# VIRGINIA CONSORTIUM FOR ASIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE ON ASIANS AND ASIAN AMERICANS IN VIRGINIA

### ASIAN AMERICANS: ETHNIC IDENTITY AND EDUCATION

OCTOBER 27, 1990
JOHN MILLINGTON HALL
COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
WILLIAMSBURG, VA

## Virginia Consortium for Asian Studies Conference on Asians and Asian Americans in Virginia

October 27, 1990
John Millinton Hall
College of William and Mary,
Williamsburg, Virginia

## ASIAN AMERICANS: ETHNIC IDENTITY AND EDUCATION

The Virginia Consortium for Asian Studies, with the support of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy, is sponsoring a day-long VCAS conference/seminar on "Asians and Asian Americans in Virginia" to examine the notion of identity loss and retention in the Asian American ethnic life in America, and to explore innovative ways of integrating cultural heterogeneity into Virginia's education and human service practices.

The seminar, the first of its kind in the Commonwealth, combines the autobiographical, experiential accounts of Asians and Asian Americans with discussions of what these experiences mean for education and public policy development and the much touted but still murky notion of "cultural pluralism" in Virginia.

We would like to invite you to this exciting program to be held at John Millington Hall of the College of William and Mary on Saturday, October 27, 1990.

To many of us, being an American requires having at least two identities, often more: one, that of an American, sharing the common life and contributing to it, and the other, that of one's own particular ethnic background or backgrounds.

Many Asians presently arriving in America find themselves part of a new global community as well — able to go "home" periodically, but also inexorably drawn into American life as their children grow up here and are educated in American ways. For them, living here involves less the total giving up of homeland which many Americans' ancestors faced, than the accommodation of different cultural pressures at different times, and the development of even a third identity — that of the "global nomad."

The subject of arrival and return and its effects on the concept of self, family, and cultural verity is so multifaceted, so emotionally laden, that accounts by third parties cannot do it justice. Thus the morning session will allow Asian Americans to speak not so much as scholars of the humanities, but as human beings living between two worlds and in the process creating a third.

The afternoon session will explore the empirical framework of cultural pluralism in America, defining the interplay of experience and culture in the countless socialization processes of becoming American. We will explore such questions as: To what degree does current education policy, and its enactment in the classroom, reflect Western historical experience with Asia in the last century, and with Asian immigrants? What is the most productive way to bring the fact of immigration and multicultural experiences into Virginia's education, public policies and community organization? What are available

resources and experts in the Commonwealth concerning the issues of Asian Americans and multi-cultural education?

As Virginia finds its borders more permeable than heretofore, and as cultural heterogeneity becomes a way of life in America, we need innovative ways to bring cultural pluralism, as well as the facts of global living, into education, human service practices, and community development. We think this program promises to initiate a dialogue among panelists and participants with diverse ethnic backgrounds and professional experiences, which will continue long after the seminar itself.

For further information contact the 1990 VCAS project director:

Prof. Tomoko Hamada Department of Anthropology College of William and Mary Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 804/221-1060, 1055 FAX 804/221-1066

#### **CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS**

Brad Geisert is professor of history at Randolph-Macon Women's College and Virginia Consortium for Asian Studies president

Томоко Намара, is assistant professor of anthropology at the College of William and Mary, VCAS vice president, and the VCAS 1990 program coordinator.

George J. Hadgopoulos is associate dean of the School of Business Administration, Marymount University, Arlington. He is VCAS secretary and treasurer.

Satoshi Ito is associate professor of sociology at the College of William and Mary, and expert on ethnicity and ethnic relations.

MARIO D. ZAMORA is professor of anthropology at the College of William and Mary. He holds a Ph.D. from Cornell University. He was former dean of the University of the Philippines in Baguio, and is vice president of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences.

Lawrence Marceau is assistant professor of Japanese Language and Literature at the College of William and Mary.

Kim Oang Cook was born in Hanoi, Vietnam, and came to the United States in 1962. She went back to Vietnam, and returned here in 1975 with her American husband. She holds a degree in clinical social work from the University of Tennessee. She is currently executive director of Mutual Assistance Inc., a self-help organizations of refugees.

CHOON Y. CHUNG is executive director of the Korean Center of the Metropolitan Washington YMCA in Alexandria, Virginia. For more than fifteen years, he has been directly involved in the education of Korean youth in Virginia.

ADELINE (LING) NGO was born in the Philippines as a daughter of overseas Chinese. She came to this country in the sixties, and is now president and owner of U-Travel Agency in Williamsburg.

Han K. Song is director of Tri-College Consortium for Courses on Asian Studies Program. He holds a B.A. from Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea, an M.A. in philosophy from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and a PH.D. in sociology from American University. He is professor of sociology at Lynchburg College.

MARY ISRAEL is a second-generation Chinese who hold a M.A. in Asian Studies. She has taught Chinese Civilization both at secondary and university levels, and has organized a number of teachers' workshops for teaching about East Asia.

RAVINDRA KHARE is professor of anthropology at the University of Virginia, and chairman of the International Commission on the Anthropology of Food and Food Problems. He has conducted research on chronic food deficiency and deprivation in India.

MICHIKO WILSON is associate professor of Japanese Language and Japanese Literature at the University of Virginia. Her recent research involves radical feminism in Japanese literature.

ROBERTA CUlbertson is associate director of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy. She grew up overseas, and obtained her Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Virginia. She has taught at Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Virginia, and has been a cross-cultural consultant for five years.

VINSON SUTLIVE is professor of Anthropology at the College of William and Mary.

# THE VIRGINIA CONSORTIUM FOR ASIAN STUDIES (VCAS)

The Virginia Consortium for Asian Studies (VCAS) is a non-profit organization established to promote teaching, scholarship, and public knowledge of Asian cultures and issues in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

#### INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS IN 1989/1990 INCLUDE

Christopher Newport College College of William and Mary Emory Henry College Ferrum College George Mason University Hampden-Sydney College James Madison University Longwood College Lynchburg College Mary Baldwin College Marymount University

Mary Washington College

Old Dominion University
Randolph-Macon College
Randolph-Macon Woman's College
Roanoke College
Roanoke College
Sweet Briar College
Tidewater Community College
University of Richmond
University of Virginia
Virginia Commonwealth
University
Virginia Military Institute
Washington & Lee University

#### ASIANS AND ASIAN AMERICANS IN VIRGINIA

October 27, 1990 Conference Schedule

8:45	Registration/Coffee, John Millington Hall
9:30 - 9:40	Opening Address by VCAS President Brad Geisert
9:40 - 9:50	Welcoming Speech by Dean Clyde Haulman, College of William and Mary
9:50 - 10:50	"Asian Voices I"  Moderator: Tomoko Hamada  Speakers: Kim Oang Cook  Mary Israel

10:50 - 11:05 Coffee Break

11:05 - 11:45 "Asian Voices II"

Speakers: Choon U. Chung

Michiko Wilson

Adeline Ngo

11:45 - 12:00 Panel Discussion with Audience Participation

12:00 - 13:30 Lunch (Dodge Room in Phi Beta Kappa Hall)
(VCAS Business Meeting Duirng Lunch Hour)

 13:30 - 13:40 Speech by Craig Canning Director of Planning and Administration of the Reves Center for International Studies, College of William and Mary (Millington Hall)

13:40 - 15:00 "Asian American Identities and American Education".

Moderator: Ma

Mario Zamora

Panelists: Ro

Roberta Culbertson Han Kyu Song

Mario Zamora

Vinson Sutlive

Discussant: Satoshi Ito

15:00 - 15:15 Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:30 Panel Discussion:

"Future of Ethnic Education in Virginia"

Moderator:

Lawrence Marceau

This conference is supported by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy and is presented as a public service. The principal aim of the program is to discuss in an objective and nonpartisan context issues of concern and interest to citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The views and opinions expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of the Virginia Consortium for Asian Studies or the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.

The Virginia Foundation receives funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and individual and corporation sources. For more information, write or call the Foundation's office at 1939 Ivy Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903, 804/924-3296.

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

VCAS MEETING October 27, 1990

FEES:

REGISTRATION WITH LUNCH \$10.00 REGISTRATION WITHOUT LUNCH \$3.00

NAME:
INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION:
ADDRESS:
TELEPHONE NO.
I will will not attend the luncheon.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM AND A CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO VIRGINIA CONSORTIUM FOR ASIAN STUDIES:

Tomoko Hamada c/o Department of Anthropology College of William and Mary Williamsburg, VA 23185 Department of Anthropology College of William and Mary Williamsburg, VA 23185

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