



# AAARI Spotlight

August 2007



AAARI Spotlight, is a monthly publication for AAARI members, CUNY personnel, and those who are interested in Asian American, East Asian, South Asian, and Trade and Technology studies.

AAARI members and CUNY personnel are invited to submit articles, news items, and artwork for our forthcoming issues. If you have a submission or question, please contact us by phone: 212-869-0182, or e-mail: [info@aaari.info](mailto:info@aaari.info).

## Spotlight Focus

- of the month



**Dr. Selma Botman** is the Executive Vice-Chancellor and University Provost of The City University of New York, and honoree at AAARI's upcoming 6th Annual Banquet.

Dr. Botman received a B.A. in psychology from Brandeis University, a B.Phil. in Middle Eastern Studies from Oxford University, and an A.M. in Middle Eastern Studies and a Ph.D. in History and Middle Eastern Studies from Harvard University.

She is a specialist in modern Middle Eastern politics. She has taught in the History PhD program at the CUNY Graduate Center and the history department at The City College of New York.

Under Selma Botman's leadership, CUNY has initiated and coordinated several flagship programs including establishing The Teacher Academy, the Black Male Initiative, cluster hiring in demography and U.S. History.



### The Challenge

Since its establishment in 2001 by the CUNY Board of Trustees, the Asian American / Asian Research Institute has been generously funded by the CUNY Office of Academic Affairs (OAA), which helps to launch centers and institutes during their initial start-up phase. Over the past six years, through the support of Chancellor Matthew Goldstein and The City University of New York, AAARI has been able to produce numerous programs for CUNY and the Asian American community.

But, as the saying goes, "All good things must come to an end." Due to the OAA's limited budget, permanent long-term support is virtually impossible, and thus, centers and institutes are expected to raise external funds so that they can become self-supporting organizations. Beginning this academic year, AAARI must continue its transition to become a self-funded organization in order to continue its mission to "Build the Bridge Between CUNY and the Asian American Community."

### Present Solutions

The OAA has promised AAARI that it will match our fundraising on a two-to-one basis up to \$120,000 this academic year.

1. In order to reach our fundraising goal, AAARI has increased its membership prices, and member benefits.
2. Programs such as conferences, lectures, and workshops can be solely co-sponsored by an individual or organization.

With the money that AAARI raises, we will do the following:

- Funding for Operation, Programs & Activities
- Funding of Research on Asian Related Topics by CUNY expertise

We know that together with you, our friend and colleague, that AAARI is ready to take on the challenge that lies ahead, and prove to CUNY that fundraising is not an impossible mission.

**Details:** [www.aaari.info/fundraising.htm](http://www.aaari.info/fundraising.htm)

### AAARI Thanks All of Its Members for 2006-2007

#### Distinguished Member

Betty Lee Sung  
Charles CM Chung  
Larm Shi Tam Memorial Fund  
Mrs. Shui Oi Tam

#### Honorary Member

Robert E. Lee

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Anindya Bhattacharya  
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William Tam  
Michelle S. Toy  
Lawrence Tse  
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Luisa Wang  
Antony Wong  
Sherman Wong  
Susan Wong  
Fanny Yip



### Banquet Honorees

*Dr. Selma Botman*; Executive Vice Chancellor & University Provost, CUNY

*Hon. Ellen Young*; Member, New York State Assembly

*Mr. Rao Anumolu*; President & CEO, ASR International



## Asian American / Asian Research Institute

The City University of New York

25 West 43rd Street, Room 1000  
New York, NY 10036

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### About Us

The Asian American / Asian Research Institute (AAARI) was established under the aegis of Queens College on November 19, 2001, by The City University of New York Board of Trustees, in a resolution introduced by Chancellor Matthew Goldstein.

AAARI is a university-wide scholarly research and resource center that focuses on policies and issues that affect Asians and Asian Americans.

### AAARI Board

#### Chairperson

Betty Lee Sung

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### Members

Ngee-Pong Chang, Wellington Z. Chen, Zhao Chen, Jennifer Hayashida, Nazrul Khandaker, Kiyoka Koizumi, Daxi Li, Keming Liu, Rohit Parikh, Parmatma Saran, Tansen Sen, Brian Schwartz, Frank Shih, Lene Skou Kyoko Toyama & Victoria Ying

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**Office Manager** Antony Wong

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### Upcoming Events

July 6, 2007 to August 24, 2007

#### Sunset Cinema Series

7/6 After This Our Exile (Hong Kong)

7/11 Nobody Knows (Japan)

7/20 Made in India? (USA)

7/27 What Time Is It There? (Taiwan)

8/3 Beshkempir: The Adopted Son (Krygyzstan)

8/10 A Tale of Two Sisters (South Korea)

8/17 The Clay Bird (Bangladesh)

8/24 Last Life of the Universe (Thailand)

September 14, 2007

#### CUNY Forum on Buddhism: Peace & Mind

September 21, 2007

#### Friday Evening Lecture Series

The Making of Asian American Community Democracy:  
Rebuilding Chinatown in Post 9-11

October 26, 2007

#### AAARI 6th Annual Banquet

February 8, 2008

#### CUNY Asian Faculty & Staff: Lunar New Year Reception

圓淨文明的通德 | 行透人間後昆覺

The pure nature of civilization is altruism which brings enlightenment.

The true meaning of culture is the self revelation which brings peace.

究極文化的特質 | 觀破自我普世寧

**Peace & Mind**

**Date:** September 14, 2007  
**Time:** 8:00AM to 4:00PM

**Place:** CUNY Graduate Center  
Elebash Recital Hall  
365 Fifth Avenue, Manhattan  
(Corner of 34th Street)

This all-day conference will introduce lay people, especially the faculty and student body at CUNY to the practice of present-day Buddhism. Speakers and panelists at the forum also include venerable experts from various Buddhist monasteries, and faculty members from the City University of New York.

**Details:** [www.aaari.info/2007buddhism.htm](http://www.aaari.info/2007buddhism.htm)

**Layout Design:** William Tam & Antony Wong



Phone: (212) 869-0182

Fax: (212) 869-0181

E-mail: [info@aaari.info](mailto:info@aaari.info)

URL: [www.aaari.info](http://www.aaari.info)