

## **Editorial Foreword**

With a new editorial team, this issue opens a new phase in the history of *Studies on Asia*, an interdisciplinary journal sponsored by the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, a regional chapter of the world's largest scholarly organization in the field, the Association for Asian Studies. As we welcome manuscripts on any and all aspects of Asia by authors with diverse backgrounds and in different stages of professional development, this first volume of Series V offers new and exciting opportunities to engage Asia through inquiries on a variety of topics across time and place.

The new features in this issue include: highlights from the 2015 MCAA meeting (Presidential Panel Notes on print culture in China, Hegel and Chow), an MCAA award winning paper (junior undergraduate Middleler on postwar Japanese tourism), "Asianists in the Midwest" that reflects on the legacies of distinguished scholars in the region (Nancy Abelmann), and "Research Notes" that introduces rare primary source materials from a particular region in Asia (Truong). The research articles and reviews present diverse yet interconnected topics ranging from a comparative textual analysis of the representation of women in pre-modern Korean and Chinese texts (Cho), a Korea-born samurai's strategies for social mobility seen through an autobiography in early modern Japan (Nelson), and the nexus of imperialist expansionism and altruism in a pan-Asianist Japanese organization in China (Gates), to critical reviews of recent works on female domestic workers in Pakistan, forgotten armies in the Vietnam War, and a new consumer ideology in China (Cheema, Guelcher, and Harkness, respectively).

In preparation for this issue, I had the great privilege to work with my associate and book review editors, editorial assistant, editorial board members, and the tech team at Eastern Illinois University. Looking back with sincere gratitude for our predecessor's dedication to the journal, my editorial team offers what follows while kowtowing to you all, our contributors, anonymous reviewers, and readers on whom *Studies on Asia* stands. – JJJ