REGIONAL CONFERENCES  
OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES

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The Association for Asian Studies (AAS) is the main professional body for Asianists in the United States, and ASIANetwork is an affiliate of the AAS. ASIANetwork members should be aware that, in addition to its annual, national meeting, the AAS sponsors eight regional conferences throughout the United States. These regional meetings compare in size to ASIANetwork, drawing between 100 and 200 people. Many find these small meetings, often shorter and closer to home, more congenial and more manageable than the AAS national conference which attracts between 4000 and 5000 persons each year.

Like the national-level AAS, the regional conferences afford faculty and graduate students a venue for papers and panels describing recent scholarship about Asia from a wide variety of disciplines. Because panel audiences are smaller than at the AAS, however, those in attendance can more easily meet the panelists to ask for copies or engage in a discussion afterwards.

The regional conferences usually have an outreach component as well, that is, workshops or panels aimed at K-12 teachers. Sometimes these are open to anyone, and may present materials and speakers that will also be of interest to ASIANetwork members, especially faculty who are new to the study of Asia, or who were trained in one area of Asia but need to expand their expertise to cover other areas.

Contact the program chair of the regional conference closest to you and ask to receive a mailing about the program. Even if the conference in your region has already taken place this year, you can anticipate a similar time in future years and ask where next year's conference will be.

Information about each regional organization can be found in the AAS Newsletter, and on the AAS website. Go to <http://www.aasianst.org> Click on Conferences and Meetings to find information about the regional conferences. Here is a listing of the eight regional conferences and where they will be meeting this year, along with the names of the program chairs and an e-mail address for each.

ASPAC (West Coast and Pacific Region)  
Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington  
June 19-21, 1998  
David Deal <deal@whitman.edu>

MCAA (Midwest Conference)  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
September 25-27, 1998  
David Buck <iwa@csd.uwm.edu>

Mid-Atlantic Region  
University of Delaware-Newark  
October 23-25, 1998  
Frank J. Hoffman <fhoffman@sas.upenn.edu>

New England  
Tufts University, Medford, MA  
October 24-25, 1998  
Charles Inouye: <cinouye@emerald.tufts.edu>

New York  
State University at New Paltz  
October 16-17, 1998  
Marleigh Grayer Ryan <ryanm@npvm.newpaltz.edu>

Southeast  
University of Virginia, Charlottesville  
January 16-18, 1999  
March Gilbert <mgilbert@nugget.ngc.peachnet.edu>

Southwest and Western (Joint Conference)  
University of Texas-El Paso  
October 16-17, 1998  
Kenneth J. Hammond <khammond@nmsu.edu>

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The masthead calligraphy for the ASIANetwork Exchange is by Yuchien Chen, a computer scientist with MCI Communications, Inc. He is the husband of Yunyu Wang-Chen, Drama and Dance, The Colorado College. The Chinese translation of the character is, appropriately, "academic exchange."