



# Department of Asian Languages and Cultures



## Department News

Welcome to our May/June newsletter! ALC has had an outstanding year, with 3,277 enrollments in 218 unique courses across 15 Asian languages and cultures. We are proud to celebrate this spring the graduation of 57 ALC, Chinese, and Japanese majors and certificate recipients, along with 8 graduate students receiving advanced degrees across multiple disciplines. Our faculty has had a productive period of research and won prestigious grants and awards, including the notable Romnes Fellowship for Prof. Tyrell Haberkorn. An especially important milestone was our successful search for the first holder of the recently endowed Śrī Anantnāth Chair in Jain Studies, and we are delighted to be welcoming Dr. Mikaela Chase into that position in August. Our dedicated staff continue to support our community with their expertise and kindness, and we remain especially grateful to our donors, whose generosity is a key element in our ongoing pursuit of academic and personal flourishing for our remarkably diverse and collaborative community.

## Inside:

[Events](#) p. 1

[Undergrad Student Highlights](#) p. 3

[Grad Student Highlights](#) p. 7

[Faculty and Staff Highlights](#) p. 8

[Other News](#) p. 12

# Events

WISCONSIN  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

14-15  
April

Transcending  
Boundaries

9th Annual Trans-Asia Graduate  
Student Conference

Scan for meeting ID and panel information

In person with online participation

Fri, April 14: Ingraham 206, 336  
13:45PM - 5:00PM Central Time

SAT, April 15: Ingraham 206, 336  
9:00AM - 6:30PM Central Time

**Snacks and food provided**

CEAS Asian Languages and Cultures A S M WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE GRANT

**Songkran Celebration - celebration of the Thai New Year**

Department of Asian Languages and Cultures of  
University of Wisconsin-Madison Presents:

## HMONG CULTURE NIGHT

**Friday, April 21, 2023 5pm-7pm**  
**Ingraham Hall B10**  
**Free & Open to the Public** **Live Performances**  
**Food will be served**

**Sponsors:**  
Division of Diversity, Equity & Educational Achievement (DDEEA)  
Department of Asian Languages & Cultures (ALC)  
Asian American Studies (AAS)  
Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS)

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**Persian Social**

To celebrate the beginning of Persian New Year (Nowruz) please join students of Persian for a fun get together. Anyone who is interested in the Persian Language or Middle Eastern Studies is welcome to join. Food, Persian Tea and Sweets will be provided. Thanks to the generous support of the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures

**When: March, 30<sup>th</sup> 5:00-6:30 Where: 1418 Van Hise Hall**

**سال نو مبارک**  
Nowruz . Happy new year.

The Department of Asian Languages and Cultures proudly supports these events, which help promote the languages and cultures, taught by our department. These events benefit current students and the campus community and many are open to the public, reaching beyond our campus borders.



# End of Year Celebration

ALC End of Year Celebration honoring all of our Spring/Summer 2023 graduates



On Thursday, May 11th, students, families, faculty, and staff came together to celebrate all of our graduates.

Above: Professor Hieyoon Kim welcomes students, faculty and families to the ALC End of Year Celebration. Right: Outgoing Department Chair, Professor John Dunne offers some words of wisdom to graduates.



## Graduate Students

### Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Chinese Literature & Culture: Josiah Stork (Fall 2022)

Japanese Literature & Culture: Genesie Miller (Fall 2022)

Chinese Linguistics PhD: Bo Zhan (Spring 2023)

Chinese Literature & Culture: Teresa Goertz (Summer 2023)

### Master of Arts (M.A.)

Asian Languages & Culture: Sajirat "Bright" Palakarn (Spring 2023)

Japanese Linguistics: Mitsuhiro Kono (Summer 2023)

Japanese Linguistics: Betsy Rock (Summer 2023)

Japanese Literature & Culture MA - Mary Green (Spring 2023)

# End of Year Celebration

## Undergraduate Students

### Bachelor's Degrees (BA or BS)

#### Asian Languages & Cultures

Sneha Sankar (Honors in the Major)

Lauren Julia Faulds

#### Asian Languages & Cultures—East Asian Studies Major

Risha Cherukuri; Hunter Clarkin; Adream Liang; Bingxian Lin; Flebane Zhao

#### Asian Languages & Cultures—Southeast Asian Studies

Tam Thanh Doan; Casper Vang

#### Asian Languages & Cultures—South Asian Studies

Kailen Jehan Neyan Mueenuddin

#### Chinese Major

Philip Damel (Honors in the Major)

Sam Baker; Emma Kempf; Alexis Kwak; Graham Stetzenbach; James Van Gilder

#### Japanese Major

Joy Chen; Calvin Eckl; Carson Holm; Austin Holmes; Bingxian Lin;

Emily Olsem; Brian Putra; Zachary Spangler

### Certificates

#### Chinese Professional Communication Certificate

Bi Bui; Jenna Cohen; Manola Inthavong; Blake Knutson; Annie King; Yi Lu Lo; Nurul Mohd Willieuddin Lim; Megan O'Gorman; Lilly Ann Parla; Willem Paulson; Ethan Rupp; Ellie Scheirey; Dana Schneck; Connor Wacker; Joan Yeh; Yurean Zhao; Susanna Zheng

#### Japanese Professional Communication Certificate

John Paul Baylon; Alex Grabowski; Chenyao Huang; Emily Masterson; Patrick Merchant; Neha Prasad; Tianyao Ren; Lucas Sears; Yuqian Sun; Emily Takacs; Sophia Tanzi; Arthur Varner; Audrey Wachter; Hailey Xiong; Han Xiong



# —Undergraduate Highlights—

## **Wisconsin Association for Language Teachers Awards**

Honors in Language Study Award: Bingxian Lin  
Excellence in Language Study Award: Calvin Eckl

## **Spring Scholarships**

Gwang-Tsai Chen Award (Chinese): Jack Rogers  
Lawrence Louey Merit Scholarship (Chinese): Angela Glowacki  
CLACC Ambassador Award (Chinese): Haozhan Gao  
Chinese Language Learners Bridge Award (Chinese): Yi Lu (Ace) Lo

## **Annual Japanese Language Speech Contest at the Consulate General of Japan**

Grand Prize: Connor Dewey  
2nd Prize: Calvin Eckl  
4th Prize: Bingxian Lin

# Congratulations!

# —Undergraduate Highlights—

## Meet Emma Kempf

During my senior year of high school, I studied abroad in Beijing, China. I began learning Mandarin Chinese from scratch and fell in love with it. When I arrived at UW-Madison I declared a major in Chinese. Within the ALC Department, I found a wonderful community of students and teachers passionate about Chinese language and culture. I participated in clubs like the Chinese Language and Culture Club, which hosted weekly language tables and cultural events. Through the ALC Department I learned about the TEACH Fellowship, a yearlong fellowship to teach English in Taipei and jumped at the opportunity. This August I will move to Taipei and begin teaching. I look forward to improving my Mandarin Chinese skills, teaching English to young students, and learning more about the island's culture!



My name is Aniya Schwoerer and I received my degree in Asian Languages and Cultures: East Asia and a minor in TESOL. My two main focuses during my time at UW-Madison were the Koreans and teaching.

I studied the Koreans and Korean language in and out of the classroom, completing the Korean language sequence, including a summer abroad at Korea University in South Korea. Outside of coursework, I co-founded the Korean "Happy Hour" club, volunteered at the Korean Language Table, was a member of the K-House through the International Learning Community, and participated in both the World Language Learners and Language Exchange programs with the Greater University Tutoring Services.

While completing my major and minor, I had the opportunity to do multiple internships and capstone courses that allowed me to experience a variety of classrooms, giving me real-life, practical teaching skills. This included working as a Korean Peer Language Tutor in ALC, where I supported other Korean language learners in their Korean language studies.

All of these programs and experiences supported my studies and my drive to learn more about Korea and its language and culture, preparing me to be a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award recipient for the 2023-2024 academic year.



# —Undergraduate Highlights—



JOHANNA HOUGUM:  
HONORABLE MENTION  
AT THE ELEMENTARY  
LEVEL

4th  
Midwest  
Speech Contest

MADELINE MITCHELL:  
FIRST PLACE AT THE  
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL  
AND WINNER OF A  
SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP  
TO STUDY IN S. KOREA



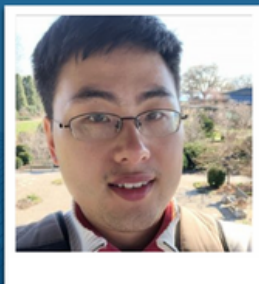
Coming in 2023–2024, the department will launch a new Korean Fund to support student activities. Look for more information in the fall newsletter.

# Graduate Highlights

## CONGRATULATIONS

*Zheyu Su*

Zheyu has accepted a position at Princeton University for teaching Chinese! He will begin teaching this summer, and will continue in the fall semester! We wish you every success!



## BETSY ROCK

BETSY HAS ACCEPTED A POSITION AS A LECTURER IN JAPANESE AT SMITH COLLEGE IN MASSACHUSETTS, STARTING IN FALL 2023.

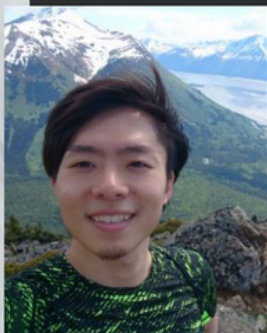
*Congrats!*



## MITSUHIRO KONO

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Mitsuhiro will be joining the University of Southern California as a Lecturer in Japanese in Fall 2023.



## YIXUAN CAI



## CONGRATULATIONS

Yixuan has accepted a position as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Chinese Studies, in the Department of Asian Studies at Randolph-Macon College in Virginia.

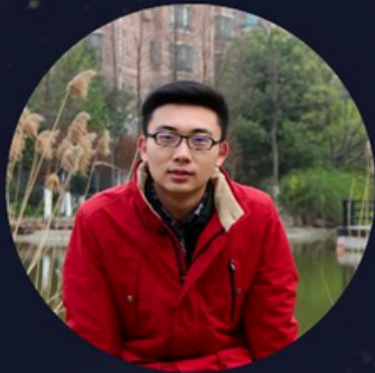


Brendan Dowling was recognized for excellence in teaching at the 2023 UW-Madison Campus-Wide Teaching Assistant Award Ceremony. He was one of three TAs who won the Innovation in Teaching award--an award which recognizes TAs who bring extraordinary creativity to their work and have developed or adapted teaching methods or techniques in new and innovative ways. Brendan is pictured with ALC Teaching Faculty Tianlu Zhang.



# Graduate Highlights

## Congratulations



### Shuyang Ye

won the **Best Abstract Award** at the  
17th Workshop in General Linguistics

From Connector to Discourse Marker:  
Categorial and Functional Evolution of  
Mandarin Ránhòu (Then)



CONGRATULATIONS  
**MARIA TSOY**  
FOR BEING SELECTED FOR THE  
KOKUGAKUIN UNIVERSITY  
VISITING FELLOW PROGRAM  
(2023-2024)



Tiantian Cai assisted with and presented at several conferences this year including:

- April 14-15, 2023, the Ninth Trans-Asia Graduate Student Annual Conference
- 2023 Panelist for UK Association for Buddhist Studies Conference
- Feb 17-18, 2023, 20th Annual Graduate Student Symposium of Florida State University
- Nov 25-27 2022, Peking University International Conference
- Sep 16-18 2022, 71st Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (MCAA)

# —Faculty and Staff Highlights—



Tyrell Haberkorn received funding for the 112 Project, an initiative of the Justice in Southeast Asia Lab in the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with generous support from the Anonymous Fund.

The 112 Project responds to a lacuna between the increasing use of Article 112 to suppress peaceful expression in Thailand and the lack of scholarship and awareness of these restrictions outside Thailand. The project will expand scholarship and public engagement through translation, research-led undergraduate and graduate teaching and collaboration with relevant U.S., Thai, and international scholars and non-governmental organizations.



Dr. Hieyoon Kim received a Book Subvention Grant from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education (VCRGE), for publishing her forthcoming monograph, *Celluloid Democracy: Cinema and Politics in Cold War South Korea* as an open access book (forthcoming in September 2023)

[More info on Book](#)



# —Faculty and Staff Highlights—



ALC's Tianlu Zhang was featured in the Campus newsletter Sift and Winnow. ALC department members played an active role in the Languages of the World Day hosted at UW-Madison, with 15 different presenters teaching on 11 different languages. Over 500 high school students from 27 high schools across the state attended this event and learned about the rich languages and cultures we teach at UW-Madison.

[Full Article](#)



Recognition of Merit Award winner, Dr. Takako Nakakubo and Dan Tess, WAFLT President

Takako Nakakubo received the Recognition of Merit award from WAFLT (Wisconsin Association for Foreign Language Teachers) for demonstrated excellence in teaching and significant contributions to the language teaching profession.

# —Faculty and Staff Highlights—

Chair John Dunne hosted the Exchange Podcast Episode 3 where he discussed topics related to student flourishing, including the popular Art and Science of Human Flourishing course at UW–Madison, the Healthy Minds Program, and teaching strategies that draw upon meditative practice.

Listen to the podcast [here](#)



Professor Anthony Cerulli has been named Director of the new Health and the Humanities Certificate program. This new certificate gives students exposure to a range of historical, cultural, and philosophical reasons why people make decisions about their health care and will help everyone, from health care providers to patients, to understand more than just the biological aspects of medicine.

Dr. Anthony Cerulli, had a photography exhibit open at The Solarium Gallery at Houghton House (Hobart and William Smith Colleges). “The Archive as Art” presents the material heft and structural complexity of India’s centuries-old manuscript cultures as art objects and curated spaces that are at once aesthetically compelling and capable of conveying historical knowledge. This exhibit ran from March 9th to April 15th, 2023.

2022-2023  
EXHIBITIONS

DAVIS GALLERY  
HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

Solarium  
Gallery  
March 9-  
April 15

**Anthony Cerulli**  
**The Archive as Art**

What happens when we view Indian manuscripts and manuscript archives as art? “The Archive as Art” is a photo-ethnography exhibit that portrays my reflection on this question. It presents the material heft and structural complexity of India’s centuries-old manuscript cultures as art objects and curated spaces that are at once aesthetically compelling and capable of conveying historical knowledge. I hope the exhibit also underscores the value, for students and scholars, of bringing sensual, spatial and artistic awareness and consideration to the things with which, and the spaces in which, we do our research.

**Reception:**  
**Thursday, March**  
**5-7 p.m.**  
The Solarium Gallery at  
Houghton House

Gallery hours: 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday,  
Saturday 12-2 p.m. No admission or fee for the exhibit.

HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES



# Coming Soon...

The Department of Asian Languages is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Mikaela Chase as the inaugural Śrī Anantnāth Chair in Jain Studies.

Dr. Chase will engage students with key aspects of the Jain religion in the upcoming academic year. The endowment for the Chair also enables broader engagements, and we anticipate a robust series of outreach activities for the general public, including the Jain community in Wisconsin.

The tremendous opportunities and expected impact of the Śrī Anantnāth Chair in Jain Studies has been made possible by the notable generosity of a group of donors, led by Drs. Jasvant and Meera Modi, Mr. and Mrs. Prem and Sandhya Jain, Mr. and Mrs. Harshad and Raksha Shah, Mr. and Mrs. Bipin and Rekha Shah, and Dr. Sulekh Jain.



Sri Vamsi Matta, or simply Vamsi, is a Bangalore-based Theatre and Visual artist. His practice is influenced by his Dalit identity, experience and location. Dalit is the political identity of communities formerly known as "untouchable" and considered the lowest within the Hindu Caste System, and thus oppressed by its discriminatory scriptures, social structures and norms. The identity, and histories of his community and family, inform the questions, topics and mediums that Vamsi engages with through his work. As a student of science, Vamsi's work is rooted in rigorous research. As the child of a writer, he has grown up around stories and finds that they are his route to not only entertain and educate but to organize people and challenge hegemonic and oppressive structures of power.

The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of the Arts and the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures are pleased to welcome multi-hyphenate performer, theatre practitioner, and playwright Sri Vamsi Matta to campus for the 2023–2024 academic year through the Interdisciplinary Arts Residency Program.

Vamsi's residency includes a 3-credit course in Fall 2023, *Whose Art Is It Anyway?* This course examines art through the social, personal, political, and spiritual aspects of one's life and society through South Asia cultural and performance practices. The residency will also include performances, workshops, and cross-departmental and community collaborations.



**Thank you for your generosity in supporting the department during this year's Day of the Badger. Your donations will help us to support student professional development, travel, and scholarships.**  
**THANK YOU!!**