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USC Dornsife *East Asian Studies Center*

March 31, 2025

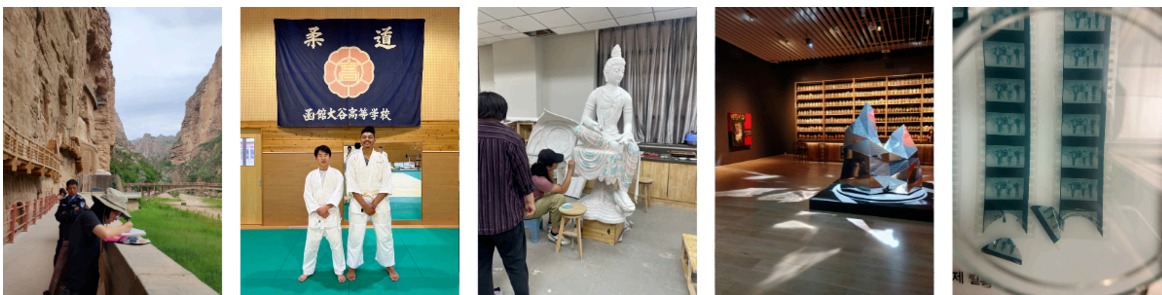


Spring 2025 EASC Faculty Luncheon

Tuesday, April 15 | 11:30AM-1:30PM | U Club Scriptorium | Invitation Only

EASC is excited to host our annual **Faculty Luncheon** meeting this spring! We look forward to having the opportunity to introduce new faculty, share recent developments across campus, and reconnect with each other. We will be hosting this year's luncheon at the University Club Scriptorium. We look forward to celebrating the end of the semester with you!

If you are only able to make the first or latter half of the event, please RSVP and join us whenever you can!



Congratulations EASC Graduate Fellowship Awardees!

Please join us in congratulating the **33 recipients** of the **2025 EASC Graduate Fellowships**! Our EASC Grad Fellows represent diverse fields in East Asian Area Studies, History, American Studies & Ethnicity, East Asian Languages & Cultures, Political Science & International Relations, Linguistics, Journalism, Music, Cinema & Media Studies, Comparative Literature, and Art History. We are proud to be able to help USC graduate students advance their academic careers in Asian Studies and are excited to see what amazing research they produce!

EASC Graduate Fellow Feature Issay Matsumoto

EASC highlights **Issay Matsumoto**, a PhD candidate in History, a three-time EASC Graduate Fellowship recipient, and a former Graduate Program Assistant for Global East Asia Tokyo. During his previous fellowship, Issay conducted research in Japan at the Sumitomo Historical Archives and the National Diet Library, focusing on the rise of Hawai'i's tourism and low-wage service industry after World War II. As a Graduate Program Assistant, he accompanied

Professor Miya Desjardins and her Maymester course on Japanese Design Thinking, gaining a new appreciation for the city through student perspectives on tech, fashion, and accessibility. His recent article in *American Quarterly* (December 2024) explores the Hawaiian muumuu dress's movement between Japan and Hawai'i and its role in tourism!



Please see Issay's full feature here ➤

Event Reminders

EASC Guest Speaker Series

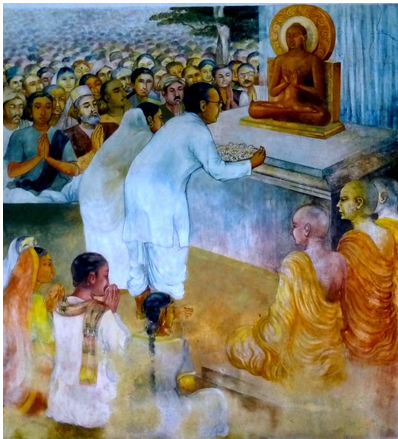
Touring the Abyss with *dear elia*: Unwellness and Care in the University

New Date: Mon, Mar 31 | 4:00PM | DML 240

Prof. **Attia Satar** invites the wider community to an event with Dr. **Mimi Khúc** as she shares her work on unwellness and the university from her new book, *dear elia: Letters from the Asian American Abyss*.



RSVP



EASC Guest Speaker Series

Dr. Ambedkar and Navayana Buddhism: Opening New Forms and Approaches to Liberation

Tues, Apr 1 | 5:00PM-6:20PM | Zoom

Prof. **Jessica Zu** invites Dr. **Santosh Raut** (Harvard Divinity School) who examines Dr. Ambedkar’s vision of Navayana Buddhism and its potential to create new pathways for liberation. Dr. Raut will explore how Ambedkar reinterpreted Buddhist teachings to challenge caste hierarchies.

RSVP



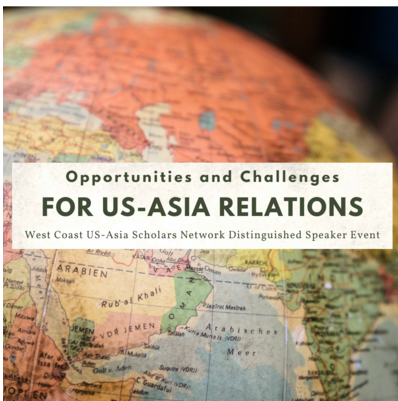
EASC Guest Speaker Series

By the Women, For the Revolution: Gendered Struggle of Navayana Buddhism

Wed, Apr 2 | 12:00PM-1:20PM | Zoom

Prof. **Jessica Zu** invites Dr. **Harsha Gautam** (University of Texas, Austin) who sheds light on the role of women in the Navayana Buddhist movement, centering their voices and struggles, and exploring how they have expanded the liberatory potential of Navayana Buddhism.

RSVP



Opportunities and Challenges for US-Asia Relations: West Coast US-Asia Scholars Network Distinguished Speaker Event

Fri, Apr 4 | 2:00PM-3:30PM | DML 240

Join us for a dialogue with former UN Ambassador **Cho Hyun** and Councilmember **Jon Kaji**, moderated by Professor **Jane Junn** (POIR and Gender & Sexuality Studies).

RSVP



EASC Guest Speaker Series

The Perils and Possibilities of "Speaking Freely" in the People's Republic

Mon, Apr 7 | 1:00PM-2:00PM | SOS 250

Prof. **Joshua Goldstein** invites Prof. **Nicholas Bartlett** (Barnard College) for a talk on the politics of speaking in China through Tavistock tradition Group Relations Conferences. He explores the concept of "speaking freely" and the broader implications of speech in a country often criticized for its restrictions on free

expression.

RSVP



EASC Guest Speaker Series

China's Relations with Central Asia: Why Should Americans Care?

Fri, Apr 11 | 4:00PM-5:30PM | THH 202

Prof. **Bettine Birge** invites Prof. **Morris Rossabi** to speak on China's evolving relationship with Central Asia. Drawing on three decades of research and travel, he examines historical ties, China's growing influence since the Soviet Union's collapse, its impact on Xinjiang and Russia, and the significance of these changes for the U.S.

RSVP

Event Wrap!

Running in Circles?: Visions of Circular Economies from Mao to Xi

Thank you to all who attended the panel discussion on **Running in Circles?: Visions of Circular Economies from Mao to Xi**. We got to hear from Prof. **Amy Zhang** and Dr. **Brian Spivey** about the evolution of comprehensive utilization (综合利用), waste management in mega cities, and the impact of incinerators on rural communities. We look forward to seeing you at our future panel discussions! Please see photos of the event on our [instagram here](#) ►



Events Around USC & LA

Genji's Town: Food in the Time of Prince Genji

Tues, Apr 1 | 2:00PM-3:20PM | Project for Premodern Japan Studies

'Not Your China Doll' discussion with author Katie Gee Salisbury

Tues, Apr 1 | 4:00PM-5:30PM | US-China Institute | [RSVP](#)

Andrew Ahn: A Director's Talk

Thurs, Apr 3 | 3:30PM | The Korea Society | [RSVP](#)

Unmasking: The Toll of the Sea

Thurs, Apr 3 | 6:30PM-8:30PM | Chinese American Museum | [RSVP](#)

Screening: The Host (괴물)

Thurs, Apr 3 | 7:30PM | The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures | [RSVP](#)

Film Screening and Q&A: "Snow in Midsummer" 《五月雪》

Fri, Apr 4 | 6:00PM-8:30PM | UCLA Asia Pacific Center | [RSVP](#)

The Art of Yose: An Evening of Storytelling, Mimicry and Laughter

Fri, Apr 4 | 7:00PM-9:00PM | Japan Foundation, Los Angeles | [RSVP](#)

Screening: Memories of Murder (살인의추억)

Sat, Apr 5 | 7:30PM | The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures | [RSVP](#)

New Books on Japan: "Entwined Atrocities: New Insights into the U.S.-Japan Alliance"

Mon, Apr 7 | 4:00PM-5:30PM | The Modern Japan History Association | [RSVP](#)

Support EASC!



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