



# AAARI Spotlight

May 2010

## May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

In May 1990, President George H. W. Bush designated May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

## Joyce Moy Appointed to NYC Comptroller's Task Force on Public Benefit Agreements



New York City Comptroller John Liu has appointed Joyce Moy, Executive Director of AAARI, as a Co-Chair of his Task Force on Public Benefit Agreements. She is among four co-chairs who hail from backgrounds of labor, the real estate industry, housing and small business.

The Task Force will develop recommendations to establish a legitimate process that would apply when tax dollars, rezonings, and other public resources are used to facilitate private development; and issue these recommendations guided by the principles of accountability, transparency, inclusiveness, consistency, and fiscal responsibility.

## Antony Wong Appointed Member of Manhattan Community Board No. 2



AAARI congratulates Antony Wong, Program Coordinator of the AAARI, on his appointment as a Member of Manhattan Community Board No. 2, from April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2012, by the Office of the Manhattan Borough President, at the recommendation of NYC Councilmember Margaret Chin. Members are charged with representing community interests on crucial issues of development and planning, land use, zoning and City service delivery, such as sanitation and street maintenance. Antony has been a resident of Board No. 2 since the age of 5. Board No. 2 is comprised of Chinatown/Little Italy, NoHo, SoHo, South Village, West Village, Hudson Square, and Gansevoort Market.

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## Tarry Hum Appointed to CUNY Graduate Center's Doctoral Faculty



Dr. Tarry Hum, Associate Professor of the Department of Urban Studies at Queens College/CUNY, has been appointed to the Doctoral faculty of the CUNY Graduate Center's Environmental Psychology program. Dr. Hum's work focuses on economic development, labor market participation, and low-income issues in urban immigrant communities, especially Asian-American and Latino communities. Her current research projects include analyses of alternative strategies for economic development and immigrant labor in New York City's garment industry and the impact of immigrant economies on the neighborhoods of New York City.

CUNY Conference on

## Taking the "Lead" in Leadership

How NYC's 2009 Elections Has Shaped Asian American Civic Participation



May 7, 2010

8:30AM to 5PM

CUNY Graduate Center  
Concourse Level  
365 Fifth Ave., Manhattan

AAARI will convene a conference in which over 200 academicians and community practitioners will discuss the impact of the record number of Asian Americans who ran for and won political office in the 2009 NYC metropolitan area elections on civic engagement in the Asian American community.

Conference attendees will discuss the impact and formulate recommendations on how the increased networks and participation in the 2009 election process can be leveraged to increase engagement by the Asian American community in civic participation in the academic, community and broader New York City arena.

**Keynote:** Dr. Judy Chu (US House of Representatives-32nd District)

**Closing Session:** Kiran Ahuja, Executive Director, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

**URL:** [www.aaari.info/2010leadership.htm](http://www.aaari.info/2010leadership.htm)

## Kimiko Hahn Awarded 2010 Guggenheim Fellowship



Professor Kimiko Hahn, Distinguished Professor of English at Queens College/CUNY, is a recipient of the 2010 Guggenheim Fellowship. Professor Hahn is the author of seven collections of poetry, including: *The Narrow Road to the Interior* (W.W. Norton, 2006); *The Artist's Daughter* (2002); *Mosquito and Ant* (1999); *Volatile* (1998); and *The Unbearable Heart* (1995), which received an American Book Award.

She has been a Distinguished Professor in the English Department and MFA Program at Queens College since February 2006. According to the Guggenheim Foundation, the Guggenheim Fellows are "appointed on the basis of achievement and exceptional promise."

## Asian American / Asian Research Institute

### City University of New York

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



#### About Us

Asian American / Asian Research Institute (AAARI) is a university-wide scholarly research and resource center that focuses on policies and issues that affect Asians and Asian Americans.

CUNY enrolls over 40,000 Asian undergraduate and graduate students, and employs over 4,000 faculty and staff of Asian descent. AAARI serves as a bridge between CUNY and the Asian American community.

#### AAARI Board Chair

Hiroko Karan

#### Vice-Chair

Susan Wong

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#### Members

Ngee-Pong Chang, Zhao Chen, Nehru E. Cherukupalli, Linda T. Chin, Loretta Chin, Jennifer Hayashida, Ravi Kalia, Nazrul Khandaker, Kiyoka Koizumi, Sambhavi Lakshminarayanan, Rohit Parikh, Vinit Parmar, Tansen Sen, Brian Schwartz, Frank Shih, Lene Skou, Betty Lee Sung, Kyoko Toyama & Victoria Ying

**Executive Director** Joyce Moy

**Program Coordinator** Antony Wong

**Staff** Minyi Chou, Shashi Khanna, Bark Qazi, William Tam & Zhu-Hui Wu

**Interns** Liming Wu & Sihan Wu

#### Upcoming Events

##### April 29, 2010

The Impact of Art & Culture: An Evening with Fred Ho  
Co-Sponsored Event @ Medgar Evers College

##### April 30, 2010

Lecture Series  
Becoming an Actress in New York (Documentary)  
Yunah Hong & Esther Chae

##### May 2, 2010

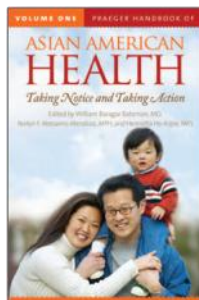
31st Asian Pacific American Heritage Festival  
@ Union Square Park

##### May 4, 2010

Asian American Arts Alliance Town Hall  
Co-Sponsored Event

##### May 14, 2010

Lecture Series  
Man on Extremely Small Island (Book Talk)  
Jason Koo (Lehman College/CUNY)



#### Asian American Health Panel

May 21, 2010 1PM to 3PM

25 West 43rd St, 18th Floor  
btwn 5th & 6th Ave, Manhattan

*Praeger Handbook of Asian American Health: Taking Notice and Taking Action*, published in 2009, is an in-depth, and highly-readable exploration of the multiplicity of factors central to healthcare practice with members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (API) community.

Co-editors and chapter authors will provide an informative presentation and discussion on some of the less visible factors faced by immigrants, as well as Americans born of Asian descent, that often contribute to disparities in their diagnosis and care.

They will also highlight models, most notably several healthcare practices located around the country that have been successful in identifying, advocating for and, ultimately, meeting the healthcare needs of America's pan-Asian community.

#### Co-Sponsors

Asian American / Asian Research Institute-CUNY  
Coalition for Asian American Children & Families  
Family Health Project  
NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health

**URL:** [www.aaari.info/10-05-21Health.htm](http://www.aaari.info/10-05-21Health.htm)



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