

About the Contributors

Nami Kim

Nami Kim, born and raised in South Korea, earned her doctoral degree in the field of religion, gender, and culture from Harvard University. She is Assistant Professor of Religion in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Her recent publications include “Engaging Afro/black-Orientalism: A Proposal” in the *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion* 1, no. 7 (June 2010), “A Mission to the ‘Graveyard of Empires’? Neocolonialism and Contemporary Evangelical Missions of the Global South” in *Mission Studies* 27, no. 1 (2010), and a coedited special issue of the *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 25, no.1 (Spring 2009).

James G. Lochtefeld

James G. Lochtefeld is Professor of Religion and Director of the Asian Studies Program at Carthage College. His research examines the relationship between Hindu texts, tradition, and modern religious life. His early work focused on Hardwar, and his ongoing work analyzes how this and other pilgrimage sites are being affected by tourism promotion and other social changes.

Hongwei Lu

Hongwei Lu is Associate Professor of Asian Studies at University of Redlands. Her teaching and research focus on modern Chinese cultural studies.

Jonathan Marshall

Jonathan Marshall is Associate Professor of Political Science at Carthage College. He teaches courses on the politics of Japan and China and in the sociology of law and does research on sociolegal issues in both the U.S. and Japan.

Mark Ravina

Mark Ravina is a historian who has been featured in the popular media because of his book on Saigo Takamori, the inspiration for the character in the 2003 film, *The Last Samurai*. He is the Director of the East Asian Studies Program and Associate Professor of History at Emory University. With a specialty in eighteenth and nineteenth century Japanese politics, Professor Ravina has written various articles exploring the transnational dimensions of state-building.

Rachana Sachdev

Rachana Sachdev is Associate Professor of English and Coordinator of Asian Studies at Susquehanna University. Her current research project focuses on representations of infanticide in Asia in early modern European travelogues. She is also co-editing, with Qingjun Li, a volume of essays on early modern European responses to China.

Wenjie Sun

Wenjie Sun is Assistant Professor of Geography and Earth Science, and Computer Science at Carthage College. Professor Sun joined Carthage in 2006. She is originally from China and she received her B.S. in Geography with a minor in Economics from Beijing University. She went to graduate school at Indiana University, Bloomington, where she received her M.A. in Geography, M.S. in Computer Science, and Ph.D. in Geographic Information Science (GIS). She teaches courses in GIS, Remote Sensing, Human Geography, and Geography of East Asia. She has also led interdisciplinary themed J-term trips to China with her colleague. She has published in the *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* and given a number of talks at national professional meetings and at AsiaNetwork conferences.

Van J. Symons

Van J. Symons is the William A. Freistat Professor of World Peace at Augustana College. A Qing dynastic historian, he teaches courses in Chinese and Japanese history. From 1995-2005, Dr. Symons served first on the board of directors, then as executive director of ASIANetwork. He currently serves as the Program Coordinator for the ASIANetwork Freeman Student-Faculty Fellows Program.

James L. Watson

James L. Watson is the Fairbank Professor of Chinese Society and Professor of Anthropology at Harvard University. Professor Watson was the President of the Association for Asian Studies in 2003 and is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is an ethnographer who has spent over 40 years working in south China, primarily in villages. The author of numerous books and articles, his research has focused on Chinese emigrants to London, ancestor worship and popular religion, family life and village organization, food systems, and the emergence of a post-socialist culture in the PRC. In recent years, Professor Watson has investigated the impact of transnational food industries in East Asia, Europe, and Russia and the social consequences of SARS in China.

Guo Wu

Guo Wu is assistant professor of modern Chinese history at Allegheny College. He holds a PhD from the State University of New York at Albany (2006). He is the author of *Zheng Guanying: Merchant Reformer of Late Qing China and his Influence on Economics, Politics and Society* (2010) and several articles on Republican China and contemporary Chinese film.

Mimi Yang

Mimi Yang, is associate professor of Spanish/Chinese at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Born in China, she has lived in Chinese-, Spanish-, and English-speaking worlds and traveled extensively in Asia, Europe, Latin America, and North America. Having earned her Ph.D. in Spanish language and literatures from the University of Arizona, she has become focused on cross-cultural studies in recent years. An author of numerous articles published in both English and Spanish on postmodernism, pedagogy, gender and cultural studies, she is also a frequent speaker at regional, national and international conferences. She had held teaching posts at Randolph Macon Women's College and Illinois Wesleyan University prior to coming to Carthage College. She was named the 2004 Wisconsin Global Educator at the higher education level.