CALL FOR PAPERS:
THE THIRD WORLD LIBERATION FRONT MOVEMENTS AT 50: SCHOLAR ACTIVISM IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Asian American Studies Research Symposium
March 23, 2018 with keynote speaker Dr. Jan M. Padios at CAHI, 10a to 1p

Submissions due by: Monday, February 26th, 2018
Submit your proposal to aasp@indiana.edu

Each year, we highlight AAS-related work in a research symposium. We are therefore seeking 10-15 minute presentation proposals from faculty members and undergraduate/graduate students who can provide creative reflections or research-based ideas situated in the field of AAS.

We invite work from all disciplines that speak broadly to Asian- and Pacific Islander American experiences. There is neither a minimum requirement nor a maximum limit for the proposal submission.
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Asian American Studies owes its existence to the activism carried out by the Third World Liberation Front (TWLF), a multi-racial coalition of student groups from San Francisco State University and UC Berkeley that pushed for radical changes in higher education between the years of 1968-1969 and beyond. Students challenged the hegemony of Eurocentric curriculum in schools and demanded “a relevant education” that included the diverse experiences and histories of people of color in the United States told from their perspectives. Student protesters demanded representation of minority faculty, admission increases of students from under-represented backgrounds, and equitable financial and academic assistance, just to name a few of the important material resources.

2018 marks the fifty-year anniversary since the genesis of Asian American Studies as an interdisciplinary field, dedicated to the history, art, and culture of Asian Americans and the contemporary issues faced by these communities. Importantly, it is also the ten-year anniversary of Indiana University’s own Asian American Studies program. This timely milestone opens opportunity to take a critical lens on the state of Asian American Studies in the present day.

We therefore propose the following questions for this year’s AAST Research Symposium:

• What is the role of Asian American Studies and Ethnic Studies in the current political climate?
• How do we as scholars “imagine” and do justice? In what ways does our work intersect with the fields of Asian American Studies and Ethnic Studies and serve communities?
• What is the state of coalition-building between disparate communities?
• How can we understand the framing and function of Asian American Studies and Ethnic Studies in college courses at predominantly white institutions?