

INFUSION NEWS: DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

A bi-quarterly newsletter to South faculty from AANAPISI's Cultural Specialist

AANAPISI will produce a limited series of newsletters with curriculum content and updates to reach more faculty the spring quarter.



Author Robert Shimabukuro (center) at the Day of Remembrance, 2016.

Japanese American incarceration history: On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, an unjust act in response to the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. South Seattle College is home to a small number of Japanese American staff and students, but the magnitude of the incarceration has impacted many, including current *Nisei* staff Teri Nakashima, Marcia Kato, Teresa Yamada, Lyanne Asada O'Connell and many others, including our students, many of whom consider themselves third generation or *Sansei* Japanese Americans. Some of them had divergent family experiences, including Lyanne, whose family in Hawaii did not get incarcerated, but her family on the West Coast was sent to multiple different prison camps (at the time of this publication, Lyanne has accepted a new position at Seattle Central College).

This year, we invited **Robert Sadamu Shimabukuro, author of *Born in Seattle: The Campaign for Japanese American Redress*, UW Press (2000)** to speak on campus. In both sessions, we had 210 students, staff, and faculty join us for the lecture. Thanks to Cultural Center, Student Leadership, and AANAPISI for working on this event. We hope that South will keep the tradition of honoring the Day of Remembrance (Feb 19) and making visible the connections between history and present day racial animosity towards Muslim American communities in a post-September 11 world. This newsletter will highlight curriculum to coincide with Day of Remembrance activities.

This newsletter is available electronically at the Cultural Specialist homepage, <http://www.southseattle.edu/programs/aanapisi/culture-tips.aspx> for PDF download.



**Asian American
Native American Pacific Islander
SERVING INSTITUTION**
South Seattle College

Issue 1 No. 2 March/April 2016

In this issue:

- Day of Remembrance at South
- Meet Student Success Specialist Simon Boonsripaisal
- Race/ethnicity data collection
- Meet Randy Nelson, librarian
- Upcoming AANAPISI events for Spring quarter 2016

Edited by Mytoan Nguyen-Akbar, PhD

Cultural Specialist FAQs

The federally funded AANAPISI grant allows all FT and PT academic transfer and professional/technical faculty to book a consultation with a cultural specialist.

Q: What are the learning outcomes for working with a Cultural Specialist?

A: This newsletter presents ways for faculty to infuse South courses or teaching approaches with cultural content to help boost student engagement, retention, and success.

Q: Will there be a web version?

A: Yes, this newsletter and other tips will be archived online at <http://www.southseattle.edu/programs/aanapisi/culture-tips.aspx>

Q: What services are available for faculty, who are already very busy with teaching and service?

A: Increasing student engagement in the classroom is my priority in working with you. I am available for one-on-one meetings, to evaluate your syllabus, phone appointments, and guest lectures to model curriculum. I also learn a lot by working with faculty who already do this type of cultural infusion work.

Q: What is the best way to get in touch?

A: Please call 206-934-6888 or email Mytoan Nguyen-Akbar at Mytoan.Nguyen-Akbar@seattlecolleges.edu

Curriculum Infusion at South

Classroom Visits with Mytoan

February 2016

- **Janet Kapp's** Health 125 students watched the mini-version of the documentary film, *A Village Called Versailles* (2010), and Mytoan Nguyen-Akbar co-facilitated a discussion around environmental justice, race, and stratification.
- Students in courses with **Mike McCrath**, **Allen Stowers**, **Dorienne Chinn**, **Jihad Othman**, **Jon Nachman** came together to hear author **Robert Shimabukuro** speak at South about the national redress efforts by Japanese Americans in Seattle to get justice for their incarceration during WWII on February 18.
- For Day of Remembrance, **Jihad Othman** screened the documentary film *Conscience and the Constitution* (2000) with American political science course.
- **Mike McCrath's** mother kept an original copy of the Executive Order that called for all people of Japanese descent to evacuate in February 1942, first reporting to an office on Rainier Ave in South Seattle. We featured this with the Day of Remembrance exhibit in the library in February.

March 2016

- **Marc Barrington's** English 105 watched a clip created by the Southeast Asian Men's group about model minority stereotypes and inclusion, followed by a co-facilitated discussion about race relations.
- I invited myself to drop by **Mike Thompson's** American history of the 20th Century class to watch the documentary *Vietnam Perspective* (1985),



Staff at South came by for the sold-out Hawaiian themed lunch buffet at Alki Café, Feb 4. Pictured above: Simon, Dan, Jena, Kat, and Christian.



Book Display: Japanese American incarceration during World War II

During February/March, Librarian **Pamela Wilkins** and the AANAPISI Program collaborated on a book display featuring works on the Japanese American experience of mass imprisonment during World War II. New books in the display were:

- Shimabukuro, Mira, *Relocating Authority: Japanese Americans Writing to Redress Mass Incarceration* (Nikkei in the Americas 1st Edition), 2016.
- Reeves, Richard, *Infamy: The Shocking Story of the Japanese American internment during World War II*, 2015.

Densho is an online digital archive on Japanese Americans, with a focus on documenting the internment during WWII, please check it out! <http://www.densho.org/>

Please get in touch with Mytoan for assistance on integrating these materials into classroom assignments. Thank you to our Librarians for their ongoing assistance!

Student Success Specialist

Simon Boonsripaisal is the AANAPISI Student Success Specialist at South Seattle College. Born and raised in Tacoma, WA, Simon identifies as a Thai American and Theravada Buddhist. His position at South has been a dream to work in academic advising and student life to give back to students who identify with him and are unfamiliar with college. Since South includes a significant number of opportunity, immigrant, first-generation, veteran, and re-entry Southeast Asian students within its campus community, Simon hopes faculty will embed mentoring and leadership opportunities into their curriculum for students to become independent thinkers and problem solvers.

Student Development Theories which have influenced Simon include Astin's Theory of Involvement, Tinto's Theory, and King and Kitchener's Reflective Judgement Model.

Simon comes to South with a great deal of direct student service experience, most recently from Pierce College at Joint Base Lewis-McChord where he served as an Outreach Advisor working with prospective, current and returning students. Simon also worked at Clover Park Technical College in their Opportunity Grant and BFET office working directly with students seeking services. He holds a BA in Political Economy from UW Tacoma, where he also served as a Student Services Peer Advisor, and a M.Ed. in Higher Education from Central Washington University, where he served as a Student Ambassador Intern and conducted a study on social media presence at CWU-Westside Centers.

Simon's **educational film picks** include Vincent Who? (2009), Anna May Wong: In her Own Words (2013), Win. Lose. Forgive. (2013), Linsanity (2013), Cambodian Son (2014), and Pacific Warriors (2015).



Student Success Specialist Simon Boonsripaisal works at the AANAPISI Center.

Past Events

- Our Hawaiian buffet on Feb 4 at Alki Café was a hit, with trivia and prizes. Thanks to **Darrel Tsukiji** at Culinary Arts for the collaboration. It was sold out.
- The Mentorship mixer with **Bob Dela-Cruz, Algie Au, and Rosie Rimando** was attended by 36 students, staff, and faculty. Thanks to baking and pastry for tailoring our appetizer menu to our budget, and **Monica Lundberg** a Student Leadership for the collaboration.
- USA and AANAPISI students went to **Wing Luke Museum** on Mar 10 for an interpretive tour by **John Eklof** about AAPI history in Seattle.

Upcoming in April and May:

- A four part **AANAPISI Friday film series** will happen in spring quarter. Screenings will be followed by critical discussion about the themes of intersectionality in each film. Look out for our flyer for film details or contact Mytoan Nguyen-Akbar at 934-6888.
- For South's **"Empowerment Series"** we will have a social justice and community organizing /nonprofit careers panel on Tues, April 19, JMB A, 1:00-2:30pm. Please be in touch with Mytoan or Monica Lundberg for information.
- **New Classes!** Spring Quarter, **Bob Dela-Cruz** is teaching Asian American Literature (Eng 206Z). **Mike Tuncap** is teaching Pacific Islander Cultures (Anthro 227) on MW 6:00-8:20pm
- **Civic Engagement** workshop at South with Asian Pacific Islander Coalition and White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAPI) on May 18th, please contact **Jena Yang** at ext. 5221 to see if your class can be involved (we are looking for 3 instructors to partner with and space is limited).



USA and AANAPISI Students went to the Wing Luke Museum with our staff. Tour was led by John Eklof at the Culture Center.

More Infusion News

Race/Ethnicity Data Collection and Small N-size Reporting

As a sociologist, I was trained on the importance of evidence-based decision driven by rigorous qualitative and quantitative data collection and methods. We know that efforts on data collection about racial and ethnic communities and LGBTQ self-identified populations are a sensitive matter that is restricted by certain state guidelines on reporting to protect vulnerable populations.

Did you also know that by state law, officials cannot report data that has less than ten individuals in each category? We apologize that in a previous newsletter edition, we did not know the strict guidelines. Now we do thanks to **Naina Eshwar** in the Office of Planning and Research at South Seattle College. Though the data quality about Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders at South can be improved, here is what Naina was able to provide us, disaggregated by large, reportable subgroups for 2015-2016:

Vietnamese 550	American Filipino 224	Chinese/Tibetan 285
Korean 54	Japanese 46	Pacific Islander 85
Native Hawaiian 17		

Data on Asian Indian, Cambodia, Laotian, Samoan, Taiwanese, Thai, and Tongan populations at South were deemed too small to report. Interpretation of the data matters, and I am still curious why additionally, 274 students fell under a separate "Asian" category and wonder whether this was the default response reported by multiracial Asian and Pacific Islanders. Lastly, the above figures merged domestic and international students together (stay tuned for future cross-tabulations that separate the two).

Please read the **National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education Report** for a detailed discussion about why data disaggregation matters: <http://capaa.wa.gov/>

Appreciation for Lyanne O'Connell, Financial Literacy Specialist

We'd like to thank Lyanne O'Connell for her service to South and to AANAPISI as a financial literacy specialist. Lyanne accepted the position of Scholarships Manager at Seattle Central College. Colleagues threw a farewell party and we know Lyanne will continue to impress her new colleagues with her knowledge of financial literacy and cultural competency in funding first generation and non-traditional college students. South will always be your Ohana!



Did you know?

The documentary film, **Conscience and the Constitution (2000)**, features the story of the "No No" boys who resisted answering two survey questions during the Japanese American incarceration that they felt violated their rights as citizens, which paints a different narrative from the focus on the 442nd infantry regiment who served in World War II. Two of South's own, **Kali Kuwada's** grandfather, Kazuo Kuwada, and **Teri Nakashima's** uncle, Pancho Nakashima and other relatives, were also featured in the documentary.



Day of Remembrance Ansel Adams display of Manzanar photos, which were made "fair use." Randy Nelson, librarian, arranged the set up.

Space for Reflection at South

You can tell that we are a big fan of South's Librarians, the institutional holders of knowledge flows. For Day of Remembrance at South, the planning committee had an idea to reproduce photographer Ansel Adams' black and white prints of life at Manzanar incarceration camp during World War II. **Yuki Tamura-Vanier** at AANAPISI made printed copies and **Mytoan Nguyen-Akbar** and **Randy Nelson** put on the display in the Library Exhibition space. The Library Display area together with the display cases, which usually feature books, are available to campus entities. Here's a bit more about the exhibit space and Randy.

Randy Nelson, Librarian / Photography Instructor:

I have managed the Library exhibit space since 1982. The Library has had exhibit space when the Robert Smith Building was constructed in 1977. Since then, we have functioned as an art gallery and display space. Exhibits have been designed by the Library often in collaboration with other campus entities. We have brought in exhibits from near and far.

For Black History month, for example, we produced a show "Seattle's Black Victorians" in association with author Esther Mumford. **Monica Lundberg** and I produced a show featuring portraits of South Seattle African Americans. I enlisted photography students to produce an ethnographic show inspired by Kip Fulback's work "Hapa". We have been a venue for locally produced shows such as the John Stamet's project "Alaskeros" portraits of Filipino Alaska cannery workers, "Peoples of Washington," and "World of Sichuan's Children." We have worked with the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance in presenting a show on campus and collaborated with the **Art Gallery** on shows such as "Material World". In cooperation with the Fram Museum in Oslo, Norway, we brought in "Cold Recall" in commemoration of the Amundson South Polar expedition.