



APARRI 2024 Conference Program:

Religion and Solidarity in Precarious Times

Unit 2 All Purpose Room*
2650 Haste Street
UC Berkeley

** All events will be held in the All Purpose Room unless otherwise noted.*

Tuesday | June 11

- 12:00 pm [Check-In](#) (UC Berkeley dorms, Unit 2 Towle Hall, 2650 Haste St.)
- 3:00 pm [Conference Registration & Reception](#)
- 4:00 pm [Keynote Address: "Reimagining Allyship: Reflecting on Where We Are and Where We Can Go From Here," Dr. Simran Jeet Singh](#)
- 6:00 pm [Dinner Reception](#) ([Raleigh's Pub](#), 2438 Telegraph, back patio, for registered conference participants only)

Wednesday | June 12

- 8:30 am [Arrival for Coffee & Conversation](#)
- 9:00 am [Welcome to APARRI: Introductions](#)
- 10:00 am [Break](#)

10:15 am [Roundtable: APA Religions and the 2024 Presidential Election](#)

Moderator: Jane Hong, Occidental College

Panelists:

Khyati Joshi, Fairleigh Dickinson University
Martin Nguyen, Fairfield University
Bradley Onishi, University of San Francisco
Jerry Park, Baylor University

12:00 pm [Lunch](#)

1:30 pm [Concurrent Papers I](#)

Panel 1: Common & Uncommon Religious Spaces (L03)

Moderator: Grace Y. Kao, Claremont School of Theology

Loveleen Brar, University of Michigan
"Mobile Congregations: Religion on the Punjabi American Interstate"

Lisa Ng, UC Berkeley
"'A little guy sitting over there changing the energy': Pháp Duyên Tụ (Oakland Buddha) in Little Saigon"

Song Wang, University of the West
"Chinese American Mahayana? The Emergence of a Global Buddhist Space in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area"

Panel 2: Religion, Identity, and the Arts (L06)

Moderator: Grace Sill, Harvard Divinity School

Jene Lee, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
"Have You Eaten?: Asian American Women's Memoirs and Theological Understanding of Memory as the Source of Solidarity"

Haruka Umetso Cho, Santa Clara University
"Solidarity on the Margins: Reading Min Jin Lee, *Pachinko*"

Naomi Kim, Washington University in St. Louis
"Together in Spirit? Imagining Poetic Solidarity Across Asian American Religions"

Brett Esaki, University of Arizona
"Multiracial Spiritual Legacy of Fred Ho's 'Monkey'"

Panel 3: Responding to Anti-Asian Hate: Strategies for Well-Being (L11)

Moderator: Joe Cheah, University of St. Joseph

Linda Kwak, Boston University

"How Asian American Women Pastors Impact the Racial Paradigms of Their Congregants"

Kristine Chong, Volunteers of America and & Russell Jeung, San Francisco State University

"Anti-Asian Hate & Moral Injury: Social Healing through Reclaiming Moral Virtues, Collective Action, and Meaning Making"

David Chao, Princeton Theological Seminary

"Filipino American Nurses: Faith and Professional Communities in the Age of COVID and Anti-Asian Hate"

Panel 4: Kapwa, Solidarity, and Filipino American Theology: A Critical and Constructive Exploration (L07)

Moderator: Jessica ChenFeng, Fuller Theological Seminary

Gabriel Catanus, Fuller Theological Seminary

"Trouble on the Ground: Distinguishing Between Kapwa and Solidarity"

Rachel Bundang, Sacred Heart Prep/Santa Clara University

"Dignity, Mutuality, Solidarity: Which 'We' We Mean in Kapwa"

E. David De Leon, Fordham University

"On the Limits and Possibilities of Kapwa as a Theological Resource"

3 pm

[Boba Break](#)

3:15 pm

[Concurrent Workshops & Panel](#)

Session 1 (workshop): Spiritual Care and Solidarity Building in These Times: A Focus Group to Help Shape A New Innovative Chaplaincy Program (L03)

Kristine Chong & Rita Nakashima Brock, The Shay Moral Injury Center at Volunteers of America

This workshop will facilitate a focus group process for participants to provide insights and recommendations for the development of a new national graduate school for chaplaincy training. While this workshop will be facilitated by Rita Nakashima Brock and Kristine Chong of the Shay Moral Injury Center at Volunteers of America, the broader project is in partnership with The Center for Chaplaincy Studies. The program, likely a Master of Arts in Chaplaincy Studies (MACS), will be a multidisciplinary and innovative program that provides

in-depth education in core chaplaincy competencies and wide-ranging ethics of chaplaincy in diverse contexts. A multi-modal and interreligious (as well as nonreligious) chaplaincy program is critical to meet the burgeoning demands and need for spiritual care across different communities and contexts in precarious times. We seek the wisdom and input of APARRI members in designing a robust training program and network system of support for spiritual care practitioners, religious communities, and movements in solidarity.

Session 2 (workshop): Scholar as Storyteller (L11)

Don Young, Stephen Gong, & Sapana Sakya, Center for Asian American Media (CAAM)

The scholarship on AAPI religions is rich with stories and narratives that the public should know about. How can scholars effectively convey these important stories to the public? Join the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) executive team leaders Stephen Gong, Don Young and Sapana Sakya in a workshop that celebrates scholars and supports them in storytelling with their research. This workshop helps scholars and writers to amplify their research on AAPI religions to effectively connect with the public and the communities they care about.

Session 3 (panel): Resisting Notions of "Native" Encounters in the Classroom: Teaching a Course on the Cambodian American Experience as a Practitioner of Khmer Cultural Ways (L07)

Moderator: Grace Y. Kao, Claremont School of Theology

Sopheha Seng, Cal State University, Long Beach
"Co-Constructing Religious Geographies in the Classroom: Teaching a Course on the Cambodian American Experience in Long Beach"

Onica Chrea, UC San Diego
"Finding Cambodian American Identity through Christianity"

SereyKanya Bonith, American University
"From Phnom Penh to America: Buddhism in Cambodian and Cambodian American Cultures"

4:45 pm [Break](#)

5:00 pm [Local Excursions and Activities \(meet at the All Purpose Room\)](#)

Session 1 (excursion): Berkeley Food Tour with Rachel Lim (additional cost: please budget approximately \$25)

Session 2 (excursion): Tour of UC Berkeley Asian American Library Religion Archives with Sine Hwang Jensen, Asian American Studies librarian (Ethnic Studies Library)

Session 3 (activity): Embodying Our AAPI Bodies: Yoga, Healing, and Social Justice with Himanee Gupta (L11)

6:30 pm *Dinner on your own (there will be opportunities to form groups for dinner)*

Thursday | June 13

8:30 am *Arrival for Coffee & Conversation*

9:00 am **New Books Panel**

Moderator: Jane Iwamura, University of the West

Panelists:

Maryam Kashani, [*Medina by the Bay: Scenes of Muslim Study and Survival*](#) (Duke UP, 2023)

Helen Jin Kim, [*Race for Revival: How Cold War South Korea Shaped the American Evangelical Empire*](#) (Oxford UP, 2022)

Chrissy Lau, [*New Women of Empire: Gendered Politics and Racial Uplift in Interwar Japanese America*](#) (University of Washington Press, 2022)

Scott A. Mitchell, [*The Making of American Buddhism*](#) (Oxford UP, 2023)

10:30 am **Break**

11:00 am **Pre-circulated Papers & Panels**

Conference participants are expected to read pre-circulated papers ahead of the session so the authors can receive helpful feedback. Papers can be found [here](#).

Pre-Circulated Papers, Session 1: New Approaches to Transpacific Diaspora (Towle 218, Floor Lounge)

Moderator: Nalika Gajaweera, University of California, Santa Barbara

Matta Zheng, Harvard Divinity School

"Buddhist Discipline in Three Acts: Contemporary Buddhist Monasticism, Racial Capitalism, and Queering the Asian Diaspora"

Respondent: Sharon Suh, Seattle University

Karis Ryu, Yale University

"Yoon Dong-ju in Diaspora: A Translation/Reflection/Refraction"

Respondent: Haruka Umetsu Cho, Santa Clara University

Pre-Circulated Papers, Session 2: Book Proposals (All Purpose Room)

Moderator: J. Y. Lee, Princeton Theological Seminary

[note: the author had to withdraw so we've canceled this first paper]

Samah Choudhury, University of Chicago

"Funny Feeling: American Muslim Humor and the Politics of Secularity"

Respondent: Munir Jiwa, UC Berkeley

Pre-Circulated Papers, Session 3: Race, Religion, and Asian American Identity (L03)

Moderator: Russell Jeung, San Francisco State University

Annie Li, Oxford University

"Chinese American Activism in the Civil Rights Movement, 1963–1966"

Respondent: Tim Tseng, Fuller Theological Seminary

Seokweon Jeon, Harvard University

"The Complex Tapestry of Religious Identity, Race, and Emerging Asian American Consciousness Among Korean/American Students in Early 20th Century America"

Respondent: Helen Jin Kim, Emory University

Panel 5: Negotiating Religion, Identity, and the Law (L11)

Moderator: Lisa Cleath, Princeton Theological Seminary

Nathan Samayo, Princeton Theological Seminary

"On Prutehi Litekyan: Religion's Fragmented Conditions and the Secular Inertia"

Isra Syed, Yale University

"Who is a Secular Muslim?: An Analysis of the 'Navigating Differences' Letter"

Todd Perreira, San Jose State University

"Compatriot Buddhism and Transgenerational Effects of War: Vietnamese Buddhism in America"

Ki-Eun Jang, Fordham University

"Labeled Identities, Biblical Canaanites, and the Dilemma of Solidarity"

Panel 6: Asian American Solidarity (L06)

Moderator: Henry Morisada Rietz, Grinnell College

Mai Nguyen Do, UC Riverside

"Still in the Streets: Vietnamese Ancestral Communion as Protest and Ritual Practice"

Jonam Wang, St. Louis University

"Toward A Confucian-Christian Understanding of Solidarity: Initial Explorations and Reflections"

Justin Tse & Halyna Herasym, Singapore Management University & University College Dublin

"Differing Social Dreams: The awkward position of Hong Kong religious transnationalism in Asian American studies"

Panel 7: Solidarity in Theory? Interdisciplinarity and Asian American Christian Theologies (L07)

Moderator: Mike Karim, Fuller Theological Seminary

Joshua Garcia, Graduate Theological Union

"Latine American Decolonialism and Asian American New Materiality: Solidarity in (Inter-)Contextual Hermeneutical Projects"

Lisa Asedillo, Pacific School of Religion

"Interpreting Histories of a Common Miseducation as Transdisciplinary Christian Ethics: Carter G. Woodson, Renato Constantino, and Lauryn Hill"

Colton Bernasol, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

"Asian American Theology Across the Pacific: The Transpacific Archive as a Site for Solidarity"

12:30 pm **Lunch** (optional graduate student mentoring session during lunch in L11)

Mentors: Rita Nakashima Brock, Bandana Purkayashtha, Janette Hur Ok, Stephen Chen, Roger Nam, Justin Tse - *bios & list of mentoring topics are [here](#)*

Note: Rita Nakashima Brock can no longer stay for lunch but welcomes mentoring conversations on Wednesday (during the day) and also at dinner; feel free to join her informal dinner group

2:00 pm **Informal Roundtables**

3-3:15 pm **Break**

3:15 pm **Concurrent Papers Session II & Workshop**

Panel 8: Religion & Cross-Racial Solidarities (L03)

Moderator: Htoi San Lu, Vanderbilt University

Chrissy Lau, San Francisco State University
"Afro-Asian Feminist Solidarities: How Women of Color Envisioned A Pan-Pacific and Black YWCA"

Jane Xie, Harvard Divinity School
"The Blues: A Novel Lens into Chinese Immigrant Churches"

Gabi Kim, Harvard Divinity School
"American and Korean Interracial Sisterhoods: Melissa Kim's Educational Journey in the Early Twentieth Century"

**Panel 9: Talking Story on Spirituality, Land, Food, and Indigeneity:
Working Group Roundtable (L11)**

Eleanor Craig, Harvard University
"Making Home in Colonial Space"

Himaneer Gupta, SUNY-Purchase
"Dialogues on Land, Food, and Spirituality from the (Farm) Fields"

Tammy Ho, UC Riverside
"Asian American Farmers: Gender, Re-memory, Regeneration, and Solidarity"

SueJeanne Koh, UC Irvine
"Assembling and Disassembling Religious Affective Ecologies"

Nathan Samayo, Princeton Theological Seminary (First Respondent)
"Religion and Indigeneity: Variables in the Metabolic Rift"

Panel 10: New Directions in Asian American Christianities (L06)

Moderator: Daniel Lee, Fuller Theological Seminary

Ken Miyagi, Princeton Theological Seminary
"Beyond Two-Party Narrative of Ecumenists versus Fundamentalists: The History of Japanese American Christianity in the Incarceration Camp"

Steven Zhang, St. Mark's
"Faith and Negligence: Christian Perceptions and Interactions with Chinese Immigrants in 19th Century America"

Shirley Lung, University of Denver
"Unpacking the Ethnic Church: the "Ethnic Missions" of Taiwanese Churches"

Jerry Park, Baylor University
"Islamophobia and Antisemitism: How White & Christian Nationalisms Affect Asian Americans' Religious Responses"

Panel 11: Asian American Spirituality, Community & Care (L07)

Kara Gordon, Fordham University
"Angry Asian Womxn: Uses of Anger in Spirituality"

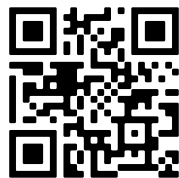
Ellen Zhou, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
"Tale of Two Cities: Mentorship as Spiritual Care"

Gillian Garcia & Bernard Garcia, Fuller Theological Seminary
"Faith and Co-Struggling: Theological Reflections on Filipino American Activism"

Elizabeth Herrick, Nazareth University
"Between Homeland and Hostland: Considering Diasporic Indigeneity"

- 4:45 pm [Break](#)
- 5:00 pm [Conference Wrap-up & Conference Photo \(you don't want to miss this!\)](#)
- 7:30 pm [Closing Banquet \(\[Great China\]\(#\), 2190 Bancroft Way\)](#)

Share your conference memories and connect with us on social media!
[@apareligions](#) [#APARRI2024](#)



Special thanks for generous sponsorship and support from:
the Henry Luce Foundation, UC Berkeley Division of Arts and Humanities, UC Berkeley Division of Social Sciences, the Berkeley Center for Study of Religion, the Othering and Belonging Institute, and the Institute for Teaching Diversity and Social Justice.

APARRI 2024 Conference and Site Committee

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