

Registration opens
3:00pm

Conference DAILY

THURSDAY • MARCH 13, 2025



Image credit: Experience Columbus/Brian Kaiser

WELCOME TO COLUMBUS!

We hope everyone had a safe and comfortable trip to AAS 2025, whether you traveled five miles or five thousand. Speaking of fives ... we have more than 500 sessions scheduled this weekend, will stage five musical performances for your enjoyment, and will screen 23 features and documentaries at the Film Expo. (2+3=5 ... getting that last five took some ingenuity.)

If you're a regular AAS attendee, you're probably used to our claim that each Annual Conference is the biggest and best we've ever organized—until the next year's. But every year, it's true, and 2025 is no different. Thanks to the AAS Board, Councils, Committees, Secretariat staff, Program Committee, and Local Arrangements Committee for making this possible, and thanks to you for contributing to our vibrant Asian Studies community. Enjoy Columbus!

AAS2025 CONFERENCE DAILY NEWSLETTER

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LET'S GET THIS STARTED

If this is your first AAS conference—or first one in a while—please come to our **First-Time Attendee Orientation** at 4:00pm today (Pheoris West, Hilton). AAS staff member **Maura Elizabeth Cunningham** will share some tips for approaching the conference, review the weekend's schedule, and answer your questions.

At 5:00pm, everyone is invited to the **Opening Ceremony** (Grand Ballroom, Hilton), which will feature welcome remarks and a special pansori performance by **Chan E. Park**.

The **Keynote Address**, sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute, will immediately follow the Opening Ceremony. University of Hong Kong professor emeritus **John P. Burns** will speak on the topic of "Authoritarian Shocks: Centralizing Control in and over Hong Kong Since 2020."

Students: don't miss the chance to mix and mingle at the **Graduate Student Reception**, which will start at 8:30pm in the Hyatt, Union A-E (2nd floor).



NEED HELP?

If you have a question or need directions, the AAS Secretariat staff is here to assist you! At AAS 2025, they're easier to find than ever before—just look for the people wearing burgundy fleece jackets with an "Association for Asian Studies" monogram. They'll be happy to lend a hand!

CODE OF CONDUCT

The AAS is committed to inclusion, equity, and respectful treatment of all participants in its programs and seeks to provide a safe and professional atmosphere in which attendees may learn, network, and participate in a welcoming environment of mutual respect. We encourage all AAS 2025 attendees to review the **Code of Conduct**.

New in 2025, the AAS has engaged an Accountability Officer, Paula Brantner, to assist members and attendees with reporting potential AAS Code of Conduct or Anti-Harassment Policy violations that are witnessed or experienced. Any violations of this policy should be confidentially reported to Ms. Brantner using one of the methods of contact on the Code of Conduct webpage.

WELCOME FROM THE LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE



The members of the **Local Arrangements Committee (LAC)** heartily welcome the 2025 Annual Conference to Columbus, Ohio. Aside from Chicago, the only other Midwest cities to host the AAS Annual Conference have been Ann Arbor, Michigan and Cleveland, Ohio—both in the 1950s.

Columbus has various nicknames:

- **Discovery City** — in reference to the explorations of Christopher Columbus, the city's namesake
- **Cap City** — a nod to Columbus being Ohio's state capital
- **Arch City** — for the arches that lit High Street in the 1880s; these were reconstructed in the early 2000s, and you can catch sight of them in the Short North neighborhood, just north of the Greater Columbus Convention Center
- **Cowtown** — a monicker referencing the farm fields next to the classrooms of the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College, which later became The Ohio State University
- and the abbreviated "**Cbus.**"

No matter what you call it, we have various excursions planned for you to take of nearby cultural highlights in our city. There are exhibitions of Asian art and material culture, including the exhibition **The Silk Road**, located in the convention center's Ohio Center B&C Meeting Rooms. **Performances** by artists invited by the LAC will pop up on Friday and Saturday in the foyer of the Union Station Ballrooms. And we will proudly feature **Cleveland DJ "Big Sana"** at the AAS Member Cocktail Reception on Friday evening.

We are excited to extend Midwestern hospitality to the AAS membership and hope many of you will choose to visit again.

Naomi Fukumori (The Ohio State University), LAC chair; **Bradley Clark** (Bowling Green State University); **Ann Marie Davis** (The Ohio State University); **Janice Glowski** (Otterbein University); **Karen Jiobu** (Asian-American Community Services); **Pil Ho Kim** (The Ohio State University); **Mitchell Lerner** (The Ohio State University); **Christina Wei-Szu Burke Mathison** (The Ohio State University); and **Chris White** (The Ohio State University)

EDUCATION ABOUT **ASIA**
TEACHING RESOURCE JOURNAL

**Call for
Proposals**

Spring 2026 Deadline: May 1, 2025



[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN COLUMBUS?

IT WOULD BE A VISIT TO THE SHORT NORTH ARTS DISTRICT BECAUSE IT CAPTURES THE ENERGY, CREATIVITY, AND CULTURE IN ONE VIBRANT AREA. THIS IS A MUST EXPERIENCE FOR ME BECAUSE I THINK THAT IT TRULY DEFINES COLUMBUS. — M.H.

TO MEET THE MOST EXCELLENT PEERS IN THE WORLD!—X.L.

GOOD FOOD! — P.W.

WALKING TRAILS, FOOD, AND ART! — M.N.

IT'S A GREAT CHANCE TO MEET AND CONNECT WITH UNIVERSITY FACULTY, STAFF, LIBRARIANS, AND STUDENTS WHO SHARE AN INTEREST IN ASIAN STUDIES. — S.L.

SHARING THIS CITY, WHICH IS WHERE I LIVE, WITH FELLOW AAS COLLEAGUES. — A.S.

ICE CREAM! — R.P.

IT'S MY FIRST TIME IN COLUMBUS, OH! I LOOK FORWARD TO LOOK AT THE CITY AND ART MUSEUMS. —E.L.

GETTING SOME INSIGHTS TO IMPROVE MY THESIS!— L.L.

THE PANELS! — T.L.

THE BOOK LOFT—Y.W.

I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING NEW FRIENDS AND TRYING OUT NEW RESTAURANTS! —A.O.

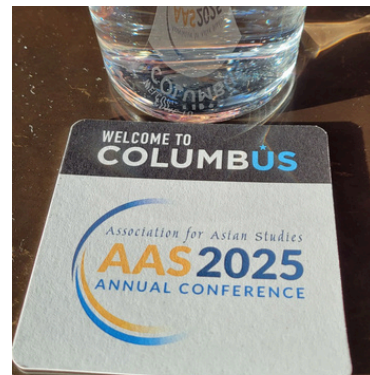
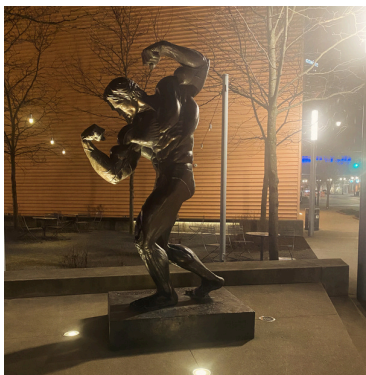
MEETING PEOPLE IN PERSON THAT I ONLY KNOW FROM EMAIL! —R.S.

I HAVE NEVER BEEN TO USA. EXCEPT [FOR] THE CONFERENCE, I AM CURIOUS TO SEE FRANKLIN PARK, ART DISTRICT AND THE FLEA MARKET DOWNTOWN 🍷. I AM PLANNING TO GO THERE WITH MY FRIENDS.—F.M.

Conference DAILY



PHOTOS OF THE DAY



AAS2025 Schedule at a Glance

MORNING

Meetings-in-Conjunction

9:00am - 5:00pm ET

Pre-Conference Workshops

9:30am - 5:00pm ET

Film Expo

11:25am - 5:00pm ET

AFTERNOON

Registration/Coat Check Open

3:00pm - 8:30pm ET

First-Time Attendee Orientation

4:00pm - 4:45pm ET

Opening Ceremony/Keynote Address

5:00pm - 6:30pm ET

Session Block 1

7:00pm - 8:30pm ET

Graduate Student Reception

8:30pm - 9:30pm ET

Tag your conference social-media posts #AAS2025!

PROGRAM CORRECTIONS AND UPDATES

Canceled Sessions

SESSION 2-044: Friday at 9:00 am - Canceled	Pg. 69
SESSION 4-006: Friday at 1:30 pm - Canceled	Pg. 83
SESSION 5-015: Friday at 3:30 pm - Canceled	Pg. 95
SESSION 5-037: Friday at 3:30 pm - Canceled	Pg. 99
SESSION 8-040: Saturday at 2:00 pm - Canceled	Pg. 138
SESSION 9-039: Saturday at 4:00 pm - Canceled	Pg. 148
SESSION 9-040: Saturday at 4:00 pm - Canceled	Pg. 148
SESSION 9-044: Saturday at 4:00 pm - Canceled	Pg. 149
SESSION 12-003: Sunday at 10:45 am - Canceled	Pg. 166



For the most recent updates and real-time notifications, please download the conference mobile app from your app store. **Search for "AAS2025"**