GLOBAL CAREERS THROUGH ASIA CONFERENCE

JANUARY 28-29, 2021 | 10:00AM-11:30AM EST

PRESENTED BY
Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union
Asian Institute
WELCOME

It is my sincere pleasure as Director of the Asian Institute to welcome you to the 2021 Global Careers through Asia Conference. This annual conference provides guidance and inspiration to students seeking careers connected to Asia. It builds networks between current students and experts, many of whom are our own programs’ alumni working in a variety of professions. There is no more important time than now for an event such as this one. Over the past year entire industries have undergone dramatic disruptions. Traditional workplaces and career trajectories have faced upheaval and uncertainty. In response, students and alumni at the Asian Institute have developed creative strategies to make the most of these challenges. This conference is testimony to their remarkable talents.

At the Asian Institute, we train students to develop critical perspectives relevant to their future careers. Our undergraduate and graduate programs provide students with scholarly and practical tools to strengthen their understanding of global issues. We enable active engagement with Asia, as well as research on the global issues that connect us all. Students’ connections to Asia enrich their own educations and careers, as well as the University more broadly, and they do so often in exciting and unanticipated ways, as the presentations today will attest. Part of what makes this conference so special is the active role our students play in organizing it. Each year, members of the Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union work closely with the Asian Institute to envision, plan, and execute the conference. This year’s virtual conference reflects the challenges and opportunities presented by our current circumstances. While we are unable to meet and connect in person, the online format has allowed us for the first time to welcome speakers from Hong Kong, Thailand, and Singapore.

I am deeply impressed with this year’s team for convening such an inspiring group of alumni and experts to share what they have learned through their career journeys, and for doing so under the extraordinary circumstances of this past year. The generosity of our alumni and fellows in sharing their time and experiences with us is extraordinary. I am confident that you will learn a great deal from our speakers, and I encourage you to participate fully in the question and answer period. It is often in response to a thoughtful question that speakers reveal some of their most unexpected and meaningful insights.

Sincerely,

Professor Rachel Silvey
Richard Charles Lee Director, Asian Institute
Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy
ABOUT US

THE ASIAN INSTITUTE
The Asian Institute is one of the world’s leading centres of research excellence in Asian Studies. With over one hundred affiliated scholars working across the humanities and social sciences, the Asian Institute convenes and leads cross-regional, interdisciplinary research on Asia. Our faculty and students offer meaningful insights into a wide range of crucial issues at stake in this dynamic region of the globe. Asia’s breakneck urbanization processes, social media and communications revolutions, and growing environmental crises all offer new challenges and demand creative interventions. Meanwhile, the creation of local literary, visual, and archeological sites as fields of a contested colonial and postcolonial past provide rich pathways to greater understanding of the region’s complexity. The location of the Asian Institute at the University of Toronto, a premier university in a city with deep historical and vibrant contemporary ties to Asia, gives the Institute a rich academic and geographical anchor for research on Asia.

CONTEMPORARY ASIAN STUDIES STUDENT UNION
The Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union (CASSU) is the undergraduate course union for the Dr. David Chu Program in Contemporary Asian Studies at the University of Toronto. CASSU was founded in 2010 and strives to strengthen students’ understanding of contemporary Asia from a global perspective in a non-classroom setting. CASSU organizes social, cultural, academic and professional events related to Asia and represents all undergraduate students affiliated or registered with the Contemporary Asian Studies program.

GLOBAL CAREERS THROUGH ASIA CONFERENCE
The Global Careers through Asia Conference aims to get students thinking about how to plan for a global career in the twenty-first century. Whether students go on to work in Asia, Canada, or anywhere else, Asia plays an important role in the global economy. Thus, the ability to apply the skills and perspectives developed through Asian Studies in their future careers will be crucial. The conference features panel presentations with speakers – including many of our own alumni – from a diverse range of industries, and opportunities for students to ask questions and engage in dialogue with speakers.
AGENDA

Day 1: Thursday, January 28, 2021

10:00 – 10:05  Welcome
Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union

10:05 – 10:15  Opening Remarks
Dr. Rachel Silvey - Richard Charles Lee
Director, Asian Institute

10:15 – 11:05  Industry Panel
Public Policy

Hanae Hanzawa - Human Rights Officer,
United Nations Human Rights (OHCHR)

Evan Wiseman - Climate Policy Manager, The
Atmospheric Fund (TAF)

Academia

Dr. Adam Liu - Assistant Professor, Lee Kuan
Yew School of Public Policy, National University
of Singapore

Dr. Joseph McQuade - Richard Charles Lee
Postdoctoral fellow, Asian Institute, University
of Toronto

11:05 – 11:30  Q&A
Moderated by CASSU
AGENDA

Day 2: Friday, January 29, 2021

10:00 – 10:05  Welcome
Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union

10:05 – 10:15  Opening Remarks
Dr. Francis Cody - Director, Dr. David Chu
Program in Contemporary Asian Studies, Asian Institute

10:15 – 10:55  Industry Panel
Private Sector

Anastasia Belashov - International Travel Trade Manager, Niagara Falls Tourism
Jay Qin - Principal, Sard Verbinnen & Co

10:55 – 11:25  Arts & Media
Atif Khan - Graduate Student; Interdisciplinary Artist; Program Manager, Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival

10:55 – 11:25  Q&A
Moderated by CASSU

11:25 - 11:30  Closing Remarks
Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Day 1: Thursday, January 28, 2021

PUBLIC SECTOR

Hanae Hanzawa
Hanae Hanzawa graduated with an MA in Women and Gender Studies and Collaborative Program in Asia-Pacific Studies from the University of Toronto and is currently working at the Regional Office for South-East Asia of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Bangkok, Thailand. Hanae’s previous experiences include working at various NPOs, the Asia-Europe Foundation, and UNICEF in Canada, Singapore, and Cambodia in the areas of human rights mainstreaming, child protection, torture prevention, HIV/AIDS, and mental health and addiction.

Evan Wiseman
Evan Wiseman leads The Atmospheric Fund’s policy and advocacy work. He has worked for elected officials provincially and federally, and for a government relations firm in Ottawa. Outside of the world of politics, Evan has worked for the Ontario Centres of Excellence supporting its innovation agenda, and as a researcher at the University of Toronto.

Evan holds a Master’s degree in History with the Collaborative Program in Asia-Pacific Studies from the Asian Institute, as well as an Honours Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from the University of Toronto.
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Day 1: Thursday, January 28, 2021

ACADEMIA

Dr. Adam Liu

Adam Liu is a political scientist trained at Stanford University, though he doesn’t believe in disciplinary and methodological boundaries. Three broad questions intrigue him at the moment: The political foundations of markets in autocracies; the economic effects of political tensions between nations; and the spatial organization of coercive institutions in autocracies.


Dr. Joseph McQuade

Joseph McQuade is the Richard Charles Lee Postdoctoral Fellow in the Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy and a former SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for South Asian Studies. He is also Editor-in-Chief at the NATO Association of Canada and Digital Content Manager for the Munk School’s Belt and Road in Global Perspective research initiative. Dr. McQuade is affiliated with the Queen’s University Global History Initiative and with the Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society, and is a Managing Editor of the Journal of Indian Ocean World Studies.
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Day 2: Friday, January 29, 2021

PRIVATE SECTOR

Anastasia Belashov
Anastasia Belashov is an International Travel Trade Manager at Niagara Falls Tourism, Canada. Anastasia’s academic training includes a bachelor’s degree in Asia Pacific Studies, Tel Aviv University (Israel), a Master’s degree in Asia Pacific Studies, Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs, two years of Research Study at the Faculty of Letters, Hokkaido University, and Certificate in Tourism and Environment at Brock University. Anastasia’s work responsibilities at Niagara Falls Tourism involve promotion and marketing of Niagara’s attractions, hotels, restaurants, venues, and other assets to international inbound markets through travel trade channels.

Jay Qin
Prior to joining Sard Verbinnen & Co, Jay Qin was a transactional lawyer with two leading UK international law firms. In his near-decade of legal experience, Jay has advised a variety of clients, including those in the technology, venture capital, private equity, retail, and manufacturing sectors.

Jay graduated with honours from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor’s in Economics, and a Master’s in East Asian Studies with the Collaborative Program Asia-Pacific Studies at the Munk School’s Asian Institute. He also holds a Juris Doctor and Postgraduate Certificate in Laws from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.
Atif Khan

Atif Khan is a researcher, writer, and artist exploring text, image, and curatorial practice. His research-driven practice intersects key themes of war, surveillance, human death, and visual studies. Broadly, he thinks through how the word "violence" is assembled and given power in the material world by connecting objects, language, words, meaning, and a specific set of archives. Khan’s current research investigates militarized drone system operations across the United States, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

He is completing an MA in Human Geography and South Asian Studies at the University of Toronto.
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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