

2019 October Newsletter



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Weatherhead East Asian Institute



CONTENTS

- 2 DIRECTOR PROFILE
Xiaobo Lü
- 3 FEATURE ARTICLE
Asia for Educators
- 5 STUDENT PROFILE
Kristy Kwon
- 7 FROM THE ARCHIVES
"New World Affairs
School To Supply Global
Leaders"

Throughout October, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute (WEAI) continued its 70th anniversary programming with events on a broad range of topics, including urbanization in China, sustainable fashion in Vietnam, and women and the media in Japan.

On October 5, WEAI joined with the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation to cosponsor the Sixth Urban China Forum. Exploring the theme, "Urbanization and China: Understanding Impacts, Projecting Future," the forum brought together renowned scholars and emerging practitioners from Canada, China, the UK, and the US. Panelists shared their latest research on housing policy, urban poverty, land financing, migrants, smart cities, air pollution and public health.

The Institute also cosponsored three major events as part of its expanding work on Southeast Asia. The "Colloquium on Global Hồ Chí Minh," held October 3-4, marked the 50th anniversary of the publication of the last will and testament of Hồ Chí Minh (1890-1969), and explored Hồ's life, career and legacy. The event, which was hosted in conjunction with the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Hanoi, attracted many attendees, including H.E. Mr. Dang Dinh Quy, Permanent Representative of Vietnam to the United Nations. The program served as a platform to announce an impending partnership between Columbia University and the University of Social Sciences and Humanities to provide opportunities for the development of knowledge on Vietnam through joint programming as well as faculty and student exchange.

"Disinformation and Elections in East and Southeast Asia: Digital Futures and Fragile Democracies," was also held October 3-4. Cosponsored by the New York Southeast Asia Network, the Columbia School of Journalism, and the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, the workshop examined the salience of digital media in political campaigns. Specifically, speakers explored insidious modes of electoral manipulation following recent elections in Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines.

A final major event, providing another fresh perspective on Southeast Asia, was held one week later on October 10. The panel discussion, "Women, Modernity, and Sustainable Fashion in Contemporary Vietnam" featured Valerie Steele, Director of the Museum at the Fashion Institute of New York; Hazel Clarke, Professor of Design Studies and Fashion Studies at The New School; and Vu Thao, Designer and founder of Kilomet109, a sustainable fashion brand in Vietnam. Taking Vu's fashion line as an example, the three speakers discussed a wide range of issues related to the increasing popularity of alternatives to "fast fashion." Following the panel, a collection of Vu's pieces were on display alongside information about the techniques and materials used to create the pieces.

The Institute revisited the theme of media on October 21, with the fourth installment in its Reporting Asia lecture series. The panel featuring Bill Emmott, former editor in chief of The Economist, and Tomoko Kubota, a former newscaster and reporter from Tokyo Broadcasting System (TBS) addressed women's representation in Japanese media and changing roles in society.

A visit to campus by Kanji Yamanouchi, Ambassador and Consul General of Japan in New York, rounded out a busy month of events. Ambassador Yamanouchi sat down with Gerald Curtis, Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science, and Hugh Patrick, Chairman of the Center on Japanese Economy and Business at the Columbia Business School to discuss "US-Japan Relations in a Turbulent World" on October 29. Carol Gluck, George Sansom Professor of History, offered introductory remarks.

For more details about past events and the latest news about the Institute please visit: <http://weai.columbia.edu/>.



*From left to right:
Professor Dorothy Ko;
designer Vũ Thảo; New
School Professor Hazel
Clarke; and Valerie Steele,
Director of the Museum
at FIT, discuss sustainable
fashion in Vietnam at the
October 10 event, "Women,
Modernity, and Sustainable
Fashion in Contemporary
Vietnam."*

Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Columbia University
International Affairs Building
420 West 118th Street
New York, NY 10027

Director
Eugenia Lean

Executive Director
Nicole Vartanian

For more information, visit
weai.columbia.edu

For inquiries, please contact Ariana King
ak4364@columbia.edu

DIRECTOR PROFILE

Xiaobo Lü (2001–03, 2004–06, Spring 2018)



Xiaobo Lü (right) speaks at a 2010 event titled "Internet, Censorship, and Political Participation in China."

Xiaobo Lü was the tenth director of the East Asian Institute (renamed the Weatherhead East Asian Institute during his tenure), serving 2001–2003, 2004–2006, and spring 2018. He was also the founding director of the Columbia Global Center in Beijing, 2008–2010.

An expert on modern Chinese politics, Professor Lü offers courses on Chinese politics, political economy, and comparative politics. After completing his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley in 1994, he joined the Barnard faculty, where he is currently the Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Political Science.

Professor Lü's research concentrates on post-socialist transition, corruption and good governance, government-business relations, and authoritarian resilience. He is widely published in these subjects with three books: *Danwei: Changing Chinese Workplace in Historical and Comparative Perspective* (1997); *Cadres and Corruption* (2000); and *Taxation without Representation in Contemporary Rural China* (2003) as well as many articles in academic journals. Recently, Professor Lü finished a book manuscript, "From Player to Referee: the Rise of the Regulatory State in China." In addition, he has published opinion pieces in and interviewed by the media, and consults for business firms, civic groups, and government agencies on subjects of his expertise. In addition to being an active member of the Institute today, Professor Lü is a member of Council on Foreign Relations and the National Committee of US-China Relations.

As director of the East Asian Institute, Professor Lü oversaw the renaming of the Institute to the Weatherhead East Asian Institute in 2003, a landmark event in the Institute's history. Under Professor Lü's guidance, the Institute collaborated with research units such as Columbia Law School's Center for Korean Legal Studies and the New York-based Korea Society to host a policy forum, as well as workshops, like "The Political and Economic Implications of EU-China Trade," with the Institute for the Study of Europe within the School of International and Public Affairs in 2004. After serving as WEAI Director, he worked on the founding of Columbia University's Global Center in Beijing in 2008 and served as its founding director from 2009 to 2010.

Professor Lü has been Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University, Jiaotong University and Tongji University in China; City University of Hong Kong; Hertie School of Governance in Berlin; Institute of Political Science (Sciences-Po) in Paris and Grenoble, Bocconi University in Milan, and Paris University I-Sorbonne. Professor Lü serves on the editorial boards of several international scholarly journals.



Professor Lü (center) with Columbia President Lee Bollinger (left) and Albert Weatherhead (right) at the Institute's renaming ceremony in 2003.



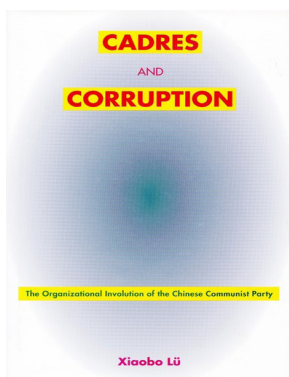
Professor Robert Immerman (left) and Professor Lü (right) congratulate 2005 professional fellows during Lü's directorship of the Institute.



Professor Lü with WEAI staff during his directorship.



Xiaobo Lü





Representatives of the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) interact with students at the Affiliated Senior High School of Taiwan Normal University during a study tour. The Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office in New York helped organize the trip, hosted by the government of Taiwan for NCTA alumni teachers.

As teaching on Asia expands from niche to national, Asia for Educators' repository of tools for teachers evolves

Interviewed by Ariana King



AFE Director Roberta Martin.

Asia for Educators (AFE) was established in 1977 with the goal of sharing Columbia's wealth of expertise on East Asia with the wider public. Under the umbrella of the East Asian National Resource Center at Columbia, which is administered by the Weatherhead East Asian Institute (WEAI) and supported by the US Department of Education, AFE draws on the expertise of WEAI faculty and graduate students to promote education about Asia through professional background programs for teachers and the development of quality educational materials for students and teachers at both the undergraduate and K-12 levels.

Dr. Roberta Martin has led AFE as its director since its establishment over 40 years ago as the "East Asian Curriculum Project." In the early days, Martin explained, the program targeted several audiences, including the general public. Following a directive from the Department of Education, the program narrowed its focus more specifically to serve teachers, and Asia for Educators was born, offering workshops and courses for teachers, some in conjunction with Columbia's Teachers College.

AFE also develops classroom materials. Initially, these materials were bound into workbooks and sent out via mail order. In 2000, *Contemporary Japan: A Teaching Workbook* was awarded the Buchanan Prize for outstanding curriculum by the Association for Asian Studies and its Committee on Teaching about Asia. Nonetheless, Martin recalled that, "All of this was in print, and most of our energy went into handling orders and shipping several thousand copies!" As technology develops and provides new tools for learning, AFE has adapted its platform and expanded its offerings.

"When the Web arrived, we re-categorized all of our resources in these workbooks by time period as well as subject area, and digitized all of the units for the Web," creating a "Timeline of Asia in World History," Martin said. She added that the online format meant it became possible to link to educational resources at other major institutions, making AFE "a repository of all online teaching units" across universities and other nonprofits. Support from the Blakemore Foundation allowed AFE in 2007 to expand its index of resources on Asia to include new online teaching resources developed by museums. With the launching of the Asia for Educators resource site (afe.easia.columbia.edu) Martin noted that "AFE was now definitely able to reach and serve a national audience of educators."

In recent years, AFE began upgrading and improving the navigation of its online curriculum modules and materials, adapting them for use with hand-held devices and tablets. Two of AFE's recently revised modules use iconic scrolls from the Song and Qing dynasties for their visual record of history.

The result of these efforts has been a doubling of users over the last year: between 2018-2019, the AFE website received more than 533,700 pageviews.

But the website's present-day success obscures the bumpy beginnings of East Asia education across the US. "Originally, with the exception of New York State, there was no place nationally for Asia in the K-12 curriculum, unless it was a serendipitous interest of a teacher," explained Martin. Schools began to

pay more attention to Asia following the normalization of US-China relations in 1979 and the Japanese economic bubble in the 1980s, but interest was far from widespread. Classroom materials, moreover, were sorely lacking. With support from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, in 1990 AFE conducted a survey of state curriculum requirements and followed this with a national evaluation of Asia content in social studies and history textbooks in 1993. These studies found that there was little room for Asia in state curriculum outlines and that the coverage of Asia in the textbooks was “dismal,” Martin noted.

Things began to change when colleges, many of which had still required core courses, began converting their core history course from “Western” to “world” history. The new courses were “often taught in sections in history departments where no faculty member had a background in Asia,” said Martin, “and departments began contacting the Institute for help with syllabi and faculty development.” In response, AFE launched the “Project on Asia in the Core Curriculum,” supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Henry Luce Foundation, and the Annenberg Foundation/PBS. Between 1984 and 1997 this project sponsored faculty seminars, publications, and two video series that supported the inclusion of Asia in literature, social sciences, and Western and world history courses. A companion initiative sponsored seminars for community college faculty from 1996-1999.

During the late 1990s, when secondary schools also began introducing “world” history, educational circles moved to establish national standards for the teaching of both American history and world history. Around the same time the newly established Freeman Foundation began funding K-12 and undergraduate initiatives to encourage more teaching about East Asia. In response to a call from Houghton Freeman, the then president of the Foundation, to “make Asia part of the education of every American student by the time he or she graduates,” AFE cofounded the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) in 1998, with four other East Asia outreach programs.

Columbia then hosted the first annual Symposium on Asia in the Curriculum for new undergraduate and precollegiate programs supported by the Freemans, which included a dinner in their honor. The symposium was cosponsored by two WEAI educational programs funded by the Freeman Foundation, AFE and the Expanding East Asian Studies (ExEAS) initiative for undergraduate teachers, led by Professor Carol Gluck.

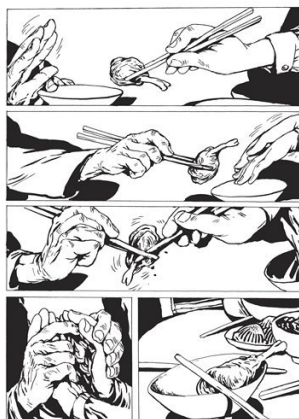
Within the NCTA framework, AFE sponsored seminars, study tours for teachers, as well as school exchanges for students from 1998-2017. Support for the study tours was also provided by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. As a national site within NCTA, AFE continues to coordinate professional development seminars and workshops for teachers, working with partners at universities in 12 US states. In 2018-2019, programs hosted by AFE and its partners engaged over 800 teachers. Of this total, 290 teachers enrolled in Columbia’s online offerings, responding to AFE Associate Director Karen Kane’s recent introduction of a “graphic novels” series to AFE’s lineup of online offerings. The graphic novels—newly popular in educational circles—appeal to a wide range of learners while examining and teaching serious content relating to Japan, China, Korea, Vietnam, and others.

“Each year, I work on making the simulations and projects more globalized and less European-focused. I have to say—that wouldn’t be possible without [AFE]. It’s an extraordinary resource.”

Today, Asia is now included in art and literature courses, as well as history, and students access resources on school-issued tablets as well as their cell phones. To meet the demands of the times, AFE has worked to offer innovative materials. “Most recently, we have begun creating an online library of video presentations by faculty specialists, with accompanying slideshows, to provide background for teachers and their students on both current issues as well as historical events, works of literature, and artistic traditions,” Martin said.

In 2017 AFE led NCTA in launching the Freeman Book Awards for young adult and children’s literature on East and Southeast Asia. The awards, administered by AFE “recognize quality books for children and young adults that contribute meaningfully to an understanding of East and Southeast Asia,” said Martin. “They also honor the vision and contribution of the Freeman Foundation to increasing the breadth and depth of education about Asia in the US.” In their first year, the Freeman Awards enjoyed start-up administrative support from WEAI. Martin believes these awards, along with the AFE library of online resources, will continue to make a lasting contribution to the field for years to come.

In the words of one educator and AFE site user: “Each year, I work on making the simulations and projects more globalized and less European-focused. I have to say – that wouldn’t be possible without [AFE]. It’s an extraordinary resource.”



A page from the graphic novel “A Chinese Life,” by Philippe Ôtié and Li Kumou, which will be featured in the AFE-NCTA book group in early 2020.



A screenshot of teaching materials on the AFE site on the Qing dynasty.



STUDENT PROFILE

Kristy Kwon

**Master's Student in the School
of International and Public
Affairs (SIPA) and recipient of
the Foreign Language and Area
Studies (FLAS) fellowship**

Kristy Kwon is a Master of Public Administration candidate at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). She received a dual bachelor's degree in Economics (BS) and International Studies (BA) with Departmental Honors at the University of Washington in 2018. In 2019, she received the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship for her study of Korean language.



#UWDiscovers

THE HEART OF RESEARCH

For help with her senior thesis on Korean dramas, Kristy Kwon reached out to the UW's East Asia Library. What she found there opened up her world.

READ STORY

>

한글

>

NEXT
> ENGINEERING ROME

Kristy Kwon's undergraduate research on South Korean women's media consumption was featured on the University of Washington's website.

My initial interest in Columbia mainly consisted of three things: the University's initiative to improve diversity on campus; its variety of research centers exploring the intersection of policy with various social, economic and political arenas; and the opportunities it offers to practice insightful, respectful dialogue with others to make sense of and resolve policy issues.

The myriad institutes across all disciplines within Columbia provide diverse perspectives and offer the opportunity to question traditional models of doing things in the way they "ought to be done." The University also offers various campus events, visits, and talks with policymaking authorities and institutions like the UN, US federal agencies, and the World Bank, which offer students opportunities to practice engaging with various ideas in a way that both informs their own perspectives and those of others. I wish to explore resolution strategies that allow leaders to articulate desired objectives while respecting other countries' sovereignty and culture, and effectively negotiate to improve and uphold residents' rights.

I became interested in the study of international affairs because I want to understand the unique stories of individuals with various values and backgrounds, and explore why they see, think, and feel in the way that they do. What internal and external social, political, and economic processes impact how they navigate their own identities in their communities and their state, and why? What aspects explain why certain actors feel committed to pursue a goal or policy, and what factors account for why they continue to dispute with others? These are some of the questions that drive my analysis and understanding of international affairs, and what encourages me to keep developing my knowledge in that discipline.

As an undergraduate student at the University of Washington, my honors thesis research sought to explain why South Korean young professional women choose to consume media that does not reflect the progressive economic and social strides made for women like them. Through careful readings of scholarly literature and translated conversations in written and oral Korean, I analyzed theories on South Korea's modernization, gender equality, and television form, and conducted interviews with young professionals and university students in South Korea. I was able to argue that media consumption is a coping mechanism which allows modern Korean women to recognize and distance themselves from the broader patriarchal discourse that perpetuates norms of their submissive position in Korean society.

Through this thesis, it became apparent to me that merely implementing democratic economic and political structures is not sufficient to address the actual tensions and inequalities in society. Problems women face, such as wage discrimination and domestic violence, must be reckoned with, and governments

need to go beyond instituting policies and legal reform and actively foster a supportive culture that includes marginalized groups and ensures their security and welfare. While at SIPA, I want to cultivate an analytic framework and propose a course of action for democratic leaders that can help them fully take into account how policy manifests in and influences the lives of citizens.

I applied for the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship in order to develop a nuanced understanding of the traditions, views, and motivations that shape how Koreans think and act. That understanding will enable me to discern why various political, social, or economic issues manifest in South Korea, and why individual actors behave in certain ways. I aim to understand the terms and modes of speech appropriate to certain situations, and learn to engage in dialogue through appropriate usage of tones and expressions to accurately and respectfully engage with other parties. This will facilitate my ability to effectively connect with South Korean natives, and absorb the unique stories and experiences distinct to their culture.

I want to gain a nuanced understanding of issues and dialogue-building platforms to learn how to achieve a type of international relations grounded in trust and mutual understanding between South Korea and other regions. Through SIPA's "International Relations of Northeast Asia" course, I wish to investigate how economic, political, and social processes distinct to different countries in the region shape motives and decisionmaking. At the same time, I will carefully assess South Korea's domestic economy and foreign policy. By combining knowledge about the inner workings of Korea and Asia, coupled with comparative analysis and synthesis of scholarly debates on the subject matter, I aim to identify why and how the Korean government will meet its long-term goals and needs relative to the behavior of other states. I hope to accurately understand how these factors influence South Korea's participation in multilateral agreements or regional conflict resolution.



Kristy (center front) with fellow SIPA students, also known as "Seeples."

ON THIS MONTH IN
1946:

“NEW WORLD AFFAIRS SCHOOL TO SUPPLY GLOBAL LEADERS”

October 31, 1946

Thursday, October 31, 1946

***New World Affairs School
To Supply Global Leaders***

Services of a large number of specialists skilled in the various phases of international relations are called for in the effort to organize a shrinking world. With the growth of the UN and its subsidiary organization, and the expansion of this country's public and private interests in the international sphere will come a definite demand for trained personnel.

In anticipation of this need, Columbia University early this year organized the School of International Affairs, which last month began the two-year training of 55 picked students. The students, who were chosen from among 700 applicants, largely on the basis of undergraduate scholastic records, will receive the degree of Master of International Affairs upon completion of their courses. They will be taught by members of the Faculty of Political Science and the Russian Institute, many of whom are fresh from wartime assignments in various government and teaching billets. Their activities will be co-ordinated by Professor Schuyler Crawford Wallace, Executive Officer of the University's Department of Public Law and Government, and Director of the School of International Affairs.

The school is unique in several respects. First of all, the second year of the course is devoted primarily to study in one of five fields: Business Affairs, Economic Affairs, Government Affairs, Legal Affairs, and International Administration. The program of study in the latter field will be largely experimental at first, and must be ultimately based on experience accrued through the actual operation and administration of international organization.

In the second place, the course is not designed primarily for scholars and research workers. Its main purpose is to train people who intend to put their knowledge to work outside of the university in the aforementioned five fields. Although other institutions accomplish this in granting qualified candidates Masters' Degrees or

Doctorates in various branches of Political Science, it is believed that the School of International Affairs is the first to make it the main goal and design its program accordingly. Hence, the second year of specialization required to complete the work for the degree of Master of International Affairs.

Thirdly, specialization in the history, culture, and language of an important geographic area is an integral part of the program. Area studies which will be offered this year are limited to Europe, with emphasis on France, Germany, or Russia. However, Professor Wallace stated, "Next year, we hope to have organized an East Asian Institute and a Latin-American Institute. Whether we will be able to develop the East Asian Institute and the Latin-American Institute depends, in part at least, on our ability to secure some additional outside financing. We have hopes of being able to do so."

Professor Wallace aptly summed up the aims of the school when he observed, "The development of this school, together with other schools of a similar character, should, over the years, develop a much larger pool or reservoir of individuals highly-trained in the field of international affairs, upon whom both business and the government can call, than has ever existed previously, and, by virtue of this fact should, in the long run, raise to an even higher point than exists today, the general level of those engaged in international activities, both in government and in business."

Viewing the somewhat dulled hopes of mankind for effective international co-operation, resulting from the seemingly endless debates between the powers in the past 18 months, no little satisfaction may be derived from the fact that, on the campus at least, something concrete and significant is being done to overpower the problems which, at times, appear to overpower us.

A. G.

In the fall of 1946, the School of International Affairs (SIA) was established at Columbia University. Three years later, the East Asian Institute was founded as a regional institute within the School. Today, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute (WEAI) operates independently of the School, now known as the School of International and Public Affairs, or SIPA. But the two continue to work closely together: WEAI administers the East Asian Regional Specialization degree program within SIPA, and a number of WEAI faculty members teach courses at the School.

Excerpts from the *Columbia Spectator* coverage of SIA's debut follow:

"Services of a large number of specialists skilled in the various phases of international relations are called for in the effort to organize a shrinking world. With the growth of the UN and its subsidiary organizations, and the expansion of this country's public and private interests in the international sphere will come a definite demand for trained personnel.

In anticipation of this need, Columbia University early this year organized the School of International Affairs, which last month began the two-year training of 55 picked students."

"Thirdly, specialization in the history, culture, and language of an important geographic area is an integral part of the program. Area studies which will be offered this year are limited to Europe, with emphasis on France, Germany, or Russia. However, Professor Wallace stated, 'Next year we hope to have organized an East Asian Institute and a Latin-American Institute.'

For the full article, visit: <http://spectatorarchive.library.columbia.edu/?a=d&d=cs19461031-01.2.17&srpos=3&e=-----194-en-20--1--txt-txIN-%22East+Asian+Institute%22-ARTICLE----->