



## Message from AAARI Executive Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Asian Americans at CUNY continue to contribute richly to academe and to the vibrancy of US and international culture. As illustrated by the work and lives of many of the faculty and staff whom we have featured in this and previous AAARI Spotlight newsletters, Asian Americans at CUNY are pioneers, translators and bridges between cultures of Asia and the United States.

We are particularly proud of Dr. Betty Lee Sung, co-founder and former Chair of AAARI, as she is recognized as a Chinese American Pioneer at the Shanghai World Expo 2010. Dr. Sung, a strong advocate for the recognition of the rightful place of Asians in American history, continues to champion the cause of Asian American Studies at CUNY and other US educational institutions. Congratulations Dr. Sung, on a richly deserved honor.

Regards,

## Book Reading by Meena Alexander

Date: March 26, 2010 Time: 4PM - 6PM

Place: CUNY Graduate Center  
365 Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor, Manhattan



Dr. Meena Alexander (Hunter College) will read from her new book *Poetics of Dislocation*. Dr. Alexander discusses what it means to come to America as an adult to write poetry, and her place—and that of others—in the collection of cultures that makes up this country. She outlines the dilemmas that face modern immigrant poets, including how to make a place for oneself in a new society and how to write poetry in a time of violence worldwide.

In December 2009, Dr. Alexander was the recipient of the 2009 Literary Excellence Award from the South Asian Literary Association for contributions to American literature.



## Fulbright Scholar Amita Gupta Blogs About Experience in South Asia

Dr. Amita Gupta (City College) is currently traveling South Asia to conduct research in India, Sri Lanka and Maldives. She will examine current directions in early education and urban teacher preparation policies in response to the effects of globalization in Asia.

URL: <http://amitagupta.posterous.com>



## Tour of Chinatown, Manhattan: Exploring Its Multi-Ethnic Origin & Current Development

Date: April 15 - 21, 2010

Time: 10:30AM - 12PM

Meeting Place: Museum of Chinese in America  
215 Centre Street, Manhattan

AAARI has been selected as an official event partner for the 7th Annual Immigrant Heritage Week. The walking tour will trace the multi-ethnic past of historical Chinatown while encouraging the exploration and recording of the new emerging Chinatown highlighting rarely seen emblems of the endurance and creativity of the minorities who reside in this vibrant area.

URL: [www.aaari.info/2010heritage.htm](http://www.aaari.info/2010heritage.htm)

## Faculty Seminar Series in Asian Studies



**3/1/10** - AAARI held the first of a new series of faculty led seminar on the topic of Xenophobia/philia by scholars in the field of Asian American Studies from the City University of New York, State University of New York,

New York University, Columbia University, and the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program. Prof. Kyoo Lee of John Jay College/CUNY initiated and organized the series.

Streaming video online, [www.aaari.info/10-03-01Faculty.htm](http://www.aaari.info/10-03-01Faculty.htm)



## Betty Lee Sung: A Pioneer Among Chinese Americans

Dr. Betty Lee Sung, Professor Emerita (City College), co-founder and former board chair of AAARI, will be honored as a pioneer among Chinese Americans in the Committee of 100's exhibit of Chinese in America, for the USA Pavilion at the upcoming 2010 Shanghai World Exposition. Other pioneers to be honored include David Ho, Yo-Yo Ma, I.M. Pei, and Steve Chen. The pioneers will be highlighted as part of a unique video wall.

URL: [www.jointhewall.org](http://www.jointhewall.org)

## Asian American / Asian Research Institute

### City University of New York

25 West 43rd Street, Room 1000

New York, NY 10036



#### About Us

Asian American / Asian Research Institute (AAARI) is a university-wide scholarly research and resource center that focuses on policies and issues that affect Asians and Asian Americans.

CUNY enrolls over 40,000 Asian undergraduate and graduate students, and employs over 4,000 faculty and staff of Asian descent. AAARI serves as a bridge between CUNY and the Asian American community.

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**Interns** Liming Wu & Sihan Wu

### Upcoming Events

#### March 19, 2010

Lecture Series  
American Chinatown (Book Talk)  
Bonnie Tsui

#### March 23, 2010

Special Talk  
Korean Immigration to the U.S. (1903-1905)  
Wayne Patterson (St. Norbert College)

#### March 29, 2010

CUNY Conference on Asian American Economic Development  
CUNY Graduate Center

#### April 9, 2010

Lecture Series  
Music in Asian Religions  
Joanne Chang (Queensborough Community College)

#### April 16, 2010

Lecture Series  
Snakes Can't Run: A Mystery (Book Talk)  
Ed Lin

### Ginling College: The Making of a Family Saga

AAARI Co-Sponsored Event

Date: March 24, 2010 Time: 6:30PM - 8PM

Place: Museum of Chinese in America  
215 Centre Street, Manhattan

Ginling College was a Christian, women's college in Nanjing, China founded by a group of American women missionaries after the 1911 revolution. It was the first college granting bachelor's degrees to female students in China and became a sister school to Smith College of Northampton, Massachusetts. Professor Jin Feng (Associate Professor, Grinnell College) sheds light on how issues of modernity, nationalism and gender affected the ways this unique group of women experienced and influenced history.

**URL:** [www.mocanyc.org](http://www.mocanyc.org)



**URL:** [www.aaari.info/2010aaff.htm](http://www.aaari.info/2010aaff.htm)



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