



Harvard University
Regional Studies--East Asia
2020 Alumni Panel

October 22, 2020
7:00 - 9:00 pm

Photo by Jason Wu '20

2020 REGIONAL STUDIES EAST ASIA ALUMNI PANEL

October 22, 2020 at 7:00 PM EST
Online via Zoom. [Register to attend](#)

PROGRAM:

- 7:00 PM Welcome by Professor James Robson, Chair of the Committee on Regional Studies East Asia
- Opening Remarks by Dean Emma Dench, Dean of GSAS
- Alumni Panelists' Remarks
- 8:00 PM Breakout Sessions
1. Academic Careers
 2. Government Careers
 3. Non-Profit and Public Service Careers
- 8:25 PM Breakout Rooms for conversation
- 8:45 PM Closing Remarks by Professor James Robson, RSEA Chair

2020 ALUMNI PANELISTS:

Jack Meng-Tat Chia (AM '11)

Jack Meng-Tat Chia is Assistant Professor of History and Religious Studies at the National University of Singapore. His research focuses on Buddhism in maritime Southeast Asia, Buddhist modernism, Chinese popular religion, and Southeast Asia-China interactions. He is the author of *Monks in Motion: Buddhism and Modernity across the South China Sea* (Oxford, 2020), as well as articles in *Asian Ethnology*, *China Quarterly*, *Contemporary Buddhism*, *History of Religions*, and *Journal of Chinese Religions*. He is currently working on two book projects: *Beyond the Borobudur: Buddhism in Postcolonial Indonesia*, and *Dharma Crossings: Long Gen and the Making of Nanyang Buddhism*.



Born and raised in Singapore, Chia received his Ph.D. from Cornell University, where his dissertation won the Lauriston Sharp Prize. He received his BA and MA from the National University of Singapore, and his second MA from Harvard University, where he was a Harvard-Yenching Scholar. Before teaching at NUS, he was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Buddhist Studies, University of California, Berkeley.

Jessica J. Lee (AM '08)

Jessica J. Lee is a Senior Research Fellow for East Asia at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft. Her research focuses on East Asian alliances and US strategy toward the Asia-Pacific region. Previously, Jessica led the Council of Korean Americans (CKA), a national nonprofit organization that supports Korean American leadership development. Prior to CKA, Jessica was a Resident Fellow at the Pacific Forum in Honolulu and a senior manager at The Asia Group, LLC.



Ms. Lee began her career in Washington as a staff member on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. She also served as a senior legislative assistant on foreign policy for a member of Congress on the Ways and Means Committee. Jessica is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Jessica holds a B.A. in Political Science from Wellesley College and an A.M. in Regional Studies East Asia from Harvard University.

Bin Ouyang (AM '12)

Bin Ouyang started his career as a journalist in China and America. He held senior positions at Phoenix TV, Newsweek, Caijing magazine, and Caixin media group. He also served as a columnist for the Chinese website of BBC and New York Times and received awards for his reporting and analyses from multiple institutes, including the Asian Development Bank and the Reuters Foundation.

Since 2012, Mr. Ouyang has worked at Asia Society, a global philanthropic organization founded by John. D. Rockefeller III. He initiated some educational programs on liberal arts and K-12, an entrepreneurship program encouraging innovation on sustainability, and he has also been involved in art exhibition curating.

Mr. Ouyang earned his B.A. in Journalism from China Youth University for Political Sciences with highest honor and his M.A. in Regional Studies-East Asia from Harvard University, concentrating on political science and history. He was honored as Harvard-Yenching Fellow from 2010-2012 and Arthur Ross Fellow from 2012-2013.



Julie Sheetz (AM '12)

Julie Sheetz is the Chief of Staff for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). In this role she oversees an organization of nearly 100 people that provides the Secretary of Defense with policy recommendations spanning the management of US treaty alliances and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific, competition with China, deterrence of North Korea, and oversight of the war in Afghanistan.

Julie previously served as the lead Global Force Planner for the Indo-Pacific region, during which time she negotiated agreements with allies and partners and implemented adjustments to U.S. military footprint and force structure in this critical area. Julie joined OSD as a Presidential Management Fellow (PMF). During her two years as a PMF, she undertook rotational assignments with the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, at ISAF Headquarters in Afghanistan, with the OSD Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation office reviewing Department priorities in line with budget realities, in the



office of the Chief of Naval Operations as an Asia policy advisor, and in the office of the Assistant Secretary for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs.

Prior to joining the Department of Defense, Julie was an Associate Director at BrooksBowerAsia (BBA), a boutique consulting and advisory services firm facilitating U.S. investment in Southeast Asia. Julie holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and French Studies from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master's degree in Regional Studies East Asia from Harvard University. She is originally from Connecticut.

Maiko Takeuchi (AM '07)

Maiko Takeuchi is a Member of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1874 (2009) (Democratic People's Republic of Korea/North Korea), UN Security Council. She has been serving on the Panel since 2016. She has 20 years of experience in conducting investigations and analysis of North Korea's nuclear issue within the UN and the Government of Japan, including capability assessments, analysis of key facilities and strategic export-control issues.

Ms. Takeuchi joined Japan's Ministry of Defense in 2001. During her career, she was appointed to the Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Korea as First Secretary and Civilian Defense Attaché from 2012 to 2016. From 2010 to 2011, she worked on cyber-security strategy and communication systems in the Ministry of Defense, and from 2008 to 2010, she worked on strategic export control as the chief of the research and planning office at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. From 2004 to 2005 she was appointed to the Cabinet Secretariat for National Security and Crisis Management, where she worked as an assistant manager for policy coordination on Iraq policy and Japan-US alliance.

Maiko Takeuchi is a visiting scholar at the Center for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution Research, Waseda University. She has written a number of articles, including "Smart Language: How to Address an Inherent Weakness Undermining the Implementation of U.N. Sanctions on North Korea" (International Law Studies, Vol. 96 (2020)). She holds a Master's degree in Regional Studies East Asia from Harvard University, and a Bachelor of Law from the University of Tokyo. She is fluent in English, Korean, and Chinese.



Judith Zeitlin (AM '83)

Judith T. Zeitlin (蔡九迪) is William R. Kenan Jr. Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages & Civilizations and the Committee on Theater and Performance Studies at the University of Chicago. A scholar of early modern Chinese literature, her innovative work combines literary history with other disciplines, including visual and material culture, theater, music, medicine, gender studies, and film.

Her many publications include *The Phantom Heroine: Ghosts and Gender in Seventeenth-Century Chinese Literature* (2007), *Historian of the Strange: Pu Songling and the Chinese Classical Tale* (1993), and co-edited works such as *Writing and Materiality in China* (2000), *Thinking in Cases: Specialist Knowledge in Chinese Cultural History* (2007), *Chinese Opera Film* (2010), and *The Voice as Something More: Essays toward Materiality* (2019).



In 2014, Professor Zeitlin co-curated a major exhibition at the University of Chicago's Smart Museum of Art called *Performing Images: Opera in Chinese Visual Culture*. She is the recipient of fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies, among others. Current projects include a book on the culture of musical entertainment in early modern China and the creation of a new opera based on a Chinese ghost story in collaboration with composer Yao Chen.