

Asian American Research Journal (AARJ)

Contributors

FACULTY ADVISORS

Dr. Lok Siu (she/her) is a cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies and Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies at UC Berkeley. She is also the Chair of Berkeley's Senate Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate, as well as an affiliated faculty in Anthropology, the Center for Race and Gender, the Center for Chinese Studies, the Center for Latin American Studies, and the Berkeley Food Institute. Her specialization includes Asians in the Americas; belonging and citizenship; comparative and relationship studies of race/gender/class; and the cultural politics of food. She has published four books and volumes, including *Memories of a Future Home: Diasporic Citizenship of Chinese in Panama* (2005), *Asian Diasporas: New Formations, New Conceptions* (2007), *Gendered Citizenships: Transnational Perspectives on Knowledge Production, Political Activism, and Culture* (2009), and *Chinese Diaspora: Its Development in Global Perspective* (2021), as well as numerous articles and book chapters. She is a two-time recipient of the Social Science Book Award from the National Asian American Studies Association. As a regular public speaker at conferences, universities, and other institutions, she also contributes and appears in national and international media, including CNN, NYT, WSJ, Bloomberg, CBS, WNYC, Le Temps, and Spanish Agency EFE, etc. She received her PhD from Stanford University.

Dr. Khatharya Um (she/her) is a political scientist, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. She is also a core faculty of Global Studies, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and the Institute for European Studies at Berkeley. She received her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley where she was also the Chancellor's Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow. Professor Um is a founder of the Critical Refugee Studies Collective. Her research and teaching interests center on Southeast Asia and Southeast Asian American studies, migration and diaspora studies, colonial and postcolonial studies, and peace and conflict studies. She has published extensively on Southeast Asia and Southeast Asian diaspora, including the recent books *From the Land of Shadows: War, Revolution and the Making of the Cambodian Diaspora* and *Southeast Asian Migration: People on the Move in Search of Work, Refuge and Belonging*. She is also actively engaged with issues of equity and inclusion through her research and community advocacy. Her path-breaking research on Southeast Asian Americans, particularly in the areas of education and health disparities, has informed local and national policies and programs. She has also founded and served on the board of a number of refugee-serving organizations. She is a recipient of the prestigious Chancellor's Award for Advancing Institutional Excellence and Equity.

CHIEF EDITORS

Antonia Mou (she/her) is a 2nd year undergraduate student studying Environmental Science, Molecular Environmental Biology, and Public Policy. She is interested in the complex intersection of environmental justice and public health within Asian American communities, and hopes to use her academic research and journalism skills to bring light to varied experiences in the Bay Area. Outside of AARJ, Antonia does advocacy work as an academic caseworker and policy coordinator in the ASUC Student Advocate's Office. In her free time, she can be found hammocking on the Glade, browsing the farmers' market, hiking, or working in her microbiology lab.

Julianne Han (she/her) is a 3rd year undergraduate student at UC Berkeley majoring in English. She has been involved in multiple creative and journalistic projects and currently works as an editor for Berkeley Fiction Review (BFR), a short fiction publication, and Fashion and Student Trends (FAST) as a photographer and a video production assistant. In being involved with both creative and technical writing and multimedia projects, she hopes to uplift stories in her community while exploring identity and cultural dynamics.

EXECUTIVE EDITORS

Vivian Kuang (she/her) is a 3rd year studying Political Economy and Data Science. She is passionate about combating the incarceration of people of color and low-income people, with a particular interest in how this affects Asian American communities and interacts with immigration. She is also interested in ethnic studies education and how it can affect Asian American youth. Outside of AARJ, Vivian is on the Cal Figure Skating Team and teaches on the course staff for the introductory data science course at Berkeley. She also previously worked for the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and The People Lab to conduct research and advocacy relating to incarceration in California. Vivian is super excited and proud of the journal this year, and hopes to continue contributing to the empowerment of the Asian American community at Berkeley and beyond!

Grace Huang (she/her) is a second year majoring in Political Science with minors in Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies and Public Policy. Outside of AARJ, she is involved with various pre-law organizations on campus, and coordinates networking events and legal panels to make the legal field more accessible for marginalized communities. She hopes to obtain a law degree in order to continue doing advocacy and community work after graduation. Grace is especially passionate about expanding access to political education and ethnic studies, as a means of uplifting the voices and empowering the members of the AAPI community.

CHIEF DESIGNER

An Nguyen (she/her) is a 4th year Media Studies Major and Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies minor. During her time at Berkeley, she found passion in mentoring high school students from underserved areas through REACH! Asian Pacific Islander Recruitment and Retention Center. Being a part of the outreach team at REACH! has exposed her to the disparities and flaws within the education system in California as she traveled throughout the Bay Area and Southern California to outreach to high school students about the attainability of higher education. This inspired her to channel her energy into pursuing community work post-graduation and use the experience and knowledge she has gained to advocate for underserved API youth at the policy level.

COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Frances Chai (she/her) is a second year majoring in Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies with a minor in Public Policy. She is also pursuing a Certificate in Asian American Community Health (CAACH). Outside of AARJ, she is vice president of the Social Good Department in Ethical Apparel and a peer coordinator with the PATH to Care Center. Frances is interested in pursuing a career in community health, particularly working with Asian American communities and the destigmatization of mental health.

FINANCE & OPERATIONS CHAIR

Kelly Lam (she/her) is a 4th-year Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies & Data Science double major. She is passionate about the possibilities of storytelling in various mediums, especially literature and documentary photography. She currently works with Eastwind Books of Berkeley, and hopes to continue to serve the Asian American community after graduation.

GENERAL EDITORS

Taylor Huie (she/her) is a first-year student from Los Angeles with an intended double major in Asian American Studies and Chemistry. She has a developing interest in public health and policy, particularly in how health policy shapes queer Asian American communities. As a member of that community, she has adopted a driving principle of defining her identity, believing that truly understanding others can only come from understanding yourself. When she's not working on schoolwork, you can find Taylor in the ballet or hip hop studio, reading on the grass, or folding paper stars and cranes!

Justine Mei (she/her) is a 4th year studying Political Science. Having grown up in San Francisco, she grew interested in the variety of Asian American experiences. She is passionate about human rights and government impacts on local communities. Prior to Asian American

Research Journal, she has experience with Political Research and has interned at US Agency for International Development. She looks forward to seeing how Asian American Research Journal will continue to grow.

Crystal Song (she/her) is a 4th-year PhD candidate in Performance Studies at UC Berkeley. Her research explores model minority feelings in Asian American dance communities and popular culture. Outside of school, she is also a nationally ranked competitive ballroom dancer.

Olivia Tai (she/her) is a 4th year undergraduate student majoring in American Studies and minoring in journalism and public policy. Her area of concentration is race, class, and social change and she is passionate about Asian American history and civil rights. In her free time, she enjoys music, politics, art, and photography.

AUTHORS

Natalie Yee Chu (she/her) is a 4th year student studying architecture with a minor in global poverty and practice. Natalie is a first-generation college student from Oakland, CA and the daughter to Cantonese immigrants. First out of personal interest, Natalie has engaged with several Southeast Asian and Asian Diaspora studies courses throughout her undergraduate education, including having Southeast Asia as her focus region in her global poverty minor. Her current work experiences and career trajectory focus on affordable housing, public service, and community-building in historically divested neighborhoods.

Jishan Jiang (she/her) is a 1st year undeclared, intending to study Data Science as well as Ethnic Studies. She is very interested in exploring digital humanities and the application of quantitative methods toward social sciences.

Sammy Wu (he/him) is a 4th year studying Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies and Psychology and minoring in Education. Sammy has coordinated and interned in REACH!, exploring his interest in educational-based advocacy. He is interested in Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies centers on identity and how it impacts individuals and communities.

Ruhao (Irene) Pang (she/her) is a 3rd year student double-majoring in Sociology and Media studies with a concentration in Media Law & Policy at UC Berkeley. Her research focuses on racial justice, political sociology, public policy, and global health. Paying attention to the intersection of race and gender, she explores the Asian female community in higher education, including college major choice(s). She also compares how affirmative action as a public policy that represents class mobility is represented in left-leaning and right-leaning media discourse through intensive content analysis. Methodologically, she employs qualitative methods, particularly in-depth interviewing. For her career goal, she is passionate about starting by

applying for a public policy graduate school. She hopes to be a change-maker to make feasible social changes to reduce inequality and promote justice for the public good.

Jaide Lin (she/they) is a 4th year studying Environmental Economics and Policy and Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies. She is a coordinator for MOVE: Asian American Community Organizing Fellowship and a program fellow at Southeast Asian and Asian American women's health nonprofit Banteay Srei.

Vivian Kuang (she/her) is a 3rd year studying Political Economy and Data Science. She is passionate about combating the incarceration of people of color and low-income people, with a particular interest in how this affects Asian American communities and interacts with immigration. She is also interested in ethnic studies education and how it can affect Asian American youth. Outside of AARJ, Vivian is on the Cal Figure Skating Team and teaches on the course staff for the introductory data science course at Berkeley. She also previously worked for the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and The People Lab to conduct research and advocacy relating to incarceration in California. Vivian is super excited and proud of the journal this year, and hopes to continue contributing to the empowerment of the Asian American community at Berkeley and beyond!

Kiều Minh Anh (she/her) is pursuing her Master of Engineering in Bioengineering and just recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute with minors in Bioinformatics and Philosophy. In her essays, Minh Anh pursues the lifelong existential question of “What does it mean for us to be here?” How do we make sense of our histories, cultures, and identities, and thus, what is our legacy as a queer Asian woman, a Vietnamese alien, a biomedical engineer, and most importantly, our parents’ child? For her essay “Insiders, Outsiders, and In-Between: Asian Nonimmigrant Experience in the American Context of Intersectional Racism,” she won the Class of 1879 Prize for Outstanding Projects in the Humanities. She received an Honorable Mention of the Wilmer L. and Margaret M. Kranich Prize later on, which honors students majoring in engineering or science who best exemplify excellence in the humanities and arts and the integration of these disciplines into their undergraduate experience.

Jio Park (she/her) is a 3rd year undergraduate student majoring in Cognitive Science and minoring in Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies. She recently spent a semester abroad at Korea University in Seoul, during which she studied Korean language and history.