiwan University; Senior Associate Fellow, The Habibie Center

### Water Governance in Southeast Asia: A Roundtable Discussion on the Mekong River Basin

18 March 2021

Opening Remarks: **Kevin Hall**, President, University of Victoria

Chairs: **Phil Calvert**, CAPI Senior Research Fellow  
**Victor V. Ramraj**, CAPI Chair in Asia-Pacific Legal Relations

Discussants:

- **Pianporn Deetes**, Regional Campaigns and Communications Director, Southeast Asia Program, International Rivers
- **Brian Eyler**, Senior Fellow and Director, Southeast Asia program, Stimson Centre, Washington DC
- **Melissa Marschke**, Associate Professor, International Development and Global Studies, University of Ottawa, Canada
- **Carl Middleton**, Director of the Center for Social Development Studies, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand



Kitpatchara on the West Coast Trail - photographer unknown

## QES-AS PROGRAM

During this period CAPI was pleased to welcome two scholars and colleagues from Chiang Mai University, Ploykaew Porananond and Kitpatchara Somanawat. They arrived in June 2021, just in time for the record-breaking heat dome that hit British Columbia at the end of June. It was interesting to experience the heat alongside our new visitors who found it hot, but nothing too taxing.

Both scholars expressed deep gratitude for CAPI for providing the opportunity and time to pursue both their research and personal projects.

Kitpatchara was one of our most adventurous scholars to date, completing the West Coast Trail as well as many other solo ventures to nearby islands. Despite hiking the trail in summer, our hottest season, he said he had to do it quickly and keep moving in order to stay warm!



Above: Ploykaew, Below: Director Victor V. Ramraj with the QES-AS scholars



# CAPI INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

For anyone who runs international programs, 2020-2021 was a pretty strange year to say the least.

It was like watching a giant game of whack-a-mole. As things started looking good in one place, new variants, waves and flare ups would prompt renewed lockdowns and restrictions to be put in place.

During this time, the Government of Canada put the whole world in travel advisory level 3 – encouraging the avoidance of all non-essential travel. Once this was in place, universities followed suit.

On a brighter note, in June 2021, at the very end of this reporting period, Universities Canada launched a call

for proposals for a new outbound mobility program: Global Skills Opportunity as part of Canada's International Education Strategy.

CAPI put in a proposal for the 2021-2025 program, results to be announced in fall 2021.

- **Robyn Fila**, Internship and QES-AS Program Manager

Photo credit: Skyler Smith (Unsplash)





## Conference:

### The Legal Aspects of Smart Cities in Asia

27 January 2021

A one day online conference co-hosted by CAPI and the Institute of Legal Science, Ministry of Justice, and Hanoi Law University, Vietnam

Sponsored by QES-AS and NSERC

#### Panel I: Technology and Governance

Panel Chair: **Daniela Damian**, Professor, Faculty of Engineering, University of Victoria

##### Panellists

- **Nguyen Van Cuong**, General Director, Institute of Legal Studies, Ministry of Justice, Vietnam
- **Choi Jong-Kwon**, Senior Researcher, Law Research Institute, Seoul National University, South Korea
- **Ngoc Nguyen Thi Bich**, Lecturer, Marketing and Management at the Academy of Policy and Development, University of Nottingham, UK
- **Son Minh HaLinh Thuy Nguyen**, Academy of Finance, Ministry of Finance, Vietnam
- **LyAnh Hoang**, Acting Head of Department for Research Management and Journal Administration, Hanoi Law University

#### Panel II: Privacy and Data Protection

Panel Chair: **Thanh Phan**, Faculty of Engineering, University of Victoria

##### Panellists

- **Tony Clear**, Associate Professor and Co-Director, Software Engineering Research Lab, Auckland University of Technology
- **Hong Tran**, Legal Researcher, Institute of Legal Studies, Ministry of Justice, Vietnam
- **Visakha Phusamruat**, Lecturer, Graduate School of Law, National Institute of Development Administration, Thailand
- **Ze Shi Li**, PhD student, Computer Science, University of Victoria



# THE HUNG LECTURE SERIES

The Albert Hung lecture series is named in honour of Chinese entrepreneur Albert Hung Chao Hong who received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from UVic in 2005. Dr. Hung believes in the importance of education and has funded the Hung lecture series at CAPI since 2007. The series provides an opportunity for a distinguished visitor to address a community audience on a topic of current public interest in the Asia-Pacific region.



## Authoritarian Patriarchy and its Populism

### Inderpal Grewal

12 November 2020

Theories of authoritarianism and populism are insufficient if they do not consider gender and sexuality in understanding authoritarian power. My paper examines forms of patriarchal and patrimonial power that remain central to producing the gendered conceptualizations of security and securitization we see today. While populisms are divergent in empire and postcolony, for instance in US and India, generated by grievances and disappointments of a waning empire on the one hand, and a failed modernization on the other, their authoritarian leaders are linked not just through similar modes of power and governance but also through shared technologies of security and protection.

**Inderpal Grewal** is Professor Emerita in the Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Yale University. Currently she is working on projects addressing security regimes in the Global South, the resurgence of patriarchal authoritarian governments and anti-Muslim violence in India, and on masculinity and bureaucracy.



## Reproduction-Driven Labour Migration from China

### Biao Xiang

8 June 2021

Why do Chinese workers pay up to \$8000 agent fees to leave the rising global economic centre, for dead-end jobs overseas? Labour out-migration from China has become driven by needs in social reproduction. Instead of being compelled by unemployment or poverty, people migrate to accumulate savings quickly to buy houses, get married, pay for their children's education, and arrange medical and social care. These activities sustain and enhance life on a daily and generational basis, and constitute "social reproduction." Reproduction-driven labour migration results from the monetization of reproduction activities in China, and in turn makes migrants more vulnerable.

**Biao Xiang** is Professor of Social Anthropology at Oxford University and the Director of Anthropology of Economic Experimentation: Frontiers of Transformation at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany.

## The Hong Kong Crisis from Multiple Perspectives

17 September 2020

**A Legal Perspective - Cora Chan**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, The University of Hong Kong

**A Perspective on Hong Kong - Michael John Lo**, Editor-in-Chief of On Politics, UVic undergraduate academic journal

**A Perspective on Beijing - Guoguang Wu**, CAPI China Chair and Professor, UVic of Political Science and History

Chair: **Helen Lansdowne**, CAPI Associate Director

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## An update on the Huawei affair from a Canadian perspective

24 September 2020

Speakers:

**Phil Calvert**, CAPI Senior Research Fellow

**Asad Kiyani**, Assistant Professor, UVic Faculty of Law; CAPI Associate

Chair: **Helen Lansdowne**, CAPI Associate Director

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## Covid-19 in East Asia: Information Transparency, State Surveillance, and Supply Chains

8 October 2020

**China: Community Policing, High-tech Surveillance, and Authoritarian Durability**

**Feng Xu**, CAPI Associate and Associate Professor, UVic Political Science

**Qian Liu**, CAPI Associate; PhD, UVic Faculty of Law

**Asian Trade and Supply Chain Linkages**

**Phil Calvert**, CAPI Senior Research Fellow

**Dan Ciuriak**, Senior Fellow with the Centre for International Governance Innovation (Waterloo), Fellow-in-Residence with the C.D. Howe Institute (Toronto), Distinguished Fellow with the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (Vancouver)

## Spread of Information versus Spread of Virus: China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong

**Guoguang Wu**, CAPI China Chair and Professor, UVic Departments of Political Science and History

Chair: **Victor V. Ramraj**, CAPI Director

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## Election Preview: Global Politics Under a Second Trump or a First Biden Administration

21 October, 2020

Co-hosted by the Centre for Global Studies, and the Victoria Forum

Speakers:

**Colin Bennett**, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Victoria, Canada

**Susan Breau** Dean, UVic Faculty of Law

**Jill Horwitz**, Vice-Dean for Faculty and Intellectual Life and Professor of Law, UCLA, USA

**Michael Peil**, Vice Dean and Associate Professor, Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law, Bhutan

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## Thailand Update: Protests and Emergency Powers

28 October 2020

Main speaker: **Phil Roberston**, Deputy Director of Human Rights Watch's Asia Division

Commentators:

**Anna Dzeidzic**, Associate Director, Centre for Comparative and Public Law, Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong

**Eugénie Mériéau**, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Centre for Asian Legal Studies, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

Moderators: **Phil Calvert**, CAPI Senior Research Fellow

**Victor V. Ramraj**, CAPI Director

## Dispersed Resistance in Jammu and Kashmir: When Art is the Weapon

29 October 2020

The talk was based on a chapter from the book Religion and Politics in Jammu and Kashmir (Routledge, 2020), co-edited by UVic Political Science professor Reeta Tremblay.

Speakers:

**Zehra Abrar**, Graduate student, UVic Faculty of Law

**Namitha George**, PhD student, UVic Political Science

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## Post US Election: Change or Continuity in Global Affairs in Asia

13 November 2020

Co-hosted by the Centre for Global Studies, the Victoria Forum and the Canadian International Council

Panellists:

**Wen-Chen Chang**, Dean and Professor, National Chiao Tung University School of Law & Professor, National Taiwan University College of Law

**Melissa Low Yu Xing**, Research Fellow at the Energy Studies Institute, currently pursuing her PhD studies part-time at the National University of Singapore's Department of Geography

**Michael Peil**, Vice Dean and Associate Professor, Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law, Bhutan

**Hugh Stephens**, Principal, Trans-Pacific Connections, Vice-Chair of CANCPEC, Distinguished Fellow at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, and Executive Fellow at the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary

Chairs:

**Victor V. Ramraj**, CAPI Director

**Oliver Schmidtke**, Professor,  
UVic Depts. of Political Science  
& History & Director of the  
Centre for Global Studies

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## Re-examining Law and Development Framework: Bangladesh in Context

14 January 2021

Speaker: **Himaloya Saha**, PhD  
candidate, UVic Faculty of Law

Discussant: **Lynn Ng**, PhD  
Candidate, UVic Political Science.

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## Author talk - Fluid Jurisdictions: Colonial Law and Arabs in Southeast Asia

28 January 2021

**Nurfadzilah Yahaya** (Author),  
Professor of History Department,  
National University of Singapore

Discussant: **Mary Anne Vallianatos**,  
PhD candidate, UVic Faculty of Law

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## Book talk - Aviation Law and Policy in Asia: Smart Regulation in Liberalized Markets

4 February 2021

*Co-Hosted by The Centre for  
Comparative and Transnational Law at  
the Chinese University of  
Hong Kong*

Speakers:

Book Editor: **Jae Woon Lee**, Assistant  
Professor, Faculty of Law, The  
Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Michelle Dy**, Manager, Global  
Affairs and Policy, AirAsia, Malaysia

**Lalin Kovudhikulrungsri**,  
Deputy Director, Institute of  
Transport and Maritime Law,  
Thammasat University, Thailand

Moderator: **David Duval**,  
Professor, Department of  
Business and Administration,  
University of Winnipeg, Canada

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## Protests in Thailand: The Rule of Law in Crisis

11 February 2021

Speakers:

**Montana Duangprapa**, Thai  
Lawyers for Human Rights

**Kitpatchara Somanawat**,  
Lecturer, Faculty of Law,  
Chiang Mai University, Thailand

**Songkrant Pongboonjun**,  
PhD student / Incoming QES-AS  
Scholar, UVic Faculty of Law  
Lecturer, Faculty of Law,  
Chiang Mai University

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## Update on the Coup in Myanmar

17 February 2021

Co-hosted by the Centre for  
Southeast Asia Research

Speakers:

**Gwen Robinson**, Editor-at-Large,  
Nikkei Asia; Senior Fellow, Institute  
of Security and International  
Studies, Chulalongkorn University

**Maitrii Aung-Thwin**, Associate  
Professor of Myanmar/Southeast  
Asian history and Convener  
of the Comparative Asian  
Studies PhD Program, National  
University of Singapore

**Susan Breau**, Dean, UVic  
Faculty of Law

**Kai Ostwald**, Assistant Professor,  
School of Public Policy and  
Global Affairs and Department of  
Political Science; Director, Centre  
for Southeast Asia Research,  
University of British Columbia

Moderators: **Victor V. Ramraj**, CAPI  
Director & **Kai Ostwald**

## Media on the Brink in Asia

4 March 2021

Speakers:

**Tess Bacalla**, Independent  
journalist, editor, and media  
consultant based in the Philippines;  
Project Lead and Editor in Chief,  
Asia Democracy Chronicles

**James Kygne**, Global China Editor,  
The Financial Times, Hong Kong

**Merlyna Lim**, Canada Research Chair  
in Digital Media and Global Network  
Society and Professor, School of  
Journalism and Communication,  
Carleton University, Canada

**George Nishiyama**, Managing Editor,  
WSJ Japan, The Wall Street Journal

Moderator/Convenors:

**Max Sato**, Freelance journalist/media  
consultant; previously Tokyo bureau  
chief for Market News International;  
Reuters, BridgeNews and AFP

**Susan J. Bigelow**, Former journalist  
at CBC radio, Beijing Broadcasting  
Institute, South China Morning  
Post, China Daily, Knight-Ridder  
Financial and NHK, Japan

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## Covid-19 in Asia: Law and Policy Contexts - Author- Meets-Readers

Co-hosted with UVic Faculty of Law

25 March, 2021

Discussants:

**Carol Liao**, Director, Centre for  
Business Law, and Associate  
Professor, Allard School of Law,  
University of British Columbia

**Supriya Routh**, Assistant  
Professor, UVic Faculty of Law

**Ted McDorman**, Professor,  
UVic Faculty of Law

**Kathryn Chan**, Associate  
Professor, UVic Faculty of Law

**Mark Gillen**, Professor,  
UVic Faculty of Law

Moderator: **Ireh Iyioha**, Assistant  
Professor, UVic Faculty of Law



Hpa-An, Kayin State, Myanmar - Protest against the military coup

**Anti-Asian Racism in BC and Beyond: A Panel Discussion**

1 April 2021

Panelists:

**Judy Hanazawa**, President, Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association; Board of Director, National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC) and Chair of the NAJC Human Rights Committee

**Maryka Omatsu**, Judge, Ontario Court of Justice; Canadian Race Relations Foundation: Special Advisory Council; National Association of Japanese Canadians Steering Committee for B.C. Redress

**Jacqueline Louie**, Student / Member of the Racialized Law Students Collective and Equity and Diversity Committee, UVic Faculty of Law; Student Director, Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers BC

Moderator: **Qian Liu**, PhD, UVic Faculty of Law; CAPI Associate

**Panel discussion: The Global State of Democracy after Biden's First 100 Days**

5 May 2021

Moderator: **Qian Liu**, PhD, UVic Faculty of Law; CAPI Associate

Speakers:

**Amarnath Amarasingam**, Assistant Professor, School of Religion, Queen's University, Canada; Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Strategic Dialogue; Associate Fellow, International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation

**Chris Kilford**, President, Canadian International Council, Victoria Branch; Fellow, Queen's Centre for International and Defence Policy; Adjunct Faculty, Royal Roads University

**Carole J. Petersen**, Professor, William S. Richardson School of Law, and Graduate Chair in the Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Former Director, Centre for Comparative and Public Law, University of Hong Kong

Hosts:

**Victor V. Ramraj**, Director, CAPI

**Paul Bramadat**, Director, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (CSRS), and Professor, Department of History, University of Victoria

**Oliver Schmidtke**, Director, Centre for Global Studies (CFGs), and Professor and Jean Monnet Chair, Departments of Political Science and History, University of Victoria

**Panel discussion: Covid-19 Crisis in India**

10 May 2021

Speakers:

**Kaustuv Chakrabarti**, National Research and Communications specialist, UN Food and Agriculture Organization, India

**Vivian Lin**, Executive Associate Dean, Professor of Public Health Practice, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, University of Hong Kong

**Madhavi Sunder**, Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Graduate & International Programs, Georgetown University Law Center

**Reeta Tremblay**, Professor, Political Science, UVic, CAPI Associate

Host: **Victor V. Ramraj**, Director, CAPI

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## **Covid-19 in Asia: China, Japan, Indonesia, and Malaysia in focus**

*27 May 2021*

Book Editor/Host: **Victor V. Ramraj**, Director, CAPI

Moderator: **Helen Lansdowne**, Associate Director, CAPI

Contributing Authors / Presenters:

**Feng Xu**, Associate Professor, UVic Political Science; CAPI Senior Research Fellow

**Shigenori Matsui**, Professor, Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia; Director, Centre for Asian Legal Studies

**Nadirsyah Hosen**, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Monash University, Australia

**Azmil Tayeb**, Senior Lecturer, School of Social Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia

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## **Panel Discussion: Preventing Pushbacks of Refugees Fleeing Myanmar along the Thai/Myanmar Border**

*17 June 2021*

Panellists:

**Dr. Oh Su-Ann**, Sociologist and Visiting Fellow, Myanmar Studies Group, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore

**Anonymous**, Works with Thai civil society supporting refugees along the Thai-Myanmar border

**Dah Law Eh Soe**, Advocacy Coordinator, Karen Community of Canada

**Saw Nanda Hsue**, Advocacy Coordinator, Karen Human Rights Group

**Wahku Shee**, Karen Peace Support Network, Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Moora Paw**, Student, Joint Degree Program in Canadian Common Law and Indigenous Legal Orders (JD/JID), University of Victoria

**Victor V. Ramraj**, Director, CAPI

Organizers:

**Renée Mulligan** (CAPI Associate; Director, Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada)

**Songkrant Pongboonjun** (PhD student, UVic Faculty of Law; incoming QES-AS scholar)

**Matt Green**, Manager, Karenni Social Development Centre

# TRAINING PROGRAMS

CAPI offers customized training programs, covering law, health and cultural introductions to Canada. These have historically been in-person such as the CAPI Youth Leadership Program; however, due to the pandemic we have adapted to delivering online programs. In February 2021, CAPI continued a long-standing relationship with Kagoshima University by providing an "Introduction to Canadian Law & Society" course to a group of students from Kagoshima University, Japan.



CAPI staff with Dean of Law, Tadahiro Matsuda, Dean of Law, and students from Kagoshima University



## Student Research Fellowship

### Lynn Ng

Lynn is a PhD student at the UVic Department of Political Science. Her project: "The occupational experiences of migrant workers in the eldercare sector in Singapore and Taiwan" sets out to investigate the occupational experiences of migrant workers in the eldercare sector in Singapore and Taiwan. Her central questions revolve around the public treatment of eldercare work and its workforce, which consists of both institutional healthcare workers in nursing homes and live-in foreign/migrant domestic workers in the private homes of employers.



## Anand Scholarship

Dr. Anand was Thailand's first Ambassador to Canada (1969-72) and twice Prime Minister of Thailand. Since 1996, the Anand-UVic fund has been awarded through CAPI for deserving Thai graduate students studying at UVic and UVic faculty who conduct research in Thailand.

### Songkrant Pongboonjun

Songkrant (Kan) - photographed here with his daughters Peace (left) and Proud (right) - is a PhD student at the Law and Society Program at the University of Victoria and a Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Advanced Scholar (QES-AS). Songkrant was an environmental lawyer who practiced law in Thailand for ten years and in 2016 shifted to teaching law at Chiang Mai University, Thailand, since 2016. He is interested in the interaction between formal legal institutions; civil liberties and civil rights.



## Student Language Fellowship

### Roopa Kanal

Roopa is an MA student studying South Asian art with, UVic's Art History and Visual Studies who will be taking lessons in Nepali through the Rangjung Yeshe Institute, Centre for Buddhist Studies, at Kathmandu University, to support her research on contemporary Nepali art.



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