2017
Southwest Texas Asian Symposium

November 8th, 2017
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Hosted by
UTRGV Asian Studies Minor

in partnership with
Texas Coastal Band of Korean Scientists and Engineers Association
&
Association of Chinese Political Studies

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley
Asian Studies Minor

Greetings,

We cordially invite you to the 1st Southwestern Texas Asian Symposium in Social Studies, Science and Engineering at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley on November 8th 2017. This symposium is hosted by the Asian Studies Minor program at UTRGV in partnership with the Texas Coastal Band of Korean Scientists and Engineering Association and Association of Chinese Political Studies.

The 2017 Southwestern Texas Asian Symposium is to bring scholars, researchers, practitioners, and students together to discuss issues related to teaching and researching in the Asian contexts. Specifically, it aims to provide a forum that allows participants across disciplines to explore critical issues about Asia and fosters a community of professionals specialized in Asia-related research and Asian scholars. Promoting and serving for diversity and globalization in higher education, the Southwestern Texas Asian Symposium will be an avenue for academic and professional discourse amongst faculty, students, and practitioners in various fields and specialties.

Here are some exciting highlights of the SWTAS this year:

- Symposium Theme: Asia in the globalized world
- Keynote Speech "Designing Intuitive Interactions for Human-Robot Teams" by Dr. Chien-Ming Huang (Johns Hopkins University)
- Special Roundtable Session on US-China Relations sponsored by the Association of Chinese Political Studies (ACPS)
- 28 peer-reviewed paper presentations in six concurrent sessions (Please refer to the program schedules for details)
    o Session 1: Linguistic and cultural contacts with Asia
    o Session 2: Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics by Asian scholars
    o Session 3: Political & Economic Development in the Asia-Pacific Region
    o Session 4: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics by Asian scholars
    o Session 5: Social Identity, Norms, and Psychological Trends among Asians
    o Session 6: Issues in Global Education

We hope you all join us in celebrating and promoting diversity and excellence in research and scholarly achievements at the 1st Southwest Texas Asian Symposium. For more information, please visit the website of Asian Studies Minor at www.utrgv.edu/asian-studies. Look forward to meeting you in Edinburg, TX soon!
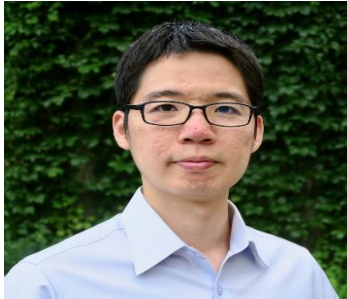
Sincerely,

Dr. Minhee Eom, Chair, Southwest Texas Asian Symposium
Dr. Xi Chen, Chair, SWTAS Program Committee
Dr. Dugan Um, Co-Chair, SWTAS Program Committee
Dr. Yanrong, Chang, Chair, SWTAS General Affairs Committee

Keynote Speech:

Designing Intuitive Interactions for Human-Robot Teams
Dr. Chien-Ming Huang, Johns Hopkins University

Robots hold promise in assisting people in a variety of domains including healthcare services, household chores, collaborative manufacturing, and educational learning. In supporting these activities, robots need to engage with humans in cooperative interactions in which they work together toward a common goal in a socially intuitive manner. Such interactions require robots to coordinate actions, predict task intent, direct attention, and convey relevant information to human partners. In this talk, I will present how techniques in human-computer interaction, artificial intelligence, and robotics can be applied in a principled manner to create and study intuitive interactions between humans and robots. I will demonstrate social, cognitive, and task benefits of effective human-robot teams in various application contexts. I will discuss broader impacts of my research, as well as future directions of my research focusing on intuitive computing.

Chien-Ming Huang is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science in the Whiting School of Engineering at The Johns Hopkins University. His research seeks to enable intuitive interactions between humans and machines to augment human capabilities. Dr. Huang received his Ph.D. in Computer Science at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 2015, his M.S. in Computer Science at the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2010, and his B.S. in Computer Science at National Chiao Tung University in Taiwan in 2006. His research has been awarded a Best Paper Runner-Up at Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS) 2013 and has received media coverage from MIT Technology Review, Tech Insider, and Science Nation.

2017 Southwest Texas Asian Symposium
November 8, 2017
University Ballroom Complex (EDBCX)
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Program Schedules

8:00-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:25	Opening Dr. Walter Diaz, Dean of College of Liberal Arts
9:25-10:40	Keynote Speech *Designing Intuitive Interactions for Human-Robot Teams* Dr. Chien-Ming Huang, Johns Hopkins University.
10:50-12:05	Concurrent Sessions
12:15-13:30	Roundtable Session on US-China relations
13:40-14:55	Student Poster Session 1 & Concurrent Sessions
15:05-16:20	Student Poster Session 2 & Concurrent Sessions
16:20-17:00	Closing & Award Ceremony (KSEA Research Grants, ACPS Membership Awards, and Best Student Poster Awards)

Highlights of 2017 SWTAS

Keynote Speech

Time	Location: Ballroom
9:25-10:40	*Designing Intuitive Interactions for Human-Robot Teams* Dr. Chien-Ming Huang, Johns Hopkins University

Special Roundtable

Time	Location: Cenizo
12:15-13:30	Roundtable Session: *US-China Relations: Existing and Emerging Challenges* Chair: Dr. Xi Chen

Concurrent Sessions

Time	Location: Ballroom	Location: Bronc
10:50 -12:05	Session 1: *Linguistic and cultural contacts with Asia*	Session 2: *Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics by Asian Scholars*
13:40-14:55	Session 3: *Political & Economic Development in the Asia-Pacific Region*	Session 4: *Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics by Asian Scholars*
15:05-16:20	Session 5: *Social Identity, Norms, and Psychological Trends among Asians*	Session 6: *Issues in Global Education*

Session 1:

Linguistic and cultural contacts with Asia

Chair: Dr. Tamer Balci

Contexts as Modes of Thinking: Implications in Cross-Cultural
Communications
Dr. Wei, Yong-Kang
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Chinese Obituaries as Culturally Situated Communication Practice
Dr. Yanrong (Yvonne) Chang
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

On Target and off target variation in the L2 Spanish of Chinese-origin speakers: Acquisition of liq-
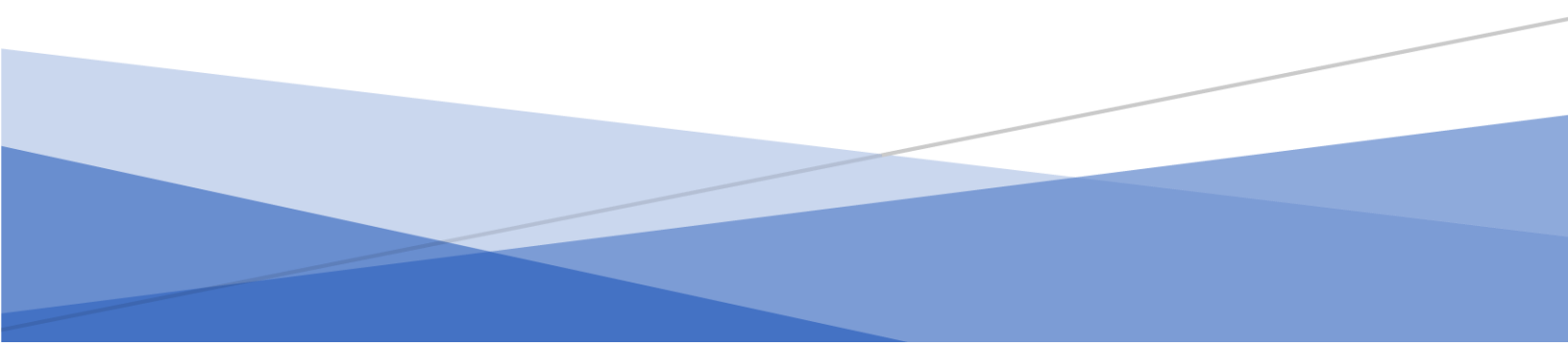uids in a situation of contact
Dr. Esteban Hernandez
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Anti-Japanese Violence in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, 1921
Dr. Brent M. S. Campney
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Contexts as Modes of Thinking: Implications in Cross-Cultural Communications

Dr. Wei, Yong-Kang
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The high-context approach typically seen in Eastern communication (including technical communication) reflects a holistic tradition of thinking, whereas the low-context style in the West tells of a logo-centric tradition driven by utilitarianism and an analytical mode of thinking. As a result, an Eastern communication tends to be "digressive," contextualized, and relationship- oriented, incorporating a low ethos, whereas a Western communication tends to message- focused, personalized, and goal-oriented, incorporating a high ethos. The proposed paper presentation will focus on one key aspect of differentiation between high context in the East and low context in the West, as defined and formulated by Edward Hall: that is, high- or low-context can be seen as a function of a thinking mode. What exactly underlies holistic thinking is the flow of correlations, which sees everything in connection with everything else. The famous yin-yang model is often regarded as a model of interactions between two opposites, but it can also be seen a model of correlations: Yin exists exactly because of Yang; Yang exists exactly because of Yin. Without Yang, without Yin, or vice versa. In other words, in Eastern thinking, A relates to B, and B also to A. Because of the correlative mode, a traditional Eastern communication would not only talk about a tree but also about the forest that surrounds the tree. To the contrary, the analytical thinking mode in the West tends to split the whole into parts resulting in messages in communication that appear more focused or "to the point." In other words, A is A, and B is B. A typical Western communication would talk about a tree alone without reference to the forest of which the tree is a part. However, the proposed presentation is not meant to make a judgment on two different styles of communication (high-context vs. low- context); rather, the author just wishes to explore the question of what exactly underlies the difference. Implications for technical writing and design, especially in cross-cultural settings, will also be discussed in the presentation.

Author Bio

Wei, Yong-Kang, graduated from Iowa State University, with a doctorate in Rhetoric and Professional Communication. Currently, he is teaching in the Department of Writing and Language Studies at UTRGV. His research interests include topics of rhetorical theory, comparative rhetoric, business and technical communication, and intercultural and international communication.

Chinese Obituaries as Culturally Situated Communication Practice

Dr. Yanrong (Yvonne) Chang
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Obituary as written discourse about the dead performs many functions. It reflects cultural values (Hume, 2000, 2005), reframes the past (Gavriely-Nuri & Lachover, 2012), invokes ideologies (Moore, 2002), constructs national identities (Lachover & Gavriely-Nuri, 2011), and shapes public memory (Hume, 2005). The current study, influenced by Carbaugh's (2007) cultural discourse analysis, examines obituary as cultural discourse and explores the cultural messages it communicates. It views obituary as patterned communication practice that is shaped by cultural symbols, premises, and norms. Obituaries in China are going to be analyzed from a communicative perspective to identify the underlying cultural messages. It shows that obituaries in China are of various kinds depending on the subjects and they communicate messages of hierarchy and collectivism. Theoretical and empirical implications of the study for intercultural communication research will be discussed as well.

Author Bio

Yanrong (Yvonne) Chang (Ph.D., University of Iowa) is Associate Professor of Communication at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley, USA. She was the recipient of the 2003 Dissertation Award of the Language & Social Interaction Division of the National Communication Association (NCA). Her research interests are culture and communication, language & social interaction, cultural identities, persuasion, and ethnography of communication. Her works have appeared in Communication Teacher, Chinese Journal of Communication, China Media Research, the International Journal of Intercultural Relations, Journal of Intercultural Communication, Narrative Inquiry, Discourse & Society, and so on. She has presented many papers on regional, national and international conferences.

On Target and off target variation in the L2 Spanish of Chinese-origin speakers: Acquisition of liquids in a situation of contact

Dr. Esteban Hernandez
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This study presents a corpus analysis of the variable production of liquids in the L2 Spanish of Chinese-origin immigrants in Mexicali, Mexico. From the quantitative analysis of on-target and off-target liquid production in the Chinese L2 Spanish, three major findings emerge: 1) that the naturalistic L2 data confirms a wide-ranging phonological diversity; 2) that L2 production of liquids was for the most part produced as on-target articulations, results showed that 84.2% of all liquid sounds were uttered in line with Spanish L1 patterns; 3) that liquid sounds can be singled out into sociolinguistic variables with clearly allocated variants alternating in Chinese L2 Spanish. All the variables examined in the L2 interlanguage had two or more variants; 4) that variation of liquids in Chinese L2 Spanish is regulated by linguistic and social constraints, as in any oral variety. The quantitative analysis confirmed that speakers produced higher on-target rates of laterals, followed by taps, syllable-final rhotics, and trills, respectively. The drop in the rate of accuracy of each sound was indicative of the increase in the degree of difficulty faced by learners in their production. Finally, the languages spoken, the level of education in Mexico, and the years in Mexico also had an effect on liquid production.

Author Bio

José Esteban Hernández (University of New Mexico, PhD Hispanic Linguistics) is Professor of Hispanic Linguistics in the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley. His research interests include sociolinguistic variation, dialect and language contact, and discourse analysis and discourse markers. Most recently, he has focused on the construction of identity in contact situations. He has authored and co-authored in venues such as Journal of Sociolinguistics, Studies in Hispanic and Lusophone Linguistics, Bulletin of Hispanic Studies, Revista Internacional de Lingüística Iberoamericana, Revista Española de Lingüística, Lengua y Migración, Borealis: An International Journal of Hispanic Linguistics, and Southwest Journal of Linguistics. He has taught courses on the dynamics of language variation and change, and the sociolinguistics of U.S Latino communities.

Anti-Japanese Violence in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, 1921

Dr. Brent M. S. Campney
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In 1921, a handful of Japanese immigrants settled in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas to participate in the agriculture boom seizing the region. Instead, they confronted the angry opposition of whites in Cameron and Hidalgo Counties, threats of mob violence, and, ultimately, expulsion and banishment. Unwittingly, they also prompted whites in the Valley, assisted by state legislators in Austin, to press for the successful passage of an Alien Land Law that barred the Japanese from owning land in Texas. My proposed paper explores the white responses to this so-called "Japanese 'invasion.'" Specifically, it examines the stereotypes of the Japanese promulgated by their oppressors, stereotypes which portrayed the Japanese as inherently foreign anti-Americans. My paper contributes to the scholarship on Asian immigrant history in the United States in two significant ways. First, while most studies focus on the West Coast – and particularly on California – this one focuses on the Southwest, and particularly the Texas-Mexico border. Second, while most studies of the Japanese focus on the internment of ethnic Japanese during World War II, this one focuses on the period immediately after World War I. As such, it illustrates that the assumptions that facilitated the internment were already incubating in South Texas twenty years earlier. In addition to these larger theoretical contributions, my paper promises to be of interest to the students, staff, and faculty at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley because it situates the story in the local cities of Brownsville, Harlingen, and McAllen.

Author Bio

Brent M. S. Campney is associate professor of history at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. He is the author of *This Is Not Dixie: Racist Violence in Kansas, 1861-1927* (University of Illinois Press, 2015), and of a dozen essays in *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Southern Spaces*, *American Nineteenth Century History*, and *Middle West Review*, among others. His proposed symposium paper is drawn from his current book project on race, racism, and mob violence in the American West.

Session 2:

Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics by Asian Scholars

Numerical Simulation on Structural Micro-Scale Riblet Surfaces of
Internal Pipelines to Enhance Fluid Transportation
Oluwasegun Richard Ajayi & Dr. Sangsoo Lee
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

Rapid and Tunalbe Opto-Electrokinetic Microvortex Flows
Dr. Choongbae Park
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

A Control of Localized Surface Phonon Polariton Resonances on Silicon Carbide Nanostructures
Dr. Myoung-Hwan Kim
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Lead in Drinking Water at UTRGV Edinburg campus
Aaron Hernandez, Alejandro Pena Silva, Gerardo Flores,
& Dr. Jongmin Kim
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Fabrication of a High-density PDMS Micro-Electrocorticography
Electrode Array
Joshua Acosta, Mukhesh K. Koripalli, & Dr. Yoonsu Choi
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Numerical Simulation on Structural Micro-Scale Riblet Surfaces of Internal Pipelines to Enhance Fluid Transportation

Oluwasegun Richard Ajayi & Dr. Sangsoo Lee
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This paper aims to investigate the effects of imitating micro-scale, riblet surfaces on fluid transportation in internal pipe lines. Applying micro-scale, riblet surfaces especially imitating shark skin, gecko's foot, lotus leaves, etc turns out to reduce a required pumping power for sending fluids in an internal pipe line by decreasing fluid viscous drag and reducing pressure drops.

To validate the effects of imitated surfaces on internal pipe lines, the pressure drops of the turbulent water flow (Reynold number > 2300 or lager) in a circular pipe with 40 mm in diameter and 1 m in length were simulated using a commercially available a Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) software and compared the results from smooth surfaces and analytical solutions. The locations applying the imitated surfaces were determined to avoid the entrance effects of the developing fluids in an internal pipe line and the effects of two- and three- dimensional analyses and grids sizes on the simulation results were studied.

The micro-scale, riblet patterned surfaces including an imitated shark skin reduced the pressure drops resulting in a required pumping power for sending fluids in an internal circular pipeline by converting classical no-slip boundary conditions into slip boundary conditions and decreasing the viscous shear stresses at the surfaces.

Authors' Bio

Mr. Oluwasegun Richard Ajayi received his master degree in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK) in Dec. 2016. He had worked as a graduate teaching and research assistant under the supervision of Dr. Sangsoo Lee during Fall 2014 – Fall 2016. Before he joined the TAMUK and he worked as an engineering trainee at Mul-T-Lock Nigeria LTD. His research interests are conducting experimental and numerical studies towards developing advanced materials for energy storage, exploring the mechanism of clean energy generation, and numerical simulation on structural microscale riblet surfaces of internal pipelines to enhance fluid transportation.

Dr. Sangsoo Lee received Ph.D. degree in mechanical engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology in Aug. 2007. He had worked as a research and development manager at Samsun Techwin, Changwon, Korea in 2007 – 2009 and he was a postdoctoral researcher in the mechanical engineering department at University of Nevada, Reno in 2009 -2012. He is currently an assistant professor in the department of mechanical and industrial engineering at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK) since 2013. His research interests are focused on applying micro/nano scale surface technology on heat transfer components and developing energy systems driven by renewable energy sources.

Rapid and Tunalbe Opto-Electrokinetic Microvortex Flows

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The combination of AC electric fields and optical illumination allows for the easy and rapid creation of microvortex flows inside a microchannel for applications such as micropumping and micromixing. Here, we report on the manipulation and flow characterization of opto-electrokinetically generated microflows called twin opposing microvortex (TOMV) flows. This technique has the advantage of simpler construction than competing techniques. Micron-resolution particle image velocimetry (µPIV) is used to measure the microvortex flows generated under non-uniform electric fields and a highly focused laser beam due to a unique characteristics of the TOMV flows.

The TOMV device is made of a pair of indium tin oxide (ITO) electrodes positioned on the top wall of a microchannel. The spacing between the two electrodes is 73 µm. Only a small portion (300 µm long and 16 µm wide) of a long electrode is exposed to fluid inside the microchannel, creating concentrated non-uniform electric fields. In addition, a 1064 nm infrared laser beam is focused on one of the ITO electrodes along the direction normal to the planar electrodes.
In general, the TOMV flow is dominant in the midplane inside the microchannel thus circular and/or elliptical fluid motions and jet flow are clearly seen, while both the TOMV flow and Brownian motion of the particles are observed near the top and bottom walls.

When the AC frequency is increased to a few MHz, different microvortex flows are generated, in which the direction of the jet flow is changed and different shapes and numbers of microvortices are generated. The magnitude of the in-plane velocity linearly depends on AC voltage while it shows a bell-shaped curve when the magnitude of the in-plane velocity is expressed as a function of AC frequency. The velocities measured via µPIV are useful to understand underlying fluid mechanics in the TOMV flow.

Author Bio

Choongbae Park is an Assistant Professor in the department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. He received his bachelor degree from Kyungpook National University, Daegu, South Korea and his master's (2006) and PhD (2012) degrees from Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA. He was a Postdoctoral Researcher at University of Illinois at Chicago and University of Pennsylvania, USA. His research interests include opto-electrokinetic flow, microfabrication of microfluidic devices, and micron-resolution particle image velocimetry (µPIV).

A Control of Localized Surface Phonon Polariton Resonances on Silicon Carbide Nanostructures

Dr. Myoung-Hwan Kim
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Selection of metasurface materials is challenging because both strong light-matter coupling and low optical loss cannot be satisfied together. Metasurfaces are two-dimensional optical structures which form arrays of resonant optical scatters in subwavelength scale. Arrays of the scatterers with subwavelength separation provide spatially varying optical responses such as phase, amplitude, polarization, and impedance. These allow the metasurfaces to achieve arbitrary reflection and refraction in a desired way. The metallic optical antennas have been a popular choice for a metasurface unit but highly efficient metallic nanostructures are hardly achievable due to the high intrinsic optical loss. On the other hands, high-index dielectric antennas do not show large optical losses due to the lack of charge carriers. However, they have relatively weak coupling between light and dielectric materials.

In this study, we investigate ionic crystal nanostructures, especially silicon carbide (SiC), which character potentially occupy the place between strong light coupling and low optical loss. Lattice vibration of ions induces a resonance of polar optical phonons which exhibit negative values of the real part of permittivity like metal in infrared regions. These ionic crystals can support surface electromagnetic field oscillations coupled with the light called surface phonon polaritons (SPhP). They experience plasmon-like resonances but low optical losses since they don't have free charge carriers like dielectrics.

We fabricated thin silicon aperture arrays on SiC to induce the localized SPhP resonances. The nanostructures have 100 nm thick, 100 nm wide silicon apertures on SiC with periods from 500 nm to 900 nm. We measured infrared spectrum using infrared microscope with Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer and observed well-defined, single, and strong SPhP resonances between 910 cm-1 to 925 cm-1 in mid-infrared. This SPhP nanostructures will provide a new building block of flat optical components to control mid-infrared light.

Author Bio

Dr. Myoung-Hwan Kim received his Ph.D. in Physics, the State Univ. of New York, Buffalo at 2010 and he joined as a post-doctoral researcher in Physics at Univ. of Maryland, College Park. He moved to Columbia Univ. as a post-doctoral researcher in Applied Physics at 2013. He joined the faculty in Physics of UTRGV at 2016. Dr. Kim has performed diverse research projects at near, mid-, far infrared spectral ranges including 'metasurface-photonic integration' in 2017, 'hot-electron graphene bolometer' in 2012, and 'mid-infrared broadband magneto-polarimetry characterization' in between 2007 – 2013. At UTRGV, he has initiated infrared optics research laboratory equipped with spectrometers covering from near infrared to terahertz spectral ranges. Now, he looks for new nano-blocks to control light propagating and localized on a surface.

Lead in Drinking Water at UTRGV Edinburg campus

Aaron Hernandez,
Alejandro Pena Silva,
& Gerardo Flores
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Lead is a dangerous water toxin that USEPA recommended its Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) to be zero to prevent adverse health effects from lead poisoning. Also, it is recently reported that Texas lawmakers are trying to mandate lead level monitoring in all Texas public schools to protect young Texans from lead poisoning via drinking water. Lead testing on drinking water has never happened in South Texas public schools per these Texas lawmakers. In this regard, we are collecting drinking water samples from water fountains at UTRGV Edinburg campus to test and map lead concentration. Especially drinking water from old buildings is one of our major interests since old buildings made before 1986 are very likely to have drinking water supply pipes made whole or partially of lead thus being prone to lead contamination in accordance with USEPA. Also, hot weather is known to increase the rate of lead leaching into water in the pipe lines, which implies that drinking water in South Texas public schools may be susceptible to lead poisoning. Preliminary data showed that lead concentration in water samples from civil engineering building is below 20 μg/L, USEPA's lead standard for drinking water. In the presentation, we will present additional data and maps that will show lead concentration in drinking water at UTRGV Edinburg campus. We will recommend methods to lower lead level from drinking water in the presentation as well. This study will help UTRGV prepare for the foreseeable new state environmental law associated with lead level in drinking water as well as make UTRGV a leading public institute that proactively deals with imminent public health issues in South Texas public schools.

Author Bio

Dr. Jongmin Kim is an assistant professor at UTRGV civil department. His major discipline is environmental engineering. Before he started the academic career at UTRGV in Fall 2016, he has worked at a private environmental company for 6 years. He received M.S and PhD from Virginia Tech in 2010.

Fabrication of a High-density PDMS Micro-Electrocorticography Electrode Array

Joshua Acosta, Mukhesh K. Koripalli & Dr. Yoonsu Choi
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It has proven to have the potential to ease the establishment of proper links for neural interfaces that can offer disabled patients an alternative solution for their lost sensory and motor functions through the use of brain-computer interface (BCI) technology. Although many neural recording methods exist, μECoG provides a combination of stability, high spatial and temporal resolution with chronic and mobile capabilities that could make BCI systems accessible for daily applications. The use of μECoG electrodes as means of recording has the advantages of design customization, material flexibility, minimal invasiveness, and low cost. The brain is anatomically and functionally organized into separated regions, however several studies support the notion that brain regions interact with one another during information processing. Thus, one significant goal in neuroscience research is to determine the mechanisms that are responsible for neuronal interaction between several neuronal populations. μECoG is a methodology for stable mapping of the brain surface using local field potentials (LFPs) with a wide cortical region, high signal fidelity, and minimal invasiveness to brain tissue. To compare surface μECoG signals with inter-cortical neuronal activity, we fabricated a flexible handcrafted μECoG electrode made with economically available materials. This handcrafted μECoG electrode is non-penetrative with 256 channels that cover an area of 7mm x 7mm on the cortical surface of a Lewis rat. This device was placed on the motor and somatosensory cortex of the brain to record signals of an active animal. The recordings are acquired by using the Synapse Software and the Tucker-Davis Technologies acquisition system to monitor and analyze electrophysiological signals within the amplitude range of 200μV for local field potentials. This demonstrates how reactive channels and their spatiotemporal and frequency- specific characteristics can be identified by means of this method.

Author Bio

Dr. Yoonsu Choi received his B.S. and M.S. in electronics engineering from Soongsil University, Seoul, Korea in 1993 and 1995, respectively. From 1995 to 1999, he worked at Korea Telecom Research Center as a project manager, where he led the design and development of a digital data communication. He received Ph.D. degree from the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2005 with a title "A Three Dimensional Coupled Microelectrode and Microfluidic Array for Neural Interfacing". After he finished his PhD project with biomedical applications, he went deep into the biological area to make the solid interdisciplinary research background. While he worked at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center as a research scientist for four years, he was awarded the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society career development grant as a principal investigator. Coming back to the original PhD work of neuroscience research, he was a Research Faculty in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Since then, he has been working on a regenerative peripheral nerve interface system as his second interdisciplinary research along with cancer research. After he joined in the Department of Electrical Engineering at UTRGV, he has continued his neuroscience and cancer research.

Special Roundtable Session

US-China Relations: Existing and Emerging Challenges

Chaired by Dr. Xi Chen
On behalf of the Association of Chinese Political Studies

Invited Participants:

Dr. Christopher L. Miller,
Professor, Department of History (UTRGV)

Dr. Robert Hoppens,
Associate Professor, Department of History (UTRGV)

Dr. Yanrong Chang,
Associate Professor, Department of Communication (UTRGV)

Dr. Tamer Balci,
Associate Professor, Department of History (UTRGV)

Dr. Aje-Ori Agbese,
Associate Professor, Department of Communication (UTRGV)

Session 3:

Political & Economic Development in the Asia-Pacific Region

Chair: Dr. Robert Hoppens
Discussant: Dr. Xi Chen

Parties with/without Brand Names: South Korea vs. Taiwan
Dr. Mi-son Kim
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

US-East Asia Relations under the Trump Administration
Dr. Robert Hoppens
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

China's Image Building Efforts under Xi Jinping Administration
Dr. Xi Chen
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Examining the Seasonal Changes of Smog in Beijing
Huimin Li & Dr. Xiaohui Wang
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Parties with/without Brand Names: South Korea vs. Taiwan

Dr. Mi-son Kim
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Political parties serve as "brands" in the political market. Party labels, similar to commercial brands, convey information on policies and candidates— the products that parties try to sell to their consumers, the voters. Despite the conventional wisdom that party labels are brand names, there are some party systems where parties change their labels frequently. What accounts for frequent party relabeling in those systems? What hampers the development of brand-name party labels in them? To answer the questions, this study examines South Korea and Taiwan. Although both countries share a number of similarities in institutional, historical, cultural, economic and geo-political aspects, South Korean parties are notorious for changing their labels frequently whereas the Taiwanese counterparts have successfully developed brand-name labels. Focusing on the effect of party information cues on party behavior, this study finds that the predominance of personalistic party cues in a polity is culpable for parties without brand names. For instance, the heavy usage of personalistic cues in South Korea leaves party brands sensitive to shocks such as electoral losses, policy failures, and scandals and yet facilitates radical rebranding decisions including label changes in South Korean parties. In contrast, Taiwan relies more on clientelist cues and this affects the behavior of their parties in government, in the electorate, and as organizations in a way that discourages party name changes, making it an irrational tactic. In short, the dominance of clientelist cues in Taiwan contributes to having parties with strong brand names.

Author Bio

Dr. Mi-son Kim (Ph.D. University of Iowa) is an assistant professor in the Department of political science, specializing in party politics and electoral systems with a focus on East Asia (Korea, Japan, and Taiwan). She obtained her doctoral degree in Political Science at the University of Iowa. Her research agenda focuses on the strategic behavior of political parties, electoral systems, public opinion, and political culture.

US-East Asia Relations under the Trump Administration

Dr. Robert Hoppens
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The election of President Donald Trump in November 2016 raised both concerns and expectations about the direction of US policy toward East Asia under the new administration. This presentation will examine these concerns and expectations as well as how these accord with developments in the region one year into the Trump administration. The presentation is based on research conducted as part of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation US-Japan Network for the Future, drawing especially on research trips to Washington DC and Tokyo in January and June 2017, respectively, that included briefings from American and Japanese politicians, researchers and diplomatic and military personnel.

Author Bio

Robert Hoppens received a Ph.D. in Modern Japanese History from the University of Washington and is Associate Professor of History at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley where he teaches Japanese, Chinese, East Asian and world history. His research interests focus on the history of Sino-Japanese relations, Cold War history and issues of national identity in East Asia. He is the author of The China Problem in Postwar Japan: Japanese National Identity and Sino-Japanese Relations, published by Bloomsbury Press as part of the series SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan.

China's Image Building Efforts under Xi Jinping Administration

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With the official promotion of China dream by Xi's Administration, China has launched a new round of propaganda efforts to build its international image. What is the image China is trying to construct and project on the international stage since 2013 amidst various international and local challenges? How has China managed to achieve its goals for international image building? What kind of roles have the Chinese media played in this top-down image-building endeavors? This paper will explore answers to the above questions by conducting archival research and content analysis of official media reports in China since 2013.

Author Bio

Dr. Xi Chen (Ph.D. Virginia Tech) is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science, specializing in Asian Politics with a focus on China. She obtained her Doctoral degree in Planning, Governance, and Globalization from Virginia Tech and M.A. in Applied Linguistics from China Foreign Affairs College. Dr. Chen's research and teaching interests include: Asian Politics, Chinese Politics, Media and Politics, Global Security, and International Relations. Her research has led to publications in both refereed journals and books as well.

Examining the Seasonal Changes of Smog in Beijing

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Smog is a type of air pollutant that is mainly composed of nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides, ozone, smoke or particulates among others (less visible pollutants including carbon monoxide, CFCs and radioactive sources). Various human health problems such as emphysema, asthma, chronic bronchitis, lung infections, and cancers are caused/exacerbated by smog. Smog also inhibits the growth of plants and can lead to extensive damage to crops, trees, and vegetation. Many developing countries such as China and India are experiencing significant smog problem.

The two-fold objective of this study includes determining the seasonal changes of the smog in Beijing, the capital city of China, and exploring how factors including season, heating policy, temperature, humidity, and wind speed are related to the levels of smog, measured by PM 2.5. We obtained PM 2.5 levels in Beijing from U.S. Department of State in the years of 2015 and 2016, and weather data from Weather Underground website.

In this study, AVOVA, its alternatives, and post hoc comparisons were used to explore the relationship between season and smog level; t-test was used to evaluate the effect of heating policy on the smog level; and linear regression models were constructed to study how those aforementioned factors impact on smog levels. We found that the seasonal changes were statistically significant, and as we expected, that winter had remarkably higher smog level than other three seasons. Heating policy effect was also statistical significant since heating would increase coal emission which was the main cause of smog. Results show that high temperature and high wind speed alleviated smog while high humidity worsened it.

Author Bio

Dr. Xiaohui Wang, holding a Ph.D degree in Statistics from Texas A&M University (College Station), is an Associate Professor of Statistics in School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences at UTRGV. She founded the Statistical Consulting Center at UTPA in 2008 and served as the Director since then. Her research interests lie on hierarchical Bayesian modeling, functional data analysis, multivariate analysis, categorical data analysis, semiparametric and nonparametric methods, Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithms. Dr. Wang is also interested in applied statistics for the areas of biostatistics, bioinformatics, public health, education, business and industry. To date, she has published 2 book chapters, 24 journal papers, and 3 journal proceedings. As PI, Co-PI or key personal, she has 33 internal and external grants.

Session 4:

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics by Asian Scholars

Unmanned Aerial System for Agriculture Research Applications
Jinha Jung
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi

Pyrogenic Carbon Materials as a Filter Media for Aqueous Heavy Metals and Nutrients
Dr. Jihoon Kang & Sergio Mireles
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Targeted Disruption of TC-PTP in the Proliferative Compartment Augments STAT3 and AKT signal-
ing and skin tumor development
Minwoo Baek, Mihwa Kim, Jaesung Lim, & Dr. Dae Joon Kim
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Thermal Consolidation of Dredge Sand for Artificial Reef Formations
Alexandro Trevino & Karen Martirosyan
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Based Phenotyping for Grain Sorghum
Dr. Anjin Chang
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Unmanned Aerial System for Agriculture Research Applications

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The acquisition of temporal and spatial crop data is critical in agriculture research applications but it was performed by strenuous, destructive, expensive, slow, and labor-intensive hand sampling techniques in the past. Such constraints often lead to under-representative crop information due to limited sampling area and the introduction of possible human errors. Although remote sensing technologies have been utilized in some precision agriculture studies, development of an UAS-based phenotyping system and full utilization of the system throughout the whole life-cycle of crops to monitor crop growth, overall health, and particularly yield has been very limited until now. This presentation will illustrate how Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) technologies help agriculture research scientists utilize advanced tools and methodologies for their research applications. Incorporation of the UAS technologies into their research programs will allow them to significantly increase efficiency. Data gathered using from the UAS will also provide agriculture research scientists a high level of detail (both spatial and temporal) never before possible using manual sampling procedures.

Pyrogenic Carbon Materials as a Filter Media for Aqueous Heavy Metals and Nutrients

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Biochar is a pyrogenic carbon material produced by the combustion of biomass with limited or no oxygen (pyrolysis). Biochar has been used as a soil amendment for a long time and its use for water treatment is relatively new. Our presentation will overview the biochar research progress using biochar as a filter media for heavy metals and inorganic nutrients. For the heavy metals, nine different biochars in a combination of three feedstocks, corn stover (CS), orange peel (OP), and pistachio shell (PS), and three pyrolysis temperatures (300, 450, and 600 ℃) were prepared in a tube furnace and were evaluated for their adsorption for aqueous lead (Pb) and arsenic (As), representing cationic and anionic metal contaminants, respectively. Our batch adsorption study showed that corn stover biochar at 600 ℃ (CS 600) performed the best followed by orange peel at 300 ℃ (OP 300) in removing aqueous Pb, which showed a 94 % removal. Our results indicated that oxygen-containing functional groups in the biochar played a key role in binding aqueous Pb. Adsorption of As using OP biochar showed that the OP biochar was not effective in removing oxyanion metal of As due to the electrostatic repulsion between sorbent and sorbate. Subsequent experiment with magnetized biochar improved the As adsorption greatly by promoting electrostatic attraction between the hydroxyl functional groups of the magnetized biochar and the As. Nutrient adsorption (nitrate and phosphate) were minimal when the biochar are used as they are without magnetization between the electrostatic repulsion between the biochar surface and oxyanion nutrient species. Our results suggested that biochar itself showed to be a promising filter media for cationic heavy metal removal but it would need additional surface modifications to remove oxyanion species effectively.

Author Bio

Jihoon (James) Kang is an assistant professor of the School of Earth, Environmental, and Marine Sciences at UTRGV. He earned BS in Kyunghee University, MS in Pennsylvania State University, and Ph.D. in North Carolina State University. Before joining UTRGV on Fall 2014, he worked as a Research and Business Development Scientist at Kolon Global Corporation at South Korea and postdoctoral fellow at North Carolina State University. Dr. Kang was trained in Environmental Science with emphasis in Soil Science and he has intense research experiences on erosion and sediment control and beneficial reuse of organic materials to improve soil health and quality. Sergio Mireles is a recent MS graduate in Agricultural, Environmental, and Sustainability Sciences at UTRGV and he is an expert in water quality and general environmental sciences.

Targeted Disruption of TC-PTP in the Proliferative Compartment Augments STAT3 and AKT signaling and skin tumor development

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Tyrosine phosphorylation is a vital mechanism that contributes to skin carcinogenesis. It is regulated by the counter-activities of protein tyrosine kinases (PTKs) and protein tyrosine phosphatases (PTPs). Here, we report the critical role of T-cell protein tyrosine phosphatase (TC-PTP), encoded by Ptpn2, in chemically-induced skin carcinogenesis via the negative regulation of STAT3 and AKT signaling. Using epidermal specific TC-PTP knockout (K14Cre.Ptpn2fl/fl) mice, we demonstrate loss of TC-PTP led to a desensitization to tumor initiator 7,12-dimethylbenz[a]anthracene (DMBA)-induced apoptosis both in vivo epidermis and in vitro keratinocytes. TC-PTP deficiency also resulted in a significant increase in epidermal thickness and hyperproliferation following exposure to the tumor promoter, 12-O-tetradecanoylphorbol-13-acetate (TPA). Western blot analysis showed that both phosphorylated STAT3 and phosphorylated AKT expressions were significantly increased in epidermis of TC-PTP-deficient mice compared to control mice following TPA treatment. Inhibition of STAT3 or AKT reversed the effects of TC-PTP deficiency on apoptosis and proliferation. Finally, TC-PTP knockout mice showed a shortened latency of tumorigenesis and significantly increased numbers of tumors during two-stage skin carcinogenesis. Our findings reveal that TC-PTP has potential as a novel target for the prevention of skin cancer through its role in the regulation of STAT3 and AKT signaling.

Author Bio

Dr. Dae Joon Kim is an associate professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Prior to joining in 2015, he was an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He received a Ph.D. degree in Molecular Toxicology at the Pennsylvania State University in 2004 and performed a postdoctoral research at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. His research includes environmental skin carcinogenesis and chemoresistance.

Thermal Consolidation of Dredge Sand for Artificial Reef Formations

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Coral Reef ecosystems have degraded over years due to a variety of environmental issues such as ocean acidification. The continuous stress has detrimental effects on coral reef ecosystems that can possibly lead to the loss of the ecosystem. Our research aims to construct a prototype of an artificial reef by consolidating dredge sand from the ship channels of South Texas. Consolidation is achieved through an aluminum polytetrafluoroethylene self-propagating high temperature process that yields a solid formation to mimic the physical properties of coral reef structures. Using thermodynamic calculations, the variation of initial components was determined that reached an adiabatic temperature with a maximum peak of 2000 K. The self-sustaining reaction front was obtained to rigidly consolidate the dredge sand only at composition concentrations exceeding a critical value of 24 wt.% Al, and 3 wt.% PTFE. The combustion synthesis produced a consolidated formation with a hardened and porous structure.

Author Bio

Alexandro Trevino completed the Master of Science in Physics as of July 2017 with University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and will continue his physics Ph.D. studies at University of Texas at Arlington. Research presented in this abstract was conducted as part of his graduate thesis research and was completed as of July 2017. He has interest in working in the field of material sciences and nanotechnology. Future research will be concentrated in working with micro thrusters for space applications.

Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Based Phenotyping for Grain Sorghum

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Attributes of sorghum panicle is a very important to assess overall crop condition, irrigation, and estimation of terminal yield. In this study, a novel method to extract sorghum panicle and estimate panicle volume of grain sorghum using an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) is proposed. UAS data were acquired with 85% overlap at an altitude of 10m above ground. Ortho-mosaic image, Digital Surface Model (DSM), and 3D point cloud were generated by applying the Structure from Motion (SfM) algorithm to the images. Ground Control Points (GCP) were used for accurate geo-referencing. Sorghum panicles were determined from RGB image and DSM by using color ratio and circle fitting. Panicle volume was estimated by the cylinder fitting method and the disk stacking method. The results of this study showed that UAS data can provide non-destructive, more efficient, and may be considered to replace the field work.

Author Bio

Anjin Chang obtained Ph.D. from Seoul National University's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in South Korea in 2011. His major is remote sensing and geo-informatics. He is working for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi as Postdoctoral Research Associate & Adjunct Faculty. He is studying about Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) for agriculture and civil engineering applications and cooperating with Texas A&M AgriLife to develop UAS-based High Throughput Phenotyping (HTP) system.

Session 5:
Social Identity, Norms, and Psychological Trends among Asians

Chair: Dr. Yih-Jiun Shen
Discussant: Dr. Soyoung Kwon

Mental-Health Status and Service Utilization among Asians
Dr. Susheelabai Srinivasa & Dr. Sudershan Pasupuleti
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Improving but Unequal: Temporal Trends in Chinese Self-rated Health, 1990-2012
Dr. Soyoung Kwon
Texas A & M University-Kingsville

Chinese Immigrants and Socio-Economic Local Sustainability
Dr. Dawid Wladyka
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Dr. Ricard Moren-Alegret
Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

Factors Relevant to School Counselors' Comfort and Challenge Levels in Counseling with Asian
Americans
Dr. Yih-Jiun Shen
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Are Men always Rational in Decision Making? Not in Vietnam
Ngoc Cindy Pham
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Dr. Yuanqing Li
Dominican University
Dr. Sibin Wu
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Mental-Health Status and Service Utilization among Asians

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Asians Americans are the fastest-growing minority in the United States. Mental health problem is a cause of concern for all. This current research study explored the situation through a meta-analysis of factors that contribute or determine mental health in this subpopulation. Twenty (20) quantitative and descriptive peer-reviewed articles after selecting studies from the databases such as Medline, Medline full text, and PsycINFO, and EBSCOhost was selected. This analysis also looked into the availability and possible gaps in the services.

There are some mental health problems and much variability in the problems among diverse ethnic Asian groups. Notwithstanding, the popular beliefs like that Asian American families adapt well to the US context as they are highly educated, high socioeconomic group the incidences of divorce, deviance, and crime are low (Sue & Morshima, 1982).

The study findings revealed under-reporting of mental health problems, underutilization of mental health services, somatization of the symptoms, and associated stigma as main barriers to accessing mental health services. Underutilization of physical, behavioral, and mental health services is widely prevalent among Asian Americans. This pattern presents a risk for their well-being. This pattern gets falsely interpreted, and the extent of these problems are under-estimated. Asian Americans are not aware of and are not used to identifying mental health problems and reporting to health providers. Emotional problems are viewed as personal issues and keep close to their chest and may not be reported by Asian American like other ethnic groups. Moreover, there is a stigma attached to mental health disorders (Leong & Lau, 2001; Zhang, Snowden & Sue, 1998). Asian Americans are less likely to accept the routine approach to American healthcare which does not integrate traditional and complementary healing methods (Sorking, Nguyen, Ngo-Metzger 2011).

Author Bio

Dr. Srinivasa is an Assistant Professor in the department of social work at the University of Texas- Rio-Grande Valley. Prior to this, she worked as Lecturer for the department of psychology at UTPA. Her academic credentials are she holds a Doctoral degree in Psychology, a Master's of social work with a focus in Medical & Psychiatric Social Work and an MBA. She is also trained and certified in Hypnotherapy. She has 21 years of mental-health practice and teaching experience in U.S. and India as well. Her research interests are: stress amongst students, eating disorders, sleep disorders, pain management and making use of effective stress management strategies. Currently, her research focus is on reducing math anxiety using positive reinforcement in elementary school children.

Improving but Unequal: Temporal Trends in Chinese Self-rated Health, 1990-2012

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This project examines temporal trends in the self-rated health of Chinese adults from 1990 to 2012. Concentration on this particular period in Chinese history provides insights into the health implications of China's massive societal transformation induced by economic reform. A series of cross-classified random effects models were estimated predicting favorable health status across time periods and adjusted for age, cohort effect and individual-level covariates. Results show that more recent birth cohorts exhibit better health conditions than earlier birth cohorts. However, period effects had a more profound effect than that of birth cohort. Net of age, cohort and individual-level covariates, there is a significant and increasing trend in self-rated health since the early 1990s. The period pattern was non-monotonic, with health improvement in the early 1990s, a dip later in that decade, but more evidence of improvement by 2012.

We also found that health disparities have widened over the past 20 years, particularly on the basis of income and educational attainment. By revealing non-monotonic temporal trends, this study illustrates the complex nature of health change in recent Chinese history. This project suggests that while economic conditions were key to health improvement in the early stages of reform, an "entire array of social, political, and economic policies" seem to gain explanatory prominence as the period unfolded." Based on the current findings, we might expect that government efforts and intervention for social equity and social protection will help sustain positive trends in subjective health. The Chinese government has further extended social protection during its 2011-2015 12th Plan period. How self-rated health tracks with future change in Chinese economic growth and inequality is a topic for ongoing research. Yet other recent policy innovations have been ineffectual in reducing socioeconomic health disparities, so targeted interventions will be needed to narrow the education- and income-based health gaps that have widened in recent years.

Author Bio

Soyoung Kwon is an assistant professor of sociology in the Department of Psychology and Sociology at Texas A & M University – Kingsville. Her research interests include independent and joint effect of individual and structural conditions on health and well-being, social determinants of health, and quantitative methodology. She has published in the Journal of Health and Social Behavior, Journal of Aging and Health, Journal of Gerontology, Sociological Perspectives, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Social Science and Medicine.

Chinese Immigrants and Socio-Economic Local Sustainability

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Recent European research on diversity indicates that neighborhoods spatial and social tissue is influential on inter-ethnic interactions. Additionally, studies based on the Conflict and Contact theories as well as researches based on the 'superdiversity' theoretical proposal underscore the contradictory outcomes which diversity may provide regarding the development of local communities. While ethnic diversity within some economic sectors has been observed as empowering social cohesion and economic development, some ways of managing diversity in the public realm have been found to be an obstacle.

Chinese immigration to Barcelona increased visibly in the early 21st century. According to the National Statistical Institute (INE), in the very touristic Sagrada Familia neighborhood, registered foreign immigrants were roughly 18% of the total population in 2013. This is similar to the Barcelona average rate. Chinese residents were the most numerous foreign residents in the neighborhood, followed by Italians and Peruvians.

This presentation presents local perceptions on Chinese immigrants and their footprint on the Sagrada Familia neighborhood's social and economic sustainability. It is based on results extracted from the analysis of various semi-structured interviews with natives and immigrants, supplemented by the analysis of statistical and documental sources. The results show that Chinese residents purchasing power could provide an opportunity for improving the neighborhood's development but the wariness of some other residents towards Chinese may hamper such a possibility. Unjustified rumors, a lack of local authorities' involvement and the economic downturn have been observed as escalating conflicting attitudes towards Chinese and limiting mutual collaboration.

Authors' Bios

Dawid Wladyka is an Assistant Professor at the Sociology and Anthropology Department at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. He holds a PhD in Geography (Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain). His research interests include migration, urban and environmental sociology, disaster vulnerability and Geographic Information Systems.

Ricard Morén-Alegret holds a PhD (University of Warwick, UK) and an MA in Human Geography (Universidad Autònoma de Barcelona, UAB, Spain). He is now Assistant Professor at the Geography Department, UAB, and he has been Coordinator of the Migration Research Group and coordinator of the migration research program of INTERFASE (2014–2016), UAB. His research focuses on migration, organizations' geography and integration processes at local, regional, national and international scale.

Factors Relevant to School Counselors' Comfort and Challenge Levels in Counseling with Asian Americans

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Asian American, though not the largest minority in the United States, is the fastest growing single race (United States Census Bureau, 2012b), which has been served by school counselors. Stereotyped as a "model minority" due to much of their success in U.S. society, Asian Americans, however, do not present themselves as "model clients;" that is, they should have good representation as counseling clients, but the truth is that Asian American youth underrepresent themselves in mental health services (Anyon, Ong, & Whitaker, 2014). Among 13 cultural groups, Asian American was ranked third from the bottom on the competence list of 292 counseling graduates, implying they might be underprepared or affected by hidden factors to serve this group (Allison, Crawford, Echemendia, Robinson, & Knepp, 1994). If counseling service for Asian American is to be advanced, it is imperative to scientifically identify factors associated with counselors' competencies. The comfort and challenge levels of counselors have been overlooked in literature, yet they are viable dimensions of multicultural competence. Clients may not be effectively served if counselors are uncomfortable with what they are doing, negligent of the negative feelings within, or ineffective in handling cross-cultural dissonance/challenges in counseling relation ("CrossCultural Counseling: How to be More Effective," 2008; Shallcross, 2010). If school counselors want to competently serve this rapidly growing group, it is critical to identify variables which may associate with counselors' comfort or challenge levels while dealing with Asian American clients. The current research includes two nationwide studies surveying 454 school counselors through (a) regular sampling with the members of American School Counselor Association and (b) purposeful sampling in geographic locals with high Asian American populations. School counselors reported multicultural counseling courses, field experience, workshops, ethnicity, and practical experience are significantly associated with counselors' comfort or challenge level of counseling Asian Americans.

Author Bio

Dr. Yih-Jiun "Jean" Shen is an Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. She studies multicultural counselling, school counselling, and play therapy. She was a recipient of the Leadership in International Collaboration Award of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision in the USA. She served on the editorial and advisory board of the International Journal of Play Therapy for nine years. She has presented in professional conferences and published in major journals including the International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling, International Journal of Play Therapy, Journal for Specialists in Group Work, Journal of Career Development, Journal of Creativity in Mental Health, and Professional School Counseling.

Are Men Always Rationale in Decision Making Process? Not in Vietnam!

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Previous studies in education and psychology suggest that women are more emotional and irrational in making decisions as compared to men. This perception is based on the traditional role of women as caregivers or as a mother figure. On the other hand, men are perceived as more rational in making decisions and being critical thinkers. This paper, however, based on the observation of multiple deal/price negotiations in opened- public informal trading settings such as wet markets, proposes that Vietnamese men are more likely to back down during negotiation than women. Therefore, we investigate why Vietnamese men are less likely to haggle in public. To answer this question, we review the literature on The Dien (aka "Dang Mat Dan Ong", face saving), a concept which is embedded in Confucian philosophy.

Author's Bio

Ngoc Pham (Cindy) is PhD Candidate/ Assistant Instructor in Marketing at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley. She is working on her dissertation on the influence of women's hormone on their consumption behavior towards fashion products. Her research interests include Consumer Behavior, Fashion Marketing, and International Business. Since the Fall 2016, Cindy has been teaching several Marketing classes at the UTRGV (e.g. Principles of Marketing, Fashion Marketing). She likes to read, yoga, and travelling. She is planning to graduate from her PhD on December 2017.

Yuanqing Li is an Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship at Dominican University, Chicago. She was awarded her Ph.D. from the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley in August 2017. Dr. Li's dissertation examines how likeability factors influence crowdfunding success. She has attended many prestigious conferences such as Academy of Management to present her paper. Two of her conference papers were chosen as best papers. Dr. Li was recognized as the International Woman of the Year at UTRGV in 2016.

Sibin Wu is Professor and Department Chair of Management at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley. He earned a PhD in Management Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2004. His research interests include firm innovation and top management, international entrepreneurship, and behaviors of nascent entrepreneurs. His works have appeared or will appear in top journals such as Academy of Management Journal, Management and Organization Management, Information and Management, International Business Review, and Journal of Business Research. Dr. Wu was the recipient of John Jack Award at the United States Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship annual conference in 2015.

Session 6:

Issues in Global Education

Chair: Dr. Yanrong (Yvonne) Chang

Imagine and Action! Innovative Chinese Character Learning Approaches
Dr. Ming-Tsan Pierre Lu
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Ideographical Network Structure in Chinese: A Proposed Way to Teach Chinese Vocabulary
Xin Zhang
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Textual Analysis Study: Examining Constructivist Approaches in Japan
Dr. Hitomi Kambara
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Learning from the Pine and the Bamboo: Bashō as a Resource in Teaching Japanese Philosophy
Dr. Stephen Leach
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Teaching the concept of global engagement at International Branch Campus in Asia
Dr. Wan-Lin Chang
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Imagine and Action! Innovative Chinese Character Learning Approaches

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Given the popularity and importance of Mandarin Chinese language in the US and around the world, more and more novel learners have started learning Chinese as a Foreign Language (CFL). Yet, in addition to its tonal pronunciation difficulty, one of the main difficulties of learning the language is learning Chinese characters. The researcher and his team developed a computer-assisted language-learning (CALL) program that aims to help beginning learners of CFL learn characters. It includes all three features of a character: written form, pronunciation, and semantic meaning. The CALL also encompasses embodied animations, 3D animations, and etymological videos demonstrating changes of characters. This study explored the effects of imagination and embodiment on Chinese Character Learning (CCL) using 3D animations and etymological video clips. Forty (N=40) CCL novel learners were randomly assigned to four groups (EI, I, A, and N), where participants' body movement and imagination prompt were manipulated. The four learning groups are: (a) Non-Embodied/ Non-Imagination Learning group (N); (b) Animation Learning group (A); (c) Imagination Learning group (I); and (d) Embodied Imagination Animation Learning group (EI). The present study adopted a 2 X 2 experimental between-subject design (with n=10 in each of the four learning groups). The participants were instructed to use the CALL program to learn 12 Chinese characters in 20 minutes. These characters contained pictographs, indicatives, and ideographs. The participants went through the pre-screening, learning activity, post-test, transfer test, and delay test phases. In addition to the Chi-square test, Multivariate Analysis of Variance (MANOVA) was conducted, followed by one-way ANOVAs and post-hoc Scheffee tests. The results demonstrated that the EI group performed the best as learners memorized best and transferred best whereas the N group performed the worst. The I group performed the second best. The study suggested that EI be an effective CALL design for CCL.

Author Bio

Dr. Ming-Tsan Pierre Lu, Ph.D. is Assistant Professor of Educational Research in the Department of Teaching and Learning at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. He received his Master of Education in Human Development and Psychology from Harvard University. Dr. Lu also obtains his Master of Science in Applied Statistics and Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from Columbia University. He has extensive experience conducting educational research and evaluating programs and projects. His research interests are around scholarship of teaching and learning using technology in HSI of higher education, and include personal development, research methodology, and educational positive psychology. At leisure time, he likes to explore and learn Asian cultures and heritages and spend time with his family. Dr. Lu currently serves as a Faculty Fellow for Engaged Scholarship and Learning evaluating program effectiveness and as well as the evaluator for an NSF-funded research grant examining the effectiveness of Supplemental Instruction on STEM education.

Ideographical Network Structure in Chinese: A Proposed Way to Teach Chinese Vocabulary

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Learning Chinese language is by no means an easy task, whereas learning Chinese vocabulary is probably one of the most difficult aspects facing all the students learning the language, in particular, the beginning students. Finding the rules for generating vocabulary words will definitely help learners better understand and remember vocabulary. Most beginners' interest in Chinese characters is derived from its pictographic meaning. But how to quickly memorize Chinese vocabulary? How does Chinese vocabulary embody the ideology of Chinese? Whether it is the same as English and have the root word, affix the combination of rules, so that we can learn it by analogy, and thus learn their new words? This paper will analyze several groups of semantic related words to help students follow the English mother tongue familiar with the root word method more efficient and efficient memory of Chinese vocabulary. We will use Chinese compound nouns as an example to analyze the expression of Chinese vocabulary. The experiment will be conducted in class. The findings will provide insights to this proposed new method to teach Chinese vocabulary.

Author Bio

Xin Zhang received her MA from Beijing Language and Culture University. Lecturer at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley where she teaches Beginning Chinese I, Beginning Chinese II, Intermediate Chinese, Business Chinese and hosts Study Abroad---Do Business in China. Her areas of specialization include Chinese pedagogy, Chinese culture and second language acquisition. She has published Literature read Contemporary business writing and some journals.

Textual Analysis Study: Examining Constructivist Approaches in Japan

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Traditional education, which is teacher-centered instruction, has been strongly paramount in the educational system in many countries, particularly in East Asia. Japan is one country that takes a teacher-centered classroom approach as a major part of instruction, because of the influence of Confucianism, which creates an emphasis on the teacher's authority (Beauchamp, 1992). The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) demonstrated that Japan is one of the top nations that successfully educates students in the required skills of compulsory education (PISA, 2015).

Regardless of these successful PISA data, however, it is doubted if traditional education meets each student's needs beyond merely scoring high on an exam. To investigate Japanese scholars' awareness regarding constructivist approaches, this study conducted a textual analysis of 27 randomly selected published articles that included keywords constructivist and student-centered instruction. The study closely examined what Japanese scholars' viewpoints are on constructivist approaches to student-centered instruction.

The findings from the textual analysis disclosed that the idea of constructivism is known among Japanese educators, yet it is recognized more as a product of Western educational systems (Arita, 2007). Japanese policy makers and educators gradually make changes and try to implement constructivist curriculum within the current curricula, however, implementation has not yet taken place in actual classrooms. Japanese researchers publish articles about how to integrate constructivist curriculum in the Japanese education system. However, examples provided by these authors are rather recommendations of constructivism procedures, not real examples from actual implementation. Furthermore, a majority of the collected articles highlighted instructional approaches with constructivism are more appropriate for language classrooms. Articles related to STEM instruction are very limited; rather, some researchers discussed their reluctance to implement constructivist approaches into STEM classrooms and curricula. It will take a while to implement the approaches into actual classrooms, especially in STEM fields.

Author Bio

Hitomi Kambara is an Assistant Professor of Literacy Education in the Department of Bilingual and Literacy Studies at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Her research interests include reading motivation and practices across different racial and ethnic groups, sociocultural impacts on learning and teaching, and teacher self-efficacy.

Learning from the Pine and the Bamboo: Bashō as a Resource in Teaching Japanese Philosophy

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Traditional Western Philosophy is usually taught following methods adapted from European Universities of the 19th Century--- i.e., a series of lectures and discussions based on texts consisting of reasoned argument. (If students are lucky, they may be allowed to participate in a guided question-and-answer session, presumptuously called the "Socratic Method.) However well suited this may be for understanding Kant or Hegel, it seems wrong when approaching Japanese Philosophy. Although much work in recent years in Japan seems initially suited to such a method, I contend that a much better approach consists in students practicing the traditional arts of Japanese culture, such as poetry, tea ceremonies, and garden design, and doing so as much as possible in the traditional manner.

The Western style of Philosophy is a relatively recent import to Japan. Obviously, the Japanese were not lacking philosophy until Japan's "opening" to the West. Even that argumentative style of philosophy recognizable in the West was practiced in the eighth century CE by Kūkai, for instance. But a large part of Japanese philosophical activity was manifest not in writing treatises--- i.e., in "theory", but in praxis, such as writing poetry, practicing calligraphy, and, most importantly, through meditation. It is also more aesthetically inclined than mainstream Western Philosophy, and mood plays a larger role.

To approach Japanese Philosophy theoretically only is to risk, then, missing the greater part. Japanese Philosophy is applied philosophy, in other words, what Pierre Hadot calls a "way of life," and to appropriate it requires practice rather than just mere intellectual study. Thus, I contend that the proper method for introducing Western students is a more holistic method grounded in practice of traditional arts like composing haiku. I argue that the 17th. Century poet Matsuo Bashō can serve as both a guide and a resource in this process.

Author Bio

Dr. Stephen C. Leach (Ph.D, University of New Mexico) has taught at UTRGV (formerly UTPA) for more than a dozen years, specializing in courses in Asian Philosophy, Film Philosophy, and Religious Traditions and the Environment; he also teaches a Study Abroad course in Japan. He has published in the Acta Kierkegaardiana and the International Kierkeggard Commentary, among other venues. He has been the recipient of a Japan Studies Institute / Nippon Foundation/AASCU joint Fellowship at San Diego State University, a JSI Japan Fellowship in Japan (Tokyo, Kyoto, and Beppu), an NEH Fellowship (Buddhist Traditions of Tibet and the Himalayas, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA), and several summer fellowships at the Kierkegaard Library, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN. His current research interests include Watsuji Tetsuro and Dōgen Zenji.

Teaching the Concept of Global Engagement at International Branch Campus in Asia

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As many universities experience increasingly diverse student demographics, instructors need to assist students to understand the importance of global engagement and audience adaptation. In this symposium, I want to address how I teach these concepts using assignments, videos demonstrations and class activities to a group of students who have been already immersed in a global environment, international branch campus at South Korea.

In recent years, the number of IBCs – "a home country institution having a physical presence in a host country, the latter being fully or jointly owned by the former and enabling students to earn a degree from the home campus (Normand-Marconnet, 2015, p.82)" – have increased dramatically. The number of IBCs has grown to 232 in 2016, up 43% since 2009 (Jaschik, 2009). Students who attend IBCs primarily come from the native country and neighboring countries and a lot of them have study abroad experience.

Compared with students in the main campus, students who attend IBCs are immersed in a global environment already since they need to use their second language to study and to learn new knowledge, to adopt themselves into the US-based curriculum. However, even though students consider themselves to be more familiar with the concepts of intercultural communication and global environment through more exposure when living abroad, it is still challenging for faculty to communicate and educate the students. After all, travel back and forth from home and schools oversea does not mean they are international and know the concept of global engagement

As an instructor who has experiences teaching Communication basic course at IBC in South Korea, I would like to share my experiences to assist my Korean students to adopt the US based curriculum. Furthermore, my strategies to help students better understand the concepts of intercultural communication and global engagement through the basic course.

Author Bio

Wan-Lin Chang received her PhD in Communication from George Mason University in 2015. After she graduated, she has taught several Communication courses, such as Public Speaking, Intercultural Communication, and Family Communication at George Mason University Korea campus for two years. Currently, Wan-Lin works as assistant professor for the Department of Communication at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Research Poster Presentations
@15:05-16:20, Cenizo

Logistics-Driven China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone,
Li Haifeng, Lecturer of Shandong Foreign Trade Vocational College, China, & Wang Hongxin, Master of Accountancy, UTRGV

Newton's 3rd Law of Motion: A Comparative Understanding of Balance and Ground Reaction Force
Thalia Morin, B.S. Graduate, Department of Occupational Therapy, & Dr. Soojin Yoo, Department of Health and Human Performance, UTRGV

Overuse Injuries in Flutists
Amanda Guardia, Health and Human Performance, UTRGV, & Brandon Yoo, Irvine High School, CA, & Dr. Soojin Yoo, Health and Human Performance, UTRGV

Managing Drag to Enhance Cycling Performance
Willamine Puga, Rehabilitation Services and Counseling, UTRGV

Projectile Motion in Basketball Free Throw
Fernanda Cortes, Psychology, UTRGV (Advisor: Dr. Soojin Yoo, Health and Human Performance, UTRGV)

Momentum and Impulse in a Tennis Forehand
Amanda Guardia, Health and Human Performance, UTRGV (Advisor: Dr. Soojin Yoo, Health and Human Performance, UTRGV)

Undergraduate Class-Project Poster Displays
@all day, Ballroom & Bronc

Beginning Korean I.01:
Advisor: Mijin Oh-Villarreal, Department of Writing & Language Studies, UTRGV
Kimch	Elisia Gallardo
Sul-Korean liquor	Daniel Park
The First MP3 player	Marco Lugo
Korean Arts and Culture	Krystal Ramirez
Children Folk Tales	Carolina Tamez
Korean Currency	Brooke Bloomquist
A History of Korean Animation	Cecilia Loredo
Korean Urban Legends and Folklores	April Ramirez & Iris Cha
The History of Korean Women's Fashion	Jaclyn Gutierrez
Modern and Traditional Korean Wedding	Evelyn Lomas
Daily Life of Korean High School Student	Nelson Wise

Beginning Korean I.02:
Advisor: Mijin Oh-Villarreal, Department of Writing & Language Studies, UTRGV
Korean DMZ	Ellis Salinas
Taekwondo	Benino Chapa
Korean Dramas	Scarlett Basurto
Korean Food	Amanda Garcia & Claire Hsieh
Korean Companies in U.S	Sana Erabti
A Birthday Party for One-year Old Baby	Samantha Epinoza
Korean Movies	Emilia Juarez & Martha Guzman

Beginning Korean I.03:
Advisor: Mijin Oh-Villarreal, Department of Writing & Language Studies, UTRGV

Arirang	Diana Castilleja
North Korea	Gabriella Montfort
Korean Daily Life	Enedina Alcantar
South Korea Subway System	Arlen Canalez
Korean Beauty-The Struggle to be Ulzzang	Naina Celie
Korean Sports-Ssireum	Sonia Hernandez
Korean Holiday-Chuseok	Paola Tamez
The Bus system of South Korea	Beth Pena
Korean Traditional Clothes-Hanbok	Molly Villarreal
Korean song-K will "You call it Romance"	Carlos Camacho & Ehiby Escalante

Beginning Korean II:
Advisor: Mijin Oh-Villarreal, Department of Writing & Language Studies, UTRGV

Korean Calligraphy	Brittany Wood
Korean Traditional House	Christina Carbrera & Briana Munoz
Korean National Symbols	Lisa Cantu, Lorena Perez & Estrella Salinas
Tourism in Korea	Ken Evasco. Kimberly Gonzalez & Ariel Ruiz
K-Drama Language	Gladys Garcia & Hilda Morado
Language Culture of the Korean-American Family	Arturo Flores & Allyson Garza
The Five Hundreds Year of Joseon Dynasty	Aimee Garcia, Monica Martinez & Dafne Rodriguez

Biomechanics:
Advisor: Dr. Soojin Yoo, Department of Health and Human Performance, UTRGV

Angular Momentum in Future Skating: Scratch Spin, Danielle Rainha, Health and Human Performance
Angular Velocity in the Hitch Technique in Long Jump, Liliana Partida, Health and Human Performance
Newton's First Law of Inertia in Basketball, Derek Allan Garcia, Health and Human Performance
Newton's Third Law of Motion-Tackling in Football, Joel Garza, Health and Human Performance
Structure of a Soccer Ball and Its Relation to Drag, Jonathon Vasquez, Health and Human Performance
Center of Gravity in Ice-Skating, Julio C. Benitez, Jr., Rehabilitation Services and Counseling
Newton's Second Law of Motion in Soccer, Denise Kourtnie Hernandez, Rehabilitation Services and Counseling
Newton's First Law of Motion Applied to Physics of Dance, Linda Garcia, Health and Human Performance
The Effect of Momentum and Impulse in Pole Vault Planting, Gabriela Gonzalez, Health and Human Performance
Recommended Swimming Techniques Utilizing Drag to Maximize Velocity in Takeoff, Clydon Vista, Health and Human Performance

Care, Treatment, &Prevention in Athletic Injury:
Advisor: Dr. Soojin Yoo, Department of Health and Human Performance, UTRGV

Achilles Injures in National Basketball Player, Jessica Carrizales, Health and Human Performance
Ulnar Collateral Injury in Baseball Pitchers, Antonio Reyes, Health and Human Performance
Acromioclavicular Joint Separation in the National Football Player, Ricardo Cantu, Health and Human Performance

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Asian Studies Minor

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CALL FOR PAPERS

Dear Colleagues,

In collaboration with the, **Asian Studies Minor Program** at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, **NETSOL** is pleased to call for papers for a special issue (Spring 2018) on Asia with a theme, Asia and Globalization: Trends and Challenges. Launched in 2017, the UTRGV Asian Studies minor has organized several events in its inaugural year, including the First Southwest Texas Asian Symposium. This special issue aims to attract papers from both the presenters at this symposium and other scholars with research on this field. Scholars with research consistent with this theme are encouraged to submit their papers for the special issue on Asia. **Dr. Minhee Eom and Dr. Xi Chen, the executive officers of the Southwest Texas Asian Symposium and UTRGV Asian Studies faculty, will be the co-guest editors of this special issue.**

Asia has served as the cradle of cultures and civilizations since the early periods of history. With its vibrant and diverse cultures, Asia has provided alternative modes of arts, religion, and philosophy to the world. The rise of Asian economic powerhouses and modern cultural waves has attracted the attention of scholars to diverse research on Asia.

Despite its massive socio-political and economic influence across globe, Asian influence on the globalized world does not receive as much scholarly attention as it deserves. This special issue aims to consolidate scholarly works pertain to Asia in the globalized world from a multi-disciplinary perspective. We welcome articles from a wide array of disciplines covering, politics, economics, history, philosophy, humanities, art, as well as sociology, anthropology, international relations, and education.

Possible subjects may include but are not limited to:

Asian Economic Development and its Global Impact
Asian Political Issues and their Global Outlook
Asian Philosophical and Religious Influences
Asian Influence on Art and Humanities
Social Implications of Asian Growth
Linguistic and Cultural Contact with Asia
Teaching Asian Language and Culture
Linguistic and Cultural Contacts in the Globalized World
Political & Economic Development in the Asia-Pacific Region
Social Identity, Norms, and Psychological Trends among Asians
Issues in Global Education   Kind Regards,

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley™

Edinburg Campus

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Student - Zone 1 & Zone 2 (Zone 3 after 7pm)
Faculty/Staff - Zone 1, Zone 2 & Zone 3

Off Campus Facilities:
ALUM - Alumni Center - Edinburg
ATEC - Advance Tooling Engineering Center
CESS - Community Engagement & Student Success Bldg.
MCTS - McAllen Teaching Site
MCTC - McAllen Transfer Center
USTR - Starr County Campus - Rio Grande City
UNFS - University Financial Services
VABL - Visual Arts Building

UTRGV CAMPUS PARKING
Zone 1 - Student Parking
Zone 2 - Student Parking
Zone 3 - Faculty/Staff Parking
Zone 5 - Administrator Parking
Resident - The Village & Unity Resident

? Information
P Parking
🚲 Bike Rack
E-Phone
Bronc Trail

All vehicles parked on campus must be registered with the UTRGV Parking & Transportation Office and must properly display an appropriate permit.

1. ESWOT - Social Work and Occupational Therapy
2. EITTB - International Trade & Technology
3. ECOXT - Orville Cox Tennis Center
4. ETRAK - Track & Soccer Field
5. EPACA - Performing Arts Complex A
   (PACA - Fine Arts Building A)
6. ESWKH - Southwick Hall
7. EPACC - Performing Arts Complex C
   (PACC - Fine Arts Building C)
8. EPACB - Performing Arts Complex B
   (PACB - Fine Arts Building B)
9. ESSBL - Executive Tower
10. ESSBL - Student Services Building
11. ESSBL - Visitors Center
12. EMSAC - Mathematics & Science Academy
13. EMASS - Marialice Shary Shivers
14. ESTAC - Student Academic Center
15. EUCTR - University Center
16. ECHAP - Chapel
17. ESTUN - Student Union
18. EDBCX - Dining & Ballroom Complex
19. EHPE2 - Health & Physical Education II
20. EPOB4 - Engineering Portable
21. EENGR - Engineering
22. EACSB - Academic Services
23. EPHYS - Physical Science
24. EIMFD - Intramural Fields
25. ETROX - Troxel Hall
26. EHRTG - Heritage Hall
27. EEMLH - Emilia Schunior Ramirez Hall
28. ESRAX - Sugar Road Annex
29. EHPE1 - Health & Physical Education Complex Fieldhouse
30. EPLAN - H.E.B. Planetarium
31. ESCNE - Science
32. ELCTR - The Learning Center
   (LEAC - Learning Assistance Center)
33. ELIBR - University Library
34. ELABS - Liberal Arts Building South
   (ARHU - Arts and Humanities)
35. ECDCR - Child Development Center
36. EARCG - Agroecology Research Community Garden
37. EGRNH - Greenhouse
38. EPOB9-13 - Portable Buildings 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
39. EEDUC - Education Complex
40. EMAGC - Mathematics & General Classrooms
41. ECCTR - Computer Center
   (CCTR - New Computer Center)
42. ECOBE - Robert C. Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship
   (BUSA - Business Administration Building)
43. ECULP - Central Utility Plant
44. EHABE - Health Affairs Building East
   (HSHE - Health Science and Human Services East)
45. EBNSB - Behavioral Neurosciences

46. EHABW - Health Affairs Building West
47. (HSHW - Health Science and Human Services West)
48. EHABW - Health Affairs Building West Classroom A
49. ELABN - Health Affairs Building West Auditorium
50. EUNTY - Liberal Arts Building North
51. EASFC - Social and Behavior Science)
   (SBSC - Unity Hall
52. EASFC - Rio Grande Center for Manufacturing
53. EASFC - Police and Parking & Transportation Offices
54. EVLGA - Academic Support Facility
55. EVLBC - The Village A
56. EVLBD - The Village B
57. EVLBE - The Village C
58. EVLGF - The Village D
59. EEHSB - The Village E
   (VWOF - Environmental Health & Safety
   Van Week Building)
56. ETHER - Thermal Storage Tank

57. ELAMR - Lamar E
58. EREBL - Research Education-(School of Medicine)
59. (RAHC - Regional Academic Health Center)
60. ESTHC - Medical Education-(School of Medicine)
61. EUREC - Student Health Center
   (WRSC - University Recreation
   Wellness & Recreation Sports Complex)
62. EPOBB - ROTC Storage
63. EROTC - ROTC
   (HRBL - Human Resources Building)
64. EBSBL - Baseball Stadium
65. ESOCC - Soccer and Track & Field Complex
66. EPOB14 - Physical Science Portable

NOTE:
Previous Building Names are in RED

2017 Southwest Texas Asian Symposium
November 8, 2017
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Floor Plan:
University Ballroom Complex (EDSCX), UTRGV
2017 Southwest Texas Asian Symposium
November 8, 2017

Restrooms

Bronc

Session 2

Session 4

Session 6

Undergrad class project
poster displays

Ballroom

Opening
Keynote speech

Session 1

Lunch

Session 3

Session 5

Undergrad class project
poster displays

Coffee

Cenizo

Roundtable Session
Research poster
presentations

Snacks

Registration
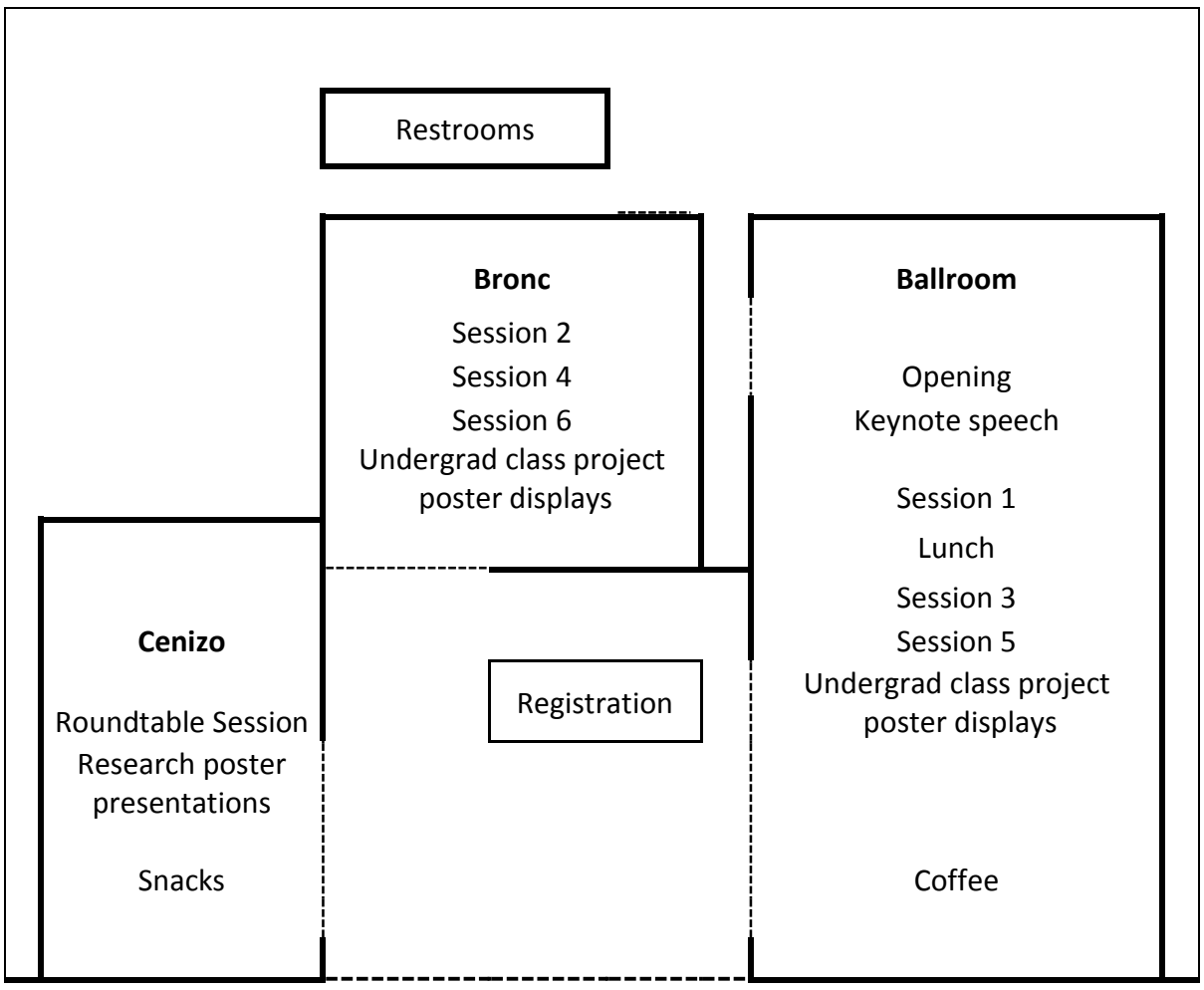
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