



August 2019

Dear Alumni of Harvard University's Regional Studies East Asia Program,

This is the inaugural issue of the redesigned RSEA Program newsletter. My name is James Robson, the incoming Chair of the RSEA program and a Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations. I would like to begin this newsletter by acknowledging the leadership that Professor Xiaofei Tian provided to RSEA over the years and her dedication to building it into the excellent program that it is today. I look forward to working with the dedicated RSEA staff, Rose Cortese and Harriet Wong, and the Director of Graduate Studies, Professor Alexander Zahlten, to build on those strengths.



We hope this newsletter will allow the extended RSEA community to stay in touch with recent developments here at Harvard as well as receive updates on the news, ongoing achievements, and activities of our fascinating alumni who are scattered all over the world. Please continue to send us your updates for future newsletters.

We would also be delighted to hear from you with any comments or suggestions you might have for future issues of this newsletter. Are there other types of information that you would like to see in the newsletter? Please feel free to write to me directly at [jrobson@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:jrobson@fas.harvard.edu).

Sincerely,  
James Robson

## **Alumni News in Brief**

Congratulations to our newest Alumni! Graduates of the Class of 2019:

Joa Alexander  
Menglan Chen  
Yuqian Nora Chen  
Da In Ann Choi  
Nam Hoang

Fan Hong  
Benjamin Jacobs  
Georgia Kashnig  
Jia Yao Kuek  
Tao Lin

Xiao You Mok  
Melvin Sanborn  
Jie Sun  
Kuan Hian Tan  
Erin Trumble

Yingxue Wang  
Narusa Yamato  
Terasa Younker  
Amy Zhang  
Qieer Ellie Zhang



*Carroll Bogert*, AB '83, AM '86, president of The Marshall Project, was awarded a **2019 Centennial Medal** by the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

*Matthew Brazil*, AM '87, has co-authored a new book, *Chinese Communist Espionage: An Intelligence Primer*, coming out on November 15, 2019.

*Anastasia J. Caviris*, AM '98, has just accepted a new position as Senior Associate General Counsel at Global Partners LP. She is providing them with in-house corporate counsel in the Boston area.

*Mable Chan*, AM '93, just wrote a commentary on her hometown for WBUR Cognoscenti: **The Fear Driving The Protests In Hong Kong**.

*Jannis Jizhou Chen*, AM '17, is the author of a recently published book of short fiction, *The Stories of Eng Watt Street*. The book, his first, was published by Linking Publishing in Taiwan and is a collection of twelve short stories that all take place on Eng Watt street, which is located in the Tiong Bahru area in Singapore.

*Rebecca Choong Wilkins*, AM '18, is starting a new position as a reporter covering credit in China for Bloomberg with a focus on distressed debt, bankruptcies and how it all ends. She will be based in Hong Kong for the foreseeable future and looks forward to meeting RSEA alumni in the area.

*Michael Chenkin*, AM '14, graduated from NYU School of Law in 2018 and is now an associate in the M&A group at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in New York.

*Evan N. Dawley*, AM '98, PhD '06, recent book *Becoming Taiwanese: Ethnogenesis in a Colonial City, 1880s to 1950s*, was published through Harvard Asia Center, Harvard University Press.



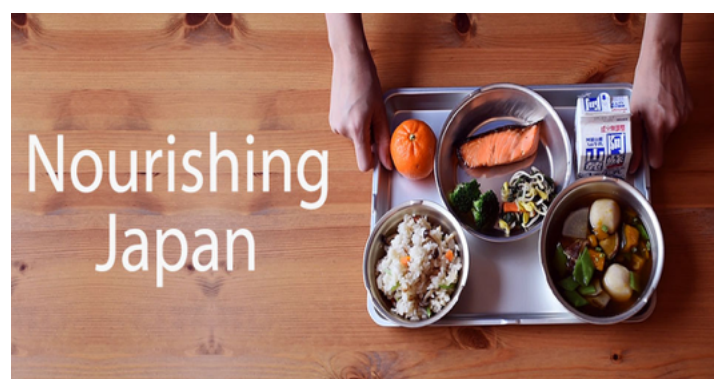
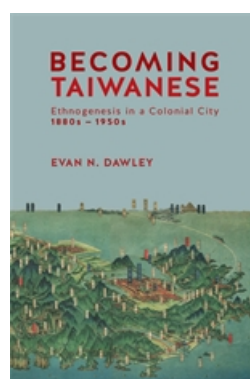
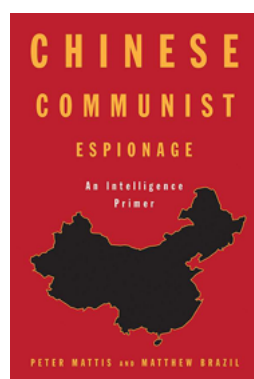
*Bin Ouyang*, AM '12, has recently founded an exchange program that empowers young creators and doers to address environmental challenges through scalable solutions and clean tech innovation. Every year, **Young Green Tech** (YGT) provides a select group of transformative green startups with training from prestigious institutions, access to high net worth philanthropists and participation in tech-exchanges around the world.

*Helen Yuxin Gao*, AM '16, submitted a recent opinion piece in the NY Times called "*Little Fresh Meat and the Changing Face of Masculinity in China*".

*Junjie Jiang*, AM '18, has published her English translation of the contemporary Chinese drama Toilet in the peer-reviewed journal *The Mercurian: A Theatrical Translation Review*.

*Sadie Rosenthal*, AM '14, has just assumed the position of Director of Research, Business Development at SAGE Worldwide in Beijing.

*Alexis Agliano Sanborn*, AM '13, has been working on a documentary entitled "**Nourishing Japan**" which is scheduled to be completed by autumn 2019/winter 2020, explores the world of Japanese food education and school lunch. Interviewing nutritionists, educators, cooks, farmers and more, this film was created to introduce viewers to the civil society which help to support the next generation through healthy eating and learning about food.



## Alumni Reflections

*Evan Dawley*, AM '98, PhD '06, shared his reflections on the origins of HEAS and the impact of RSEA, which can be read [here](#)."

## In Memoriam

Beloved friend, colleague, and professor, *Roderick MacFarquhar*, AM '55, passed away on February 10, 2019 in Cambridge, MA. There will be a memorial in celebration of his life on Saturday, September 7th, 2019. More information [here](#).



## Recent and Upcoming RSEA Activities

*Amy Grantham* and *Yihao Niu*, G2, have recently set up the **Harvard GSAS Women in Social Sciences and Humanities (HGWISSH)**, which is dedicated to the personal, academic, and

## Announcements

Save the date! The Annual RSEA Alumni Panel will take place on October 24, 2019. More information will be posted on our [website](#) later in the summer. Please watch for your invitation via

professional development of women in social sciences and humanities.

RSEA student *Yuchen Chloe Yan* wrote a commentary about the 2019 New York Met Gala and its theme of "Camp: Notes on Fashion". Her piece appeared in the May 20, 2019 edition of Lianhe Zaobao (in Chinese).

*Jia Yao Keuk*, AM '19, and current RSEA student, *Jason Jia Xi Wu*, had their op-ed "*Risks of Unilateral Governance of Digital Trade*" published in the May 21 Japan Times.

email and plan on joining us.

The next HEAS Conference will be in February 2020. A call for abstracts will be posted on their [website](#) in October.

Alumni with news to share may send an email to [rsea2@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:rsea2@fas.harvard.edu). We look forward to hearing from you!

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**Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University**  
1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Third Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
[gsaa@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:gsaa@fas.harvard.edu) | 617-495-5591