



ASIANetwork *Current*

Impacts Report 2023-2025



Highlights

- Welcome from the Board of Directors p. 2
- ASIANetwork Program Map pp. 5-6
- Annual Conferences pp. 25-26



asianetwork.org



A consortium of North American colleges and universities, ASIANetwork strives to strengthen the role of Asia and Asian diasporas within liberal arts education to help prepare undergraduates for success in an ever more interconnected world.



Qin
Fang

Associate Professor of History
McDaniel College

Chair of the Board of Directors
ASIANetwork

In the 2023-2025 ASIANetwork Impacts Report, you will see our consortium's commitment to "community" - including the faculty and student communities across our campuses, local Asian American communities, and the broader community of supporters and funders who make our work possible.

My connection with ASIANetwork began with a 2010 ASIANetwork Freeman Foundation Student-Faculty Fellows summer project in China. With the practical skills they honed through this project, my students have gone on to challenging careers, whether as a bilingual magazine editor, a manager at the international toy company LEGO, or a finance-sector professional, among others, based in countries around the world. The experiences they gained through ASIANetwork have become integral to their life paths, reflecting the diverse trajectories and global interconnectedness that our consortium supports.

Looking ahead, ASIANetwork's mission is more vital than ever. From supporting faculty development and funding undergraduate projects, to amplifying local Asian American voices through the AAPI initiative, and embracing real-world embodied learning about Asia, ASIANetwork will continue to nurture the next generation in diverse careers by encouraging meaningful engagement with global Asia and our many communities.

Qin Fang

Table of Contents

Thirty-three Years of ASIANetwork 4

ASIANetwork Programs Map 5-6

Student-Faculty Fellows Program 7-10

AAPI Voices and Stories:
Community-Based Digital Storytelling 11-14

Embodied Learning About Asia Residencies 15-18

Speakers Bureau 19-20

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowships 21-22

Student Video and Essay Contests 23-24

Conference and Workshops 25-26

Publications 27-28

Testimonial Gallery 29-30

Board of Directors 31

Council of Advisors and Past Board Chairs 32



ASIANetwork : 33 years of Impact

ASIANetwork, a consortium for education about Asia and Asian diasporas in the undergraduate liberal arts, supports teaching and research in global Asian studies and AAPI/Asian American studies at North American colleges and universities.

Founded in 1992 with 45 member colleges, ASIANetwork now has over 130 members, including small liberal arts colleges and universities, and other private and public institutions. All faculty, staff, and students at our member institutions are eligible to participate in ASIANetwork programming. ASIANetwork reaches close to 500,000 undergraduate students, 30% of whom are on Pell grants.

ASIANetwork has received \$13,664,832 in grants to support mentored student projects, faculty development, cultural exchange, teaching resource development, and more. Our investment fund totals over \$1,800,000.



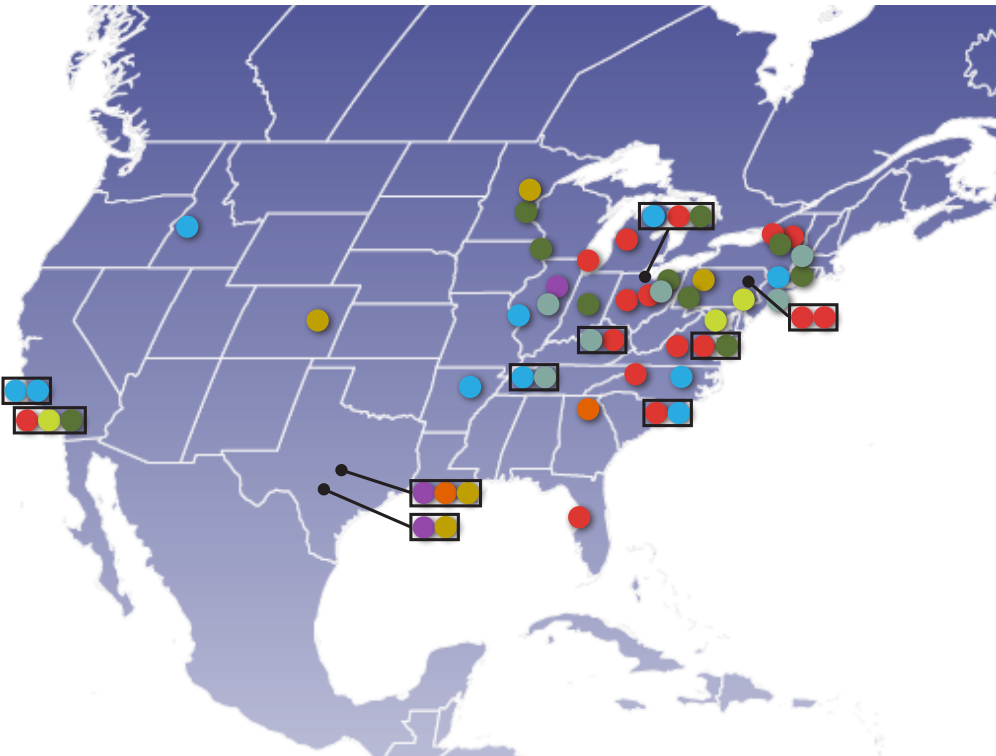
Open-Access Book Series and Journal
Reaching **10,000** Readers

130+ Member Colleges
and Universities



Annual Conference with
250+ Attendees per Year

ASIANetwork : Programs of Impact



Dr. Sophia Geng (St. Vincent College) in China with students and local storytellers on a project aimed at documenting traditional folk tales.

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|--|-------------|
| ● Student-Faculty Fellows Projects | pages 7-10 |
| ● AAPI Voices and Stories Projects | pages 11-14 |
| ● Embodied Learning About Asia Residencies | pages 15-18 |
| ● Speakers Bureau Awards | pages 19-20 |



- Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowships pages 21-22
- McJimsey Student Essay Awards pages 23-24
- Student Video Challenge Awards pages 23-24
- ASIANetwork Conferences pages 25-26

Student-Faculty Fellows Program

Since its inception in 1998 through 2023, the Student-Faculty Fellows Program (SFF) has awarded 256 grants to 1248 fellows from 120 member institutions. ASIANetwork and all our participants are grateful for the generous support of the Freeman Foundation that made these life-changing experiences possible for so many students. Alumni of the SFF program include numerous diplomats, journalists, physicians, academics, and other professionals who have benefited from the depth of knowledge, new skills training, and cultural engagement gained through their mentored projects.





Loretta Scott
Japanese Media Specialist and
Entrepreneur
Kemushichan, New York City & Tokyo

“My tenure at graduate school here in Japan was very much inspired by my research through ASIANetwork. My faculty mentor, Professor Hamada-Connolly always found ways to apply case studies and ethnographic research as a problem-solving mechanism for companies and institutions. I mentioned her and our work with ASIANetwork in my application, citing how it not only prepared me to do research in a bilingual sphere, but taught me how to use my love of languages, startups and research to excel in Japan.”

Engaging Asia Core Ideas

- Current global issues in an Asian context
- Interaction and collaboration with the people of Asia
- Practical and professional skill development
- Student career and professional preparation
- Strong faculty mentorship of students

Members of the Bucknell
University project team
collecting water samples in
Japan.

Student-Faculty Fellows Program

Hope College, South Korea, 2023



Students learning how to make a traditional Korean paper at the Jeonju Millennium Hanji Museum with master paper maker, Shintae Park.

Virginia Wesleyan University, China, 2016



Students with the cultural heritage restoration team at the Yungang Grottoes, Cave 5. The team is standing on scaffolding approximately 50 feet off the ground, just beside the head of the Buddha.

Warren Wilson College, Taiwan, 2023



A student is working in the pond with a local NGO to plant water lily.

Maryville College, Nepal, 2015



Student preparing to interview Mrs. Krishnakumari Basnet, Chairperson of Bhabisya Nirman Credit and Savings Cooperative Ltd., an all-women run credit cooperative.

AAPI Voices and Stories : Community-Based Digital Storyelling

Through the generous support of the Mellon Foundation, ASIANetwork is conducting a three-year pilot program on Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community-based digital storytelling. Our goal is to reshape the landscape of undergraduate education by incorporating and amplifying the voices of AAPI individuals and communities in our teaching, research, and community engagement. We also envision a new framework in which to carry out work that transcends the boundaries of Asian Studies, Asian American Studies and American Studies.

Program Objectives

- Strengthen community-academic partnerships that are significant for the community
- Train and support ASIANetwork member institutions' faculty and students to undertake community-led AAPI engagement initiatives
- Digitally archive, distribute, and publish stories of the lived experiences of AAPI communities
- Produce and disseminate educational materials that can be integrated in college curricular across our network



Members of the
Webster University
project team.



Members of the University
of Central Arkansas project
team.

In collaboration with the Chinese Association of Arkansas

The Arkansas Chinese Heritage Project

Zachary Smith | University of Central Arkansas

Emerald Dunn, Community Partner Lead

In collaboration with the Japanese American Citizens League in St. Louis

Elevating Asian Voices Through Digital Storytelling

Elsa Fan | Webster University

Robin Hattori, Community Partner Lead

Faculty Associate Awards

Yifeng Hu | The College of New Jersey

Shaolu Yu | Rhodes College

Interview with grocery store
owner in rural Arkansas.



AAPI Voices and Stories : Community-Based Digital Storyelling

In collaboration with the Montagnard/Asian Community Disparities Research Network

Making Communities: Asian Refugee Resettlement Experiences in the American South

Zhihong Chen | Guilford College

Andrew Young, Community Partner Lead

In collaboration with API-RISE

The AAPI Activist Project

Vivian Wenli Lin | Occidental College

Members of Asian Pacific Islander Reentry through Inclusion, Support, and Empowerment

Faculty Fellow Awards

In collaboration with the Gurdwara Guru Nanaksar in Columbia, South Carolina

Exploring Sikh Voices in South Carolina

Ronald Green | Coastal Carolina University

In collaboration with Marshallese Youth of Orange County

Marshallese Oral History Archive of Southern California

Alfred Flores | Harvey Mudd College

Kelani Silk, Community Partner Lead

In collaboration with the Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple and the Boise chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League

Beyond Minidoka: Japanese Americans in Idaho and Eastern Oregon

Rachel Miller | The College of Idaho

In collaboration with the Chinese Ministry of Findlay First Church of the Nazarene

Identity Reconstruction of Diasporic Chinese Seniors in Rural Ohio

Fang Wang | The University of Findlay



Zhihong Chen
Professor of History
Guilford College

”

“The vision of the AAPI Voices and Stories grant is truly distinctive. The project not only strengthens students’ skills in research, communication, and digital literacy, but also empowers local communities and helps cultivate future leaders and change-makers. By bridging higher education and community needs, the grant creates meaningful, life-changing experiences that connect the strengths of both worlds.”

Kelani Silk discussing the
Marshallese Oral History
Archive of Southern California.



Embodied Learning About Asia Residencies Program

This program focuses on Asian pedagogy that embraces the ways knowledge is gained through active practice and performance, creating opportunities for students to learn about Asia through immersive involvement and embodied participation.

Residency of Hitomi and Takuro Shibata, Studio Touya (North Carolina)

Experiential Learning Through Looking and Making: The Japanese Tea Ceremony

Kathleen Ryor & Kelly Connole | Carleton College

Residency of tea master Soryu Yamakawa (Kumamoto, Japan)

Chanoyu “The Way of Tea”: Embodied Learning and its Significance

Yukari Hirata | Colgate University

Residency of Zhongxian Wu, QinJian Akademin (Stockholm, Sweden)

Embodied Learning and Daoist Cultivation: Martial Arts, Calligraphy, Music, and Medicine

Gereon Kopf & Scott Hurley | Luther College

Residency of Geshe Kunga and Tenpa Phuntsok, senior monks from the Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center (Indiana)

Tibetan Contemplative Practices: Intersection of Mindfulness, Culture, and Science

Timothy Grose | Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Residency of pottery master Hiroshige Kato (Aichi, Japan)

Embodied Learning about Japanese Culture through Pottery: Artwork and Reflection

Hiroaki Kawamura | The University of Findlay



Scott Hurley
Associate Professor of Religion
Luther College

”

“Daoist Master Zhongxian Wu left participants with better understandings of how classical Chinese music, movement, calligraphy, and medicine are understood and practiced today, bringing a more global perspective to the Luther and Decorah communities in the realms of music, art, and health.”



Japanese tea
demonstration at
Carleton College.

Embodied Learning About Asia Residencies Program

2024-25 Residencies

Residency of Artists from the Thidambu Arts Collective (Kerala, India)

Adivasi Youth Art: Indigenous Embodied Learning from South India to Oberlin

Erika Hoffmann-Dilloway & Jennifer Fraser | Oberlin College

Residency of Jang Eung-yul and Jang Yoon-ah (Wonju, South Korea)

Embodied Learning of Korean Arts and Culture through Crafting Hanji Paper and Artifacts

Stella Xu | Roanoke College

Residency of members of the Pangrok Sulap Collective (Sabah, Malaysia)

Malaysian Artist-Activists at Claremont Consortium Colleges

Anne Dorothy Harley | Scripps College

Korean cultural program at
Roanoke College.

2025-26 Residencies

Residency of Made Mantle Hood and Koming Somawati (Tainan, Taiwan)

Asian Perspectives on Music, Movement, Language, and the Environment

Mark D. Swift | Washington & Jefferson College

Residency of Ji Young Kim and Madalyn Warren (Roxbury, New York)

Kimchi Across Continents: Embodied Learning about Culture, Cooking, and Sustainable Agriculture

Larissa Pitts | Quinnipiac University



Stella Xu
Professor of History
Roanoke College

”

“This program showed how powerful hands-on learning can be in helping students truly connect with another culture. It brought our campus and local community together in a warm and meaningful way. Students not only learned new skills but also developed genuine curiosity, respect, and appreciation for Korean culture. The experience left a lasting impact on everyone involved.”

The Embodied Learning About Asia Program is funded by an anonymous grant in recognition of Donald N. Clark, professor of history, emeritus, Trinity University, and former board chair of ASIANetwork, for his contributions to the field of Asian Studies.

Speakers Bureau

The ASIANetwork Speakers Bureau opens the rich storehouse of scholarly expertise within ASIANetwork to communities across the United States. Composed of peer-nominated scholars with expertise in Asian history, language, culture, art, society, and contemporary affairs, the bureau reflects the breadth of knowledge and experience of our members. ASIANetwork Speakers Bureau Grants provide awarded institutions with funds to bring an ASIANetwork Speaker to their campus.



Gwendolyn Gillson
Associate Professor of Asian Studies
Illinois College

”

“Faculty, staff, and students all commented about how interesting Dr. Snyder-Reinke’s work was and how glad they were to be able to have him here. I personally really enjoyed the presentation and learned a lot about death practices in China with which I was completely unfamiliar. As the only Asianist on campus, I will be bringing all I learned into my classrooms in the future.”

AWARDED SPEAKERSHIPS

Illinois College (2023-24)

Jeff Snyder-Reinke, hosted by Gwendolyn Gillson

Montclair State University (2024-25)

Wayne Patterson, hosted by Wing Shan Ho

Smith College (2024-25)

Francisco Chen-López, hosted by Yeongju Lee

Lorain County Community College (2024-25)

Mizuki Takahashi, hosted by Shaun Marsh

Berea College (2025-26)

Shaolu Yu, hosted by Jianfen Wang

Rhodes College (2025-26)

Francisco Chen-López, hosted by Shaolu Yu

Speakers Bureau Faculty, 2025-26

Betsy Bolton | Swarthmore College (Literature and Environmental Studies)

Francisco Chen-López | Spelman College (World Languages and Cultures)

Jin Feng | Grinnell College (Chinese Literature)

Susan Westhafer Furukawa | Beloit College (Japanese Language and Literature)

Jack Dash Harris | Hobart and William Smith Colleges (Sociology)

Jaya Jha | Davidson College (Economics)

Vivian Wenli Lin | Occidental College (Media Arts and Culture)

Lauren Meeker | SUNY New Paltz (Anthropology)

Wayne Patterson | St. Norbert College (History)

Deepa Prakash | DePauw University (Political Science)

Jeff Snyder-Reinke | The College of Idaho (History)

Mizuki Takahashi | Bucknell University (Biology)

Patricia Welch | Hofstra University (Japanese and Comparative Literature)

Shaolu Yu | Rhodes College (Geography)

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowships

Through the generous support of the Henry Luce Foundation, ASIANetwork has been providing its member colleges with grants to support the hiring of a postdoctoral teaching fellow in Asian Studies. ASIANetwork - Luce Teaching Fellows — recent recipients of a terminal degree from a North American university — spend one or two years at an ASIANetwork college, teaching and participating in the intellectual and cultural life of the host college. Thirty-three postdoctoral fellows have served since 2010.

2023-2026 Postdoctoral Fellows



Maorui Yang

*Postdoctoral Fellow in Economics
Ph.D. (Economics), Louisiana State University
Southwestern University (2023-2025)*



Huiqiao Yao

*Postdoctoral Fellow in East Asian Religions
Ph.D. (Chinese), Arizona State University
Trinity University (2023-2025)*



Abhishek Nanavati

*Visiting Assistant Professor of Asian Studies
Ph.D. (History), Georgetown University
Illinois College (2024-2026)*



Larissa Pitts

*Assistant Professor of History
Quinnipiac University
Austin College (2017-2019)*



Arnab Banerji

*Associate Professor of Theatre History, Literature, and Dramaturgy
Loyola Marymount University
Muhlenberg College (2014-2015)*



Jue Liang

*Assistant Professor of Religious Studies
Case Western Reserve University
Denison University (2020-2021)*



Dorothee Xiaolong Hou

*Assistant Professor of Chinese and Asian Studies
Moravian University
Moravian University (2021-2023)*



Sheri Lullo

*Associate Professor of Art History
Union College
Dickinson College (2010-2011)*



Irma Hidayana

*Assistant Professor of Population Health
Hofstra University
St. Lawrence University (2021-2023)*

Student Video Challenge & McJimsey Student Essay Award

The ASIANetwork Student Video Competition provides opportunities for students to create scholarly work in the form of a video. One award recognizes focused and direct collaborations between students at ASIANetwork and Asian undergraduate institutions by addressing the program theme. Another award invites U.S. students (solo or team) to present their research results on the program theme in a video.

2025 Winning Entries

Similarities and Changes in Eastern and Western Tipping Cultures: The Impact of Cultural Bias on Original Intent

Adriana Espiritu & Kate Donaldson | Moravian University

Minki Kim | Korean National University of Transportation (South Korea)

Faculty Advisor: Holly Jo

The Death Penalty: China, Korea, and the U.S.

Brooke Gormley & Dillon Corwin | Moravian University

Faculty Advisor: Holly Jo

2024 Winning Entry

The Chinese Housing Crisis: Marketization vs. State Sanctioning

Madeline Principe | McDaniel College

Wenfei Xie | Xi'an Jiaotong University (China)

Faculty Advisors: Dongmei Ge (Xi'an Jiaotong University) & Qin Fang (McDaniel College)

2024 Runner-Up

Mission/Environmental: Taiwan, the US, and the Climate Crisis

Isabel Li | Scripps College

Chien-Yi Elisa Chuang | National Taiwan University (Taiwan)

Faculty Advisor: Anne Harley

See the winning videos on the ASIA-
Network YouTube Channel



The Marianna McJimsey Award recognizes undergraduate student essays dealing with Asia, Asian diasporas, or AAPI/Asian American studies. The winner and one or two runners-up receive invitations and funding to present their work at the annual conference, and the winning paper is published in *ASIANetwork Exchange: A Journal for Asian Studies in the Liberal Arts*. The prize honors the outstanding service of Marianna McJimsey, the first Executive Director of ASIANetwork and the first editor of *ASIANetwork Exchange*.

2025 Winning Entry

Managing Fertility: A Historical Comparative Study on Population Policy in Singapore and China

Xinyi Wendy Zheng | Macalester College

Faculty Advisor: Erik Larson

2024 Winning Entry

Prevalence and Impact of the Model Minority Stereotype on Asian American Students at a Small Liberal Arts University

Ollie Bowen | Trinity University

Faculty Advisor: Elaine Wong



2023 Winning Entry

The Coral Tree: Chinese Students at Colorado College and their Racial Identities in the Early 1920s

Hongli Zeng | Colorado College

Faculty Advisor: John Williams

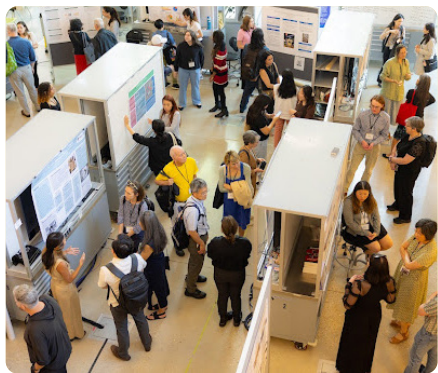
ASIANetwork Conference



The annual conference draws teacher-scholars and their students in a 3-day weekend of intensive exchange and collaboration in pedagogy, research, and skills development. Conference locations include all regions of the United States, and members gather from across North America and several Asian countries.

Since 1993, the annual conference has showcased hundreds of peer reviewed papers and arranged sessions, invited panels, workshops, keynote speakers, films, student posters and more.

Workshops and Student Professional Development



Publications

ASIANetwork Books

The ASIANetwork Book Series strives to bridge the gap between works that address demanding pedagogical strategies of the undergraduate classroom and pieces of specialized scholarship that engage a wider community outside higher education. It includes high-quality, original monographs, edited collections, and other works in a digital-native format. These volumes raise questions of interest for educators in the undergraduate setting, academia more broadly, and a wider public.

Series Editors: Erin McCarthy (St. Lawrence University) and Lisa Trivedi (Hamilton College)

ASIANetwork Exchange

A peer-reviewed publication, *ASIANetwork Exchange* publishes both current research and high quality essays written by specialists and non-specialists alike, in an open-access format. The journal showcases articles that can be adapted to an undergraduate classroom setting.

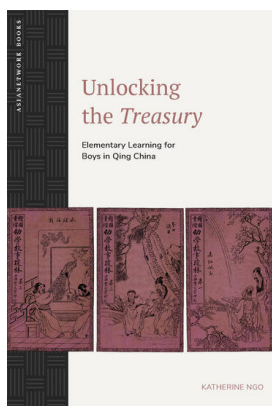
Editor: Taku Suzuki (Denison University)

Read and download volumes from the ASIANetwork Book Series

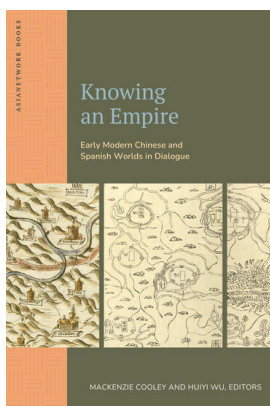


Read and download articles from ASIANetwork Exchange

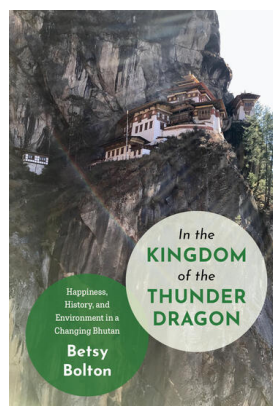




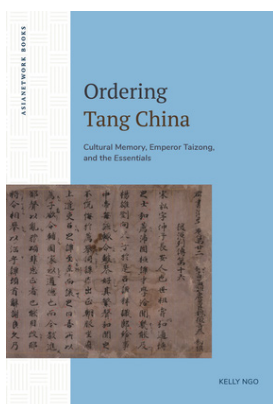
Unlocking the Treasury: Elementary Learning for Boys in Qing China by Katherine Ngo (2025)



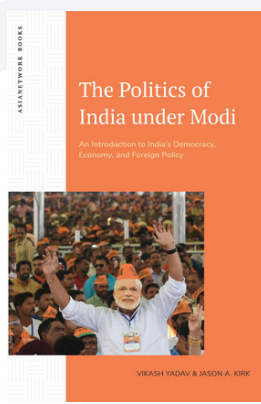
Knowing an Empire: Early Modern Chinese and Spanish Worlds in Dialogue by Mackenzie Cooley and Huiyi Wu (2025)



In the Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon: Happiness, History, and Environment in a Changing Bhutan by Betsy Bolton (2025)



Ordering Tang China: Cultural Memory, Emperor Taizong, and the Essentials by Kelly Ngo (2024)



The Politics of India under Modi: An Introduction to India's Democracy, Economy, and Foreign Policy by Vikash Yadav and Jason Kirk (2023)

ASIANetwork: Words of Impact



Emerald Dunn
Historian of Chinese Americans

“To the Chinese community of Arkansas, the gathering of the stories, photographs, and artifacts through the AAPI Voices and Stories Program generated a real sense of pride. It also provided a sense of belonging not only to the Chinese community but also to the community of the state of Arkansas.”



Kin Cheung
Moravian University

“ASIANetwork is such an immensely supportive organization. The folks I’ve met at ASIANetwork conferences and online events have become collaborators and friends. There are so many well rounded scholars who are not only innovators in research, but also in pedagogy and they care about better student experiences in and out of the classroom.”



Sophia Geng
St. Vincent College

“There are just so many wonderful colleagues. It’s the people that make this an amazing organization. We can learn so much from each other.”

Siti Kusujiarti
Warren Wilson College

“Joining ASIANetwork gave me opportunities to create a network, to connect with other colleagues who have been working on Asian studies or Asian American studies.”



Karen Kingsbury
Chatham University

“ASIANetwork has been an invaluable resource for me because it puts me in contact with a nationwide community of teacher-scholars, working in schools like my own, who also share these basic beliefs about the importance of increasing American students’ understanding of Asian and AAPI history and culture.”

Timothy Grose
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

“I can’t think of an undergraduate experience that was more formative in my own studies and career than the ASIANetwork-Freeman Foundation Student-Faculty Fellows trip I participated in as a student.”



Board of Directors



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Anna Sun
Duke University



Sophia Yan
The Daily Telegraph

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Karen Kingsbury
Chatham University
2018-19



Chris Herrick
Muhlenberg College
2017-18



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