

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT

2018 – 2019



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OUR TEAM

FACULTY

- Julie Park, PhD**
Director, Associate Professor, Sociology
- Janelle Wong, PhD**
Professor, American Studies
- Terry Park, PhD**
Lecturer
- Jia Li Liu, PhD**
Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellow
- Gem Daus, MA**
Adjunct Lecturer
- Phil Tajitsu Nash, Esq**
Adjunct Lecturer
- Andy Yeh, MA**
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Professor, Sociology
- Patrick Chung, PhD**
Assistant Professor, History
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Associate Professor, American Studies
- Derek Iwamoto, PhD**
Associate Professor, Psychology
- Jason Kuo, PhD**
Professor, Art History

- Seung-Kyung Kim, PhD**
Professor Emerita, Women's Studies
- Sunmin Lee, PhD**
Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Rossina Zamora Liu, PhD**
Assistant Clinical Professor, Education
- William Ming Liu, PhD**
Professor and Chair, Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education
- Willow Lung-Amam, PhD**
Associate Professor, Urban Studies and Planning Program
- Timothy Ng, PhD**
Professor Emeritus, Plant Science & Landscape Architecture
- Jan Padios, PhD**
Associate Professor, American Studies

- Julie J. Park, PhD**
Associate Professor, Education
- Joann Prosser, PhD**
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- Sangeeta Ray, PhD**
Professor, English and Comparative Literature
- Richard Q. Shin, PhD**
Associate Professor, Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education
- Jon Sumida, PhD**
Professor Emeritus, History

- Ashwini Tambe, PhD**
Associate Professor, Women's Studies
- Cixin Wang, PhD**
Assistant Professor, School Psychology
- Edlie L. Wong, PhD**
Professor, English
- Colleen Woods, PhD**
Assistant Professor, History

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Graphic Designer
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..We are growing in our reach and delving deeper into the histories, experiences, and positionings of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In 2018-19, Asian American Studies (AAST) focused on "Making Connections" across the campus and in our communities. With a record number of AAST minors, we are growing in our reach and delving deeper into the histories, experiences, and positionings of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans. I focus on a few highlights here. Gem Daus, a long-time AAST lecturer, offered a new Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Studies course. A panel of seven AAST minors engaged with over 100 local high school students and their parents on the college experience and their evolving relationship with parents. We celebrated the 50th anniversary of ethnic studies by having Juanita Tamayo Lott, author of *Golden Children: Legacy of Ethnic Studies, SF State: A Memoir*, as our end-of-year banquet keynote speaker.

The Asian American Studies Program at the University of Maryland was first established in 2000 and is gearing up to celebrate its 20th anniversary. With what started as one course on the Asian American Experience, AAST now offers a 15-credit minor, several scholarship programs, and the Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellowship with 3 core faculty, several lecturers, and 22 affiliate faculty. Our faculty are excellent researchers, teachers, and mentors dedicated to our students and the advancement of Asian American Studies. Our students learn the social, political, cultural, psychological, and historical approaches to understanding our diverse and rapidly growing community. They then apply and deepen what they learned in the classroom to community discussions on politics, policy, activism, culture, and the arts (detailed later in this report). We continually strive to learn from our community as well as to be a resource through the sharing of faculty research, talks and workshops, and other opportunities for meaningful dialogue.

A special thank you to the AAST staff and undergraduate assistants. The amazing AAST staff are dedicated, tireless, and fearless. They are the cornerstone of our program as they work behind the scene to ensure every aspect of the program runs smoothly. Their commitment to our students, faculty, and community is integral to the success of our program. As a team, we build on our strengths to have a greater impact for our University of Maryland community and the Asian American community more broadly.

Julie Park, PhD

Director, Asian American Studies Program
Associate Professor, Department of Sociology



BY THE NUMBERS

GROWING NUMBER OF AAST MINORS

SPRING 2018

50 Minors Enrolled

20 Minors Awarded

SPRING 2019

61 Minors Enrolled

15 Minors Awarded

508 SEATS

were issued for Asian American Studies courses in FY19.



Asian Americans make up an increasing portion of UMD undergraduates.

ABOUT

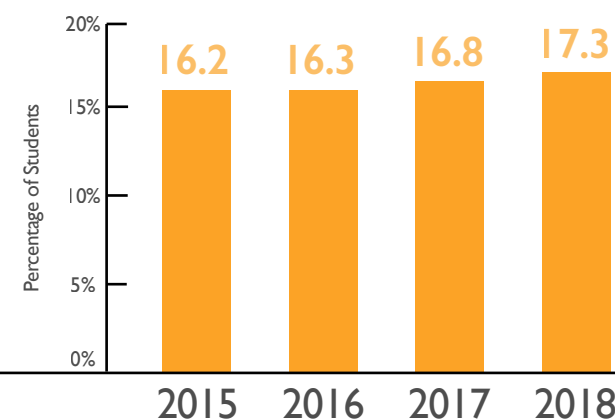
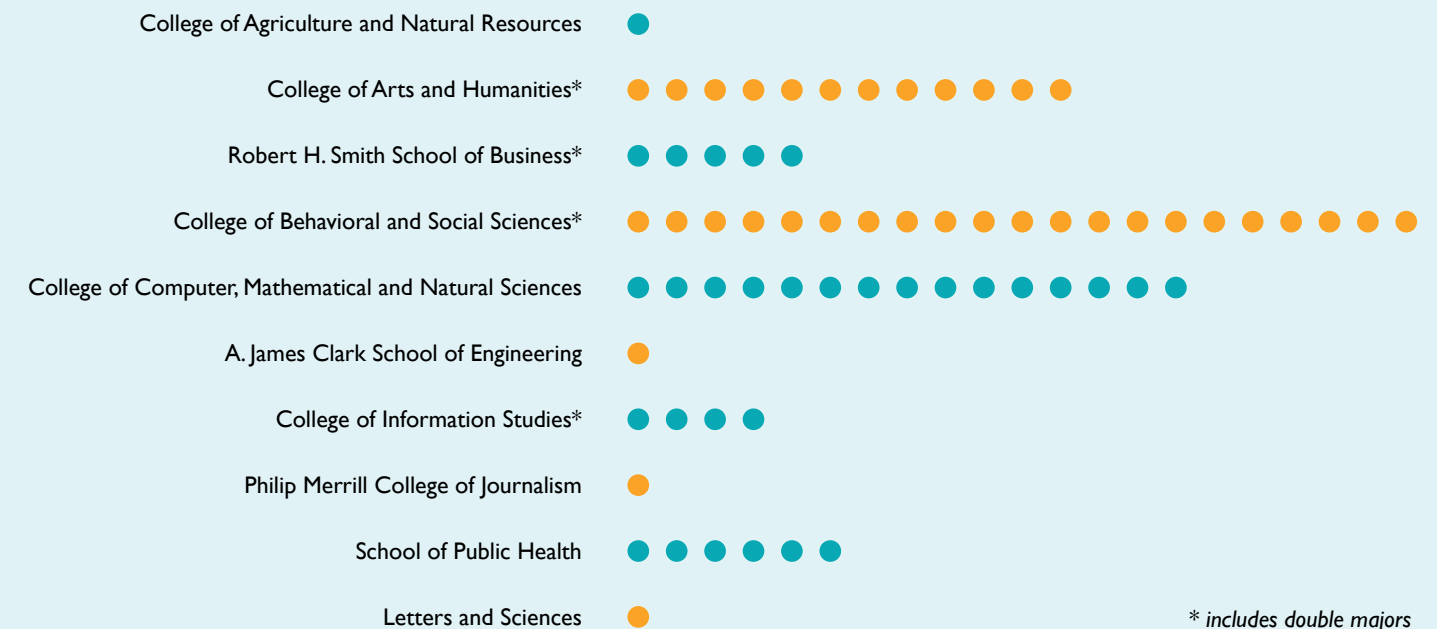
THE ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

The Asian American Studies Program (AAS) at the University of Maryland provides students with the opportunity to critically study the experiences of Asian Americans. Through an interdisciplinary academic curriculum and student-centered programming, students examine the histories, communities, and cultures of people of Asian origin in the United States. The curriculum and programs reflect historically marginalized perspectives and underscore the University's commitment to supporting the intellectual development of a diverse student population.

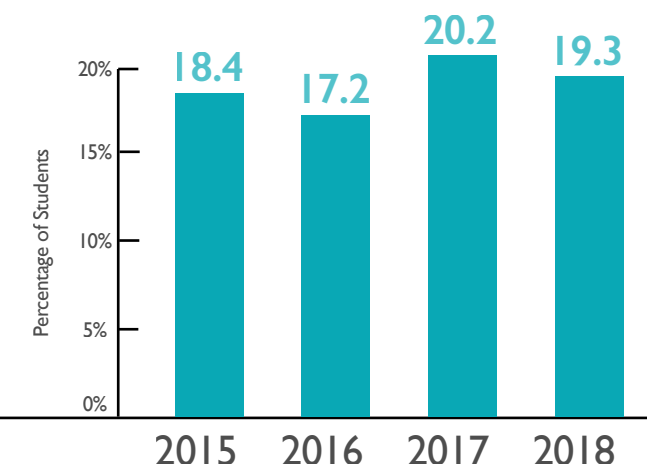
Created in 2000, AAST is the result of student engagement and activism. In 1995, UMD undergraduate students initiated a movement to create the Asian American Studies Program. Over the next three years, with the support of key staff, faculty, and community stakeholders, students continued an active campaign for a new program through teach-ins, high school visits, media outreach, protests, sit-ins, and informational sessions at Stamp. In 1998, Provost Daniel Fallon endorsed a proposal to create an Asian American Studies Program and a steering committee to develop a curriculum and identify professors. In 2000, the University Senate approved the proposal and the AAST program was launched.

AAS offers a 15-credit minor program for students who wish to develop a specialization in Asian American Studies alongside their degree pursuits. It also offers robust academic and student-centered programming that highlights key themes in Asian American Studies, including literature and the arts, demographic change, race and politics, and leadership development.

AAS MINOR REPRESENTATION IN UMD COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS



% OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS ASIAN AMERICAN



% OF NEW FIRST-TIME STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS ASIAN AMERICAN

COURSES & ENROLLMENT

In FY19, AAST had a record number of 61 minors in the program, 31 of which enrolled this year. AAST offered 29 interdisciplinary courses with over 500 enrolled students. New courses include *Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Studies* and *Techno-Orientalism*, which expanded the diverse groups included in the Asian American and Pacific Islander pan-ethnic community and the ways in which Asian Americans are perceived in changing global politics.

AAST collaborated with other academic departments on campus to offer courses such as *Visual Cultures of Islam; Politics of Transnational Adoption: Intersectional Analysis of Class, Race, Gender and Nationality; New World Arrivals: Literature of Asian American Migration and Diaspora; and Cultural Imagination in the US-China Relations since 1785.*

FALL 2018	Seats Issued	Seats Offered
AAST200/AMST298C (Section 01)	34	40
AAST200/AMST298C (Section 02)	23	25
AAST233/ENGL233	24	35
*AAST298B/HIST219E	0	10
AAST378 (Section 01)	0	2
AAST378 (Section 02)	4	5
AAST388 (Section 01)	0	1
AAST388 (Section 02)	2	5
AAST398D/AMST328J	22	35
AAST398E/AMST328V/IMMR319G	25	30
AAST498J/AMST498Q/PSYC489Z	10	25
AAST498X	16	20
TOTAL	160	233

69% enrollment

SPRING 2019	Seats Issued	Seats Offered
AAST200/AMST298C	37	40
AAST201	58	60
AAST233	29	30
AAST378	3	2
AAST388 (Section 01)	0	2
AAST388 (Section 02)	4	2
*AAST398C/WMST379C	17	30
AAST398E	21	26
*AAST398J/ENGL349J	23	25
AAST398M	28	30
*AAST398R/HIST428F	11	30
AAST443/AMST498J	32	40
AAST498F	10	20
AAST498M/AMST418N	20	20
AAST498Q	17	20
TOTAL	310	377

82% enrollment

* Cross-listed course; AAST is not primary.

** Note that in terms of seats filled, when courses for which AAST was not the primary are excluded, seat filled ratios are 72% for Fall 2018, 89% for Spring 2019, and 82% for FY2019 total.

SUMMER 2018	
AAST200/AMST298C	
Seats Issued	Seats Offered
2	20

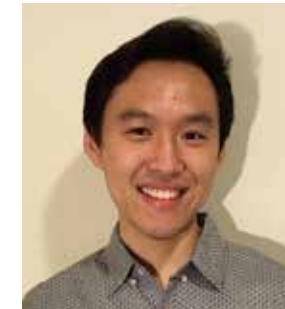
WINTER 2019	
AAST398L/AMST328W	
Seats Issued	Seats Offered
20	20

FY 2019 TOTAL ENROLLMENT :

76%

SCHOLARSHIPS & RECIPIENTS

MAJOR GENERAL ANTONIO TAGUBA PROFILES IN COURAGE AND LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP



The Taguba Scholarship recognizes undergraduates who demonstrate scholarship and outstanding leadership. Students are either Asian American Studies students or enrolled in the Army, Navy or Air Force ROTC program at the University of Maryland, and are considering a career in federal public service, either civilian or military.

Andrew Deng '20 (left)
Biology Major, Asian American Studies and Statistics Double Minor

Joshua Lee '19 (right)
Criminology and Criminal Justice, Asian American Studies Minor

TIMOTHY J NG SCHOLARSHIP IN ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

The Timothy J Ng Scholarship in Asian American Studies encourages undergraduates who demonstrate strength in academics and leadership, especially where such achievement leads to improvement in the lives of Asian Americans.

Ali Bhatti '20 (left)
French and Information Science Double Major, Statistics Minor

Melanie McFarland '19 (right)
Public Health Science Major



LINH-THONG HUU NGUYEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

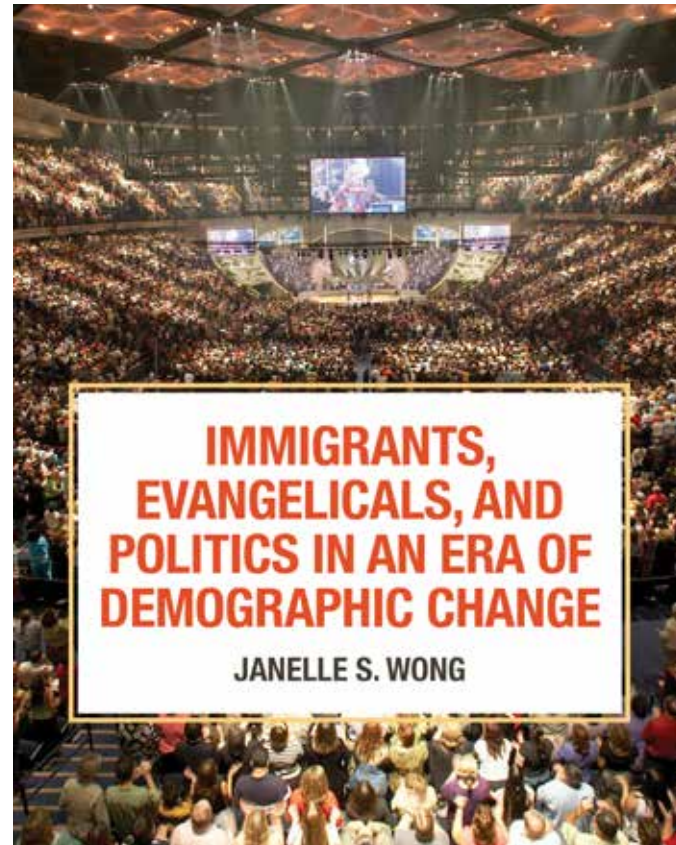


This memorial scholarship was established in 2008 by Linh-Thong Huu "Tone" Nguyen's brother and fellow Terp Tuan Nguyen to support undergraduates who are enrolled in the Asian American Studies minor and demonstrate consistent academic achievement in their studies.

Patrick Peralta '21
Government and Politics Major, Asian American Studies and Philosophy Double Minor

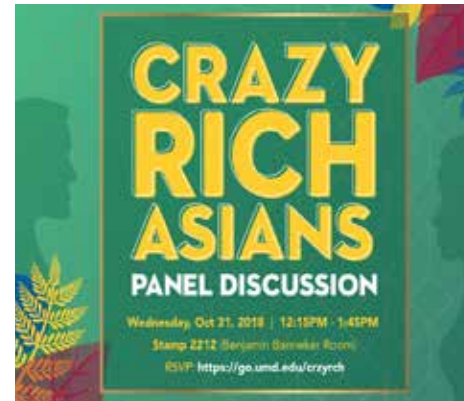
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM EVENTS



Dr. Janelle Wong's Book Talk

Sep 27 | As immigration from Asia and Latin America reshapes the demographic composition of the U.S., some analysts have anticipated the decline of conservative white evangelicals' influence in politics. Yet, the political clout of white evangelicals persisted at a time of increased racial and ethnic diversity. Professor Janelle Wong discusses her new book, *Immigrants, Evangelicals, and Politics in an Era of Demographic Change*, examining a new generation of Asian American and Latino evangelicals and offering an account of why demographic change has not contributed to a political realignment. Brought to you by the Asian American Studies Program, Center for American Politics and Citizenship, Center for Global Migration Studies, and Department of American Studies.



Crazy Rich Asians—Panel Discussion

Oct 31 | As the first Hollywood studio film in twenty-five years to feature an all-Asian cast since *The Joy Luck Club*,

Jon M. Chiu's *Crazy Rich Asians* exceeded expectations, broke box office records, and quickly greenlit both a sequel and several film and TV projects involving Asian Americans. An all-Asian American panel comprised of UMD faculty, student, and staff, address some of the many questions on the film's representation and invite the audience to add their voice to the conversation. Co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Program and the Asian American Student Union.



Asian Americans and Affirmative Action

Nov 28 | Dr. Julie J. Park, Associate Professor of Education, and Dr. Janelle Wong, Professor of American Studies and Asian American Studies, break down the debate on affirmative action and discuss common myths of this critical topic. Co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Program and the Department of Counseling, Higher Education & Special Education.

HIGHLIGHT



2nd Chandni Kumar Annual Lecture on Asian Americans and Activism

Feb 7 | Sookyung Oh, DC Area Director for the National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC) and invited speaker for the *2nd Chandni Kumar Annual Lecture on Asian Americans and Activism*, highlights the joys of centering AAPI community, creativity, organizing, and resistance to build a larger multi-racial and ethnic movement towards liberation for all. This year, Danielle Ocampo, a senior Psychology major and Asian American Studies minor was presented the Impact Award to recognize her work in furthering social justice issues on campus.

The *Chandni Kumar Annual Lecture* is a speaker series brought to you by the generous gift of Chandni Kumar '96 and her family for the purpose of empowering students in activism and engagement related to the Asian American community.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PROGRAM EVENTS



Out of State— Film Screening and Discussion

Feb 26 | The Asian American Studies Program and the Office of Multicultural Involvement and Community Advocacy host a screening and discussion of *Out of State*, a film about two men who discovered their indigenous Hawaiian traditions in prison and now seek a fresh start as they complete their terms and return to Hawaii. The screening is followed by a discussion and talk by Darlene Kehualani Butts, President of Ke Ali'i Maka'ainana Hawaiian Civic Club of WDC.

Never Give Up! Minoru Yasui and the Fight for Justice— Film Screening

Apr 8 | Based on the life of Minoru Yasui, civil rights activist and the first Japanese American attorney in Oregon during the era of World War II, the film portrays his fight against the unjust treatment of over 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry by the U.S. and his continued defense of human and civil rights post-war. Holly Yasui, co-director and youngest daughter of Min and True Yasui, leads a post-screening discussion. Co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Program and the Office of Multicultural Involvement and Community Advocacy.



Dear Eva Huang— Staged Reading

Apr 17 | AAST minor, Amanda Tang, under the guidance of Dr. Terry Park, performs a staged reading of her work-in-progress musical *Dear Eva Huang*, inspired by the recent Broadway hit, *Dear Evan Hansen*. This work brings to light the issues around Asian American mental health. Brought to you by the Asian American Studies Program and the Office of Multicultural Involvement & Community Advocacy.

HIGHLIGHT



A Panel on Asian American Students Discussing the College Experience

Apr 6 | Seven AAST minors from UMD share their experience with over 100 attendees consisting of high schoolers and their parents on being an Asian American college student. They address questions about ethnic identity, changing relationships with their parents, lessons learned, as well as reflections on their joys and challenges of their educational career. Co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Program, Calvin J. Li Foundation, Chinese American Parent Association of Montgomery County, and Chinese Culture and Community Service Center.



AAST End of Year Banquet

May 9 | The Asian American Studies Program celebrates the milestones and accomplishments of the 2018-2019 academic year, showcasing student research and recognizing students who have completed the AAST minor, as well as the 2019-2020 AAST scholarship recipients. Keynote speaker, Juanita Tamayo Lott, a retired senior federal demographer/statistician and author of the recent book *Golden Children: Legacy of Ethnic Studies, SF State. A Memoir*, addresses the guests in a compelling speech about her book and her contributions to the field of ethnic studies.

In addition to these events, AAST co-sponsored a number of events across the campus including the *12th Annual DC Queer Studies Symposium*, "Reflections on Disidentifications at 20"; the *3rd Annual Dream Gala* hosted by Political Latinxs United for Movement and Action in Society (PLUMAS); and "Uplifting Narratives of Undocumented Asian American Pacific Islanders," an art exhibit and workshop hosted by the Undocumented Student Program, NAKASEC, MICA, and AAST, during *UMD Immigrant Resilience Week*.

PERSONNEL

In FY19, four new affiliate faculty joined AAST. Our affiliate faculty come from various disciplines across the university and teach or conduct research related to the field of Asian American Studies. In addition, the 2019-2019 Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellow was welcomed to the Program.



Dr. Patrick Chung
Assistant Professor, History

Patrick Chung, assistant professor in the Department of History, specializes in U.S. military history. His research interests also include the histories of the U.S. in the World, global capitalism, East Asia, and Asian America. He offers courses on global and U.S. military history.



Dr. Rossina Liu
Assistant Clinical Professor, Education

Rossina Zamora Liu, assistant clinical professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership, is a UMD alumna. She is a publicly engaged, interdisciplinary researcher, writer, and humanist, whose work centers on elevating our communities of color and of underserved families.



Dr. William Liu
Professor and Chair, Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education

William Ming Liu, professor and chair of the Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education, is identified as one of the most frequent producers of research in the Psychology of Men and Masculinity and most cited in multicultural competency research. His research interests are in social class and classism, men and masculinity, and White supremacy and privilege.



Dr. Richard Shin
Associate Professor, School Counseling

Richard Shin is an associate professor in the Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education and is the director of the School Counseling Masters Program. His research interests include the identification of academic resiliency factors among youth of color living in underresourced neighborhoods, including the need to disrupt dominant deficit oriented societal narratives about this devalued and marginalized population.



Dr. Jia Li Liu
2018-2019 Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellow

Dr. Jia Li Liu is the 2018-19 Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellow in the Asian American Studies Program. She received her PhD in Human Development and Family Studies from the University of Connecticut. Her research interests include cross-cultural parenting, the effects of child temperament on development, and the creation of culture-sensitive parent education programs for immigrant families. As a 2016 Fulbright scholar, Dr. Liu completed fieldwork in Hong Kong for her dissertation on Chinese maternal ethnotheories and socialization of children's shyness.

PROGRAM SUPPORT

Many thanks to our donors and program supporters!

AAST would like to thank its generous donors for their commitment to Asian American Studies and its students. The Program received \$113,195 in external donations in the past year. The Program also thanks the donors for the *Calvin J. Li Fellowship in Asian American Studies*, the *Linh-Thong Huu Nguyen Endowed Scholarship*, the *Guerzon Tablang-Jimenez Family TerpStart Endowed Scholarship in Asian American Studies*, and the *Chandni Kumar Annual Lecture on Asian Americans and Activism*.



2019 Asian American Studies Program End-of-Year Banquet. Front row from right: Juanita Tamayo Lott, Lee Sarmiento, Mencie Hairston. Back row from right: Major General Antonio Taguba, Julie Park, William Cohen, Timothy Ng, Pete Sarmiento.



*In development activities,
AAST received \$113,195 in
external donations and gifts.*

FACULTY WORK

Dr. Terry K. Park published an article titled, "The de/militarized frontier: the Korean demilitarized zone, the American DMZ border guard, and US liberal empire" in the peer-reviewed online journal *Critical Military Studies*. He was also quoted as an expert in the New York Times article, "Nunchuck Bans Have Fallen in New York and Arizona. Will Others Follow?".

Dr. Janelle Wong gave a talk at Princeton University titled, "Coalitions and Cleavages in Asian American Politics", and presented as the keynote speaker at Indiana University, Bloomington's *Asian American Studies Annual Research Symposium* on "Navigating Through Intersections: Organizing and Advancing Asian American Issues & Identity". Dr. Wong also published op-eds in *Inside Higher Education*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Religion and Politics*, *The Hill*, and *The Conversation*.



RECOGNITION

AAST Program Coordinator, Anne Bautista, was presented the *Friend of MICA Award* by the Office of Multicultural Involvement and Community Advocacy, as well as the *Bayani Advisor Award* by the Filipino Cultural Association at UMD

Dr. Jia Li Liu, 2018-2019 Calvin J. Li Postdoctoral Fellow, released Issue 4 of the *Connect! Newsletter*. In this issue, readers are presented practical advice on 1) how to improve parent-teen communication and 2) how to solve problems effectively between parents and teens. Coordinated and written by Dr. Jia Li Liu, and contributions by Dr. Cixin Wang, Julia Barlis Blasey, and Kristen Frese Marsico.

Dr. Cixin Wang published an article titled, "Influence of Perceived Cultural Barriers on Mental Health Help-seeking by Asian American Students," which examines barriers preventing children and parents from seeking mental health services at school.

5 REASONS TO MINOR WITH AAST

- 1 | Show potential employers and grad schools you know how to navigate diversity
- 2 | Learn about Asian Americans, and also globalization and migration
- 3 | Enhance your savvy around race, identity, and culture
- 4 | Get to know professors who understand Asian American issues
- 5 | Make connections and join a meaningful community of students, faculty, and staff

SUPPORT AAST

Enhance student learning experiences through AAST programming, make a donation at <http://ter.ps/give2aast>

BE IN THE KNOW

Email aast@umd.edu to join our email list