



September 2008

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.

We invite AAARI members and CUNY personnel to submit articles, news items, and artwork for our forthcoming issues.

Spotlight Focus - of the month



Aziz Ahmad holds B.E. and M.E. degrees in Electrical Engineering from The City College of New York. With over 16 years of experience in telecommunications and information technology, he co-founded UTC Associates, headquartered in New York City, a leading systems and network integration company and developer of software for information technology and telecommunications applications. He currently serves as its President and CEO. Mr. Ahmad has directed the AT&T Local Services team in the NGI (Next Generation Internet) Consortium, whose focus was to research, develop, and demonstrate the next generation broadband access network based on IP and Multi-Wavelength optical technology. He serves as a board member of numerous technology companies in the USA and Bangladesh, including Glowpoint, and Vonair, Inc.

Mr. Ahmad will be one of the honorees at AAARI's 7th Annual Banquet on October 30, 2008.

Greetings from the AAARI Executive Director



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As the new Executive Director of AAARI, I am delighted by the opportunity to work in one of the most dynamic and diverse university systems in the world. The City University of New York, located in New York City is at the crossroads of some of the most exciting developments in the evolution of Asian American and international Asian communities. As many of you know, Asian Americans represent over 3,600 faculty and staff, nearly 3,500 graduate and over 33,000 undergraduate students within CUNY. We hope you will join us as we make Asian American perspectives heard at the national, state and local levels, and within CUNY. The following is just a few of the things AAARI has planned:

- Establishing the AAARI/Dr. Thomas Tam Professorship: The search to fill the visiting professor position established by CUNY in honor of the founder of AAARI, the late Dr. Thomas Tam, will begin in earnest this 2008/2009 academic year. The successful candidate for this position will work with AAARI as we build a research agenda, and engage faculty and students across all campuses on Asian American issues. S/he will also contribute to AAARI's mission of supporting Asian American studies at CUNY, and will teach on the Hunter and Queens College campuses.
- AAARI 7th Annual Gala Dinner – October 30, 2008. We will be presenting our first Asian American Distinguished Alumni Award to Mr. Aziz Ahmad, CEO of UTC Associates and City College alumnus. Mr. Ahmad's story is an inspiring one. He credits CUNY with shaping his view of America and the world. Join us at the Gala as we honor this distinguished alumnus who exemplifies the contributions of Asian American CUNY alumni, not just by his business success, but by the many philanthropic endeavors.
- Simon Winchester, New York Times Best Seller author, will give a talk about his book, "The Man Who Loved China," on Tuesday, October 7, 2008. He will be honored with the K. York Chynn Book Award for his work at the October 30, Gala Dinner, for its contributions to enhancing Western understanding of China.
- The AAARI Friday night lecture series continues: beginning on September 12, 2008, members of academia and the community present topics to colleagues, students and general audiences on subjects ranging from "It's So Much Quieter Now: Post 9/11 Chinatown Small Businesses," by Winnie Tam Hung (Hunter College) to "The Fortune Cookie Chronicles," by Jennifer 8 Lee, writer for the New York Times. You are invited to attend these lectures and workshops, and to submit ideas for additional topics. It's a great way to share your research issues, gain insights from listeners and meet and network with your colleagues and community members.
- Professional development and leadership opportunities for CUNY's Asian American faculty, staff and students— AAARI will be conducting a survey to assess the needs and concerns of our community.
- The CUNY Asian Faculty & Staff Lunar New Year Reception – January 30, 2009. Come and meet familiar faces, and new colleagues.

I look forward to a productive year, and an opportunity to work closely with CUNY's Asian American faculty, staff and students, as well as other CUNY and community colleagues.

Regards,

Joyce Moy
Executive Director

Asian American / Asian Research Institute

The City University of New York
25 West 43rd Street, Room 1000
New York, NY 10036



About Us

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

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Summer '08 Interns Millicent Cheu & Jennifer Wong

Upcoming Events

Asian Language Corner

Twenty-sessions at an affordable price!
Fee: \$400 (Non-Member) | \$250 (Member/Student)

Cantonese Level 1: Sept. 16, 2008 to Jan. 22, 2009
Hindi Level 1: Sept. 18, 2008 to Mar. 5, 2009

September 12, 2008

Friday Evening Lecture Series

"It's So Much Quieter Now": Post-9/11 Chinatown Small Business

Speaker: Winnie Tam Hung (Hunter College, CUNY)

September 19, 2008

Friday Evening Lecture Series

Identity: Community Participation and Self-Realization

Speaker: Edward Ma

September 26, 2008

Friday Evening Lecture Series

Missing Voices: Unexplored Synergies in the Dissident Poetry of China's Fourth Generation

Speaker: Keming Liu (Medgar Evers College, CUNY)



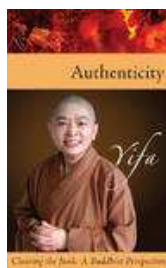
Humanistic Buddhism: Applications to Modern Life & Social Issues

Date: Tuesdays,
09/16/2008 to 11/18/2008
Time: 6PM to 8PM

Fee: \$50/ Free for student
Light refreshments served.

The Humanistic Buddhist movement pioneered by Venerable Master Hsing Yun of the Fo Guang Shan Monastery has been one of the most compelling and powerful religious movements of the twentieth century. In addition to discussing fundamental concepts of Buddhism and the history of the Humanistic Buddhist movement, this course will examine both Humanistic Buddhist philosophy and praxis, exploring ways in which Humanistic Buddhist principles can be applied in the modern West. Reading materials will include actual Buddhist sutras as well as secondary sources.

Note: Lecture and discussions will be given in English.



Venerable Yifa, Ph.D is a Taiwanese Buddhist nun, scholar, and writer. She served as a department head and dean of University of the West during her tenure at the college. In 2003, the United Nations awarded Yifa its Outstanding Women in Buddhism Award.



Phone: (212) 869-0182
Fax: (212) 869-0181
E-mail: info@aaari.info
URL: www.aaari.info