



ASIAN FORUM 2017

April 14, 2017

Sangren Hall

Western Michigan University



Sponsored by:

Diether H. Haenicke Institute for Global Education

with

Confucius Institute at WMU | Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies | Soga Japan Center



Prof. Dr. Jeffrey Angles

Winner of Yomiuri Prize for Literature

Department of World Languages and Literatures, WMU

Jeffrey ANGLES (1971-) is a poet, translator, and professor of Japanese literature at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

His collection of original Japanese-language poetry *Watashi no hizukehenkōsen* (My International Date Line), published by Shichōsha in 2016, won the highly coveted Yomiuri Prize for Literature, an honor accorded to only a few non-native speakers since the award began in 1949. He is the first American ever to win the Yomiuri Prize for a book of poetry.

His work as a scholar of modern Japanese literature and cultural history is visible in numerous publications and articles written in both English and Japanese. Most important among these are the monographs *Writing the Love of Boys* (University of Minnesota Press) and *These Things Here and Now: Poetic Responses to the March 11, 2011 Disasters* (Josai University).

In addition, he has published dozens of translations of Japan's most important modern authors and poets. He believes strongly in the role of translators as activists, and much of his career has focused on the translation into English of socially engaged, feminist, or queer writers. Among his numerous book-length translations are *Forest of Eyes: Selected Poems of Tada Chimako* (University of California Press), *Killing Kanoko: Selected Poems of Itō Hiromi* (Action Books), *Wild Grass on the Riverbank* by Itō Hiromi (Action Books), and *Twelve Views from the Distance* by Mutsuo Takahashi (University of Minnesota Press). His most recent translation is an annotated, critical edition of the modernist classic *The Book of the Dead* by Orikuchi Shinobu (University of Minnesota Press).

His translation of Tada Chimako won both the U.S.-Japan Friendship Commission Prize for the Translation of Japanese Literature and the Landon Translation Prize from the American Academy of Poets. He has also won competitive grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the PEN Club of America.

Conference Committee

Dr. Ying Zeng, Haenicke Institute for Global Education, WMU

Dr. Wei-chiao Huang, Department of Economics, WMU

The **Haenicke Institute for Global Education** supports the global engagement of Western Michigan University. Institute staff work closely with the International Education Council of the WMU Faculty Senate, as well as with international education committees and projects within and across colleges. The institute includes an intensive English program—CELCIS, international admissions and immigration services, study abroad services, Fulbright and national scholarship advising and support, and offers regular programming on campus and throughout the community. Additionally, the institute is home to four research centers and institutes: Center for African Policy Development Research; Confucius Institute at WMU; Soga Japan Center; and, the Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies.

The **Timothy Light Center for Chinese Studies** serves as a focal point to enhance scholarship in Chinese studies at WMU and to disseminate China-related knowledge and understanding to the public. The Center was founded by private donations in honor of Dr. Timothy Light, an internationally renowned Sinologist, to recognize his lifetime achievements and commitment to advancing Chinese studies.

WMU Soga Japan Center, established in 2006, is committed to promoting knowledge of Japan to WMU and the community. The Center is named after the late Dr. Michitoshi Soga, WMU professor emeritus of physics, who worked tirelessly for nearly three decades to build a network of connections between WMU and Japan. The Center regularly brings scholars, artists, and writers to campus to give Japan-related lectures, demonstrations, and readings to students, faculty, and the surrounding community.

The **Confucius Institute at WMU** was established at WMU in 2009 in partnership with Beijing Language and Culture University and the Chinese Language Council International (Hanban). It provides Chinese language and cultural studies opportunities for regional K-12 schools, local business, and the community, and supports the Chinese language program at WMU.



Sangren Hall, WMU



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PROGRAM

8:30 – 9 a.m.

Registration and Continental Breakfast 

9 – 9:40 a.m.

Plenary Session - Room 1710 

1. Welcoming Remarks
Dr. Tim Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, WMU
2. Crossing the International Date Line, the International Date Line Crosses Me
Dr. Jeffrey Angles, Winner of Yomiuri Prize for Literature, Professor,
Department of World Languages and Literatures, WMU

10:30 a.m. – noon

Concurrent Session:

A. Art, Culture and Society - Room 1710

1. Confucius Institute: Window, Bridge, and Platform
Wenfang Sun, Chinese Director, Confucius Institute, WMU
2. Making About Place: A Mobile Studio in China
Patrick D. Wilson, Assistant Professor, Gwen Frostic School of Art, WMU
3. Examining Upward Mobility for Internal Migrants in Shanghai's Urban Renewal Neighborhoods
Jacob Watkins, Graduate Student, Department of Geography, WMU
4. Cassava Yield Prediction in South China based on CMIP5 future climate scenarios
Laiyin Zhu, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, WMU
5. The Making of an Epidemic: Hemophilia and AIDS in Japan
Frederick Jordan, Student, Department of History, WMU

B. Current Scholarship on South Asia Across Languages, Perspectives, and Time - Room 1720

1. Tugging on Loose Ends in Pali Buddhist Commentarial Literature
Carol Anderson, Professor, Department of Religion, Kalamazoo College
2. Hierarchy and Delight in Eighteenth-Century Urdu and Persian Literature
Nathan Tabor, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Religion and History, WMU
3. Nineteenth Century Hindu Devotional Epistemology
Abhishek Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Liberal Studies and Religious Studies, Grand Valley State University
4. Poetics, Politics, Praxis: Anticolonial Movements in South Asia and Kazi Nazrul Islam
Azfar Hussain, Associate Professor, Liberal Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies,
Grand Valley State University
5. Contesting Competition and Efficiency as Neoliberal Imperatives: Market Structures in the Solid Waste
Collection Industry in Urban India
Aman Luthra, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Kalamazoo College

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Lunch Workshop - Room 1710



Research Opportunities Involving Asia

Dr. Sherine Obare, Associate Vice President for Research, WMU

1:10 – 2:50 p.m.

Individual Presentations - Room 1710

1. Engineering and Science Study in China
Dewei Qi, Professor, Department of Chemical and Paper Engineering, WMU
2. How Should We Adapt/Develop Technologies to Enable Construction Automation?
Jiansong Zhang, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil and Construction Engineering, WMU
3. Social Identity, Eating Patterns, and the Subjective Well-Being of Chinese Adolescents:
A Moderated Mediation Model
Hong, Zhu, Senior Lecturer of Northeast Normal University,
Visiting Scholar at Haworth School of Business, WMU.
4. Measuring Real Business Condition in China
Ping Liu, Ph.D student of Sun Yat-Sen University, Visiting Scholar at the Department of Economics, WMU
5. China and Africa Engagement: Non-Zero Sum Game of Economic and Political Collaboration
Sisay Asefa, Professor,
Department of Economics and Center for African Development Policy Research, WMU

3 p.m.

Adjourn