

**Friday, March 23, 2018**

<b>5:00 – 8:00 pm</b>	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> <b>Pickford Auditorium</b> <b>Reception</b> <b>Founder’s Room, Bauer North</b>
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**Saturday, March 24, 2018 Pickford Auditorium, Bauer South**

<b>8:15 – 8:55 am</b>	<b>Registration</b>
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**9:00 am - 10:30am – SASA Concurrent Sessions 3, Bauer South**

<b>Panel 1A: Education in South Asia: Past, Present and Future</b>	Bauer Center Room 23	Chair: Nita Kumar, Claremont McKenna College
Susan Seymour, Pitzer College: <b>Going Out to School: The Impact of Girls’ Education on Family and Gender System in Bhubaneswar, India.</b>		
Carol C. Mukhopadhyay, San Jose State University: <b>Family Matters: Understanding Educational Choices and Gendered science in India.</b>		
Rachel C. Fleming, Colorado College: <b>“If you have education, you have everything”: Multigenerational attitudes towards women’s education in Bangalore, India.</b>		
Nita Kumar, Claremont McKenna College: <b>The hidden curriculum in Indian education, 1985 to the present.</b>		

<b>Roundtable I B: Samkhya and Accounting for the Real</b>	Bauer Center Room 24	Moderator: Christopher Key Chapple, Loyola Marymount College
Mikel Burley, University of Leeds		
Marzenna Jakubczak, Jagellonian University		
Ana Funes, Eastern Connecticut State University		

<b>Panel 1 C: Asian Art History: Reverberations in South Asia and Beyond</b>	Bauer Center Room 25	Chair: Ingrid Aall, Professor Emirati, California State University, Long Beach
Punam Madhok, East Carolina University: <b>Contemporary Embroidery of India: Tradition, Revival, and Globalization.</b>		
Nalini Rao, Soka University of America: <b>Archaeology and Community Identity: The Case of Siddhapur in Western India.</b>		
Deepak Shimkhada, Claremont School of Theology: <b>Womb: The Creative Genesis of Sushma Shimkhada.</b>		
Miroj Shakya, University of the West: <b>Arniko's Legacy and its Influence on the Buddhist Art in China.</b>		

**10:30 – 10:45 am Coffee Break, Bauer South**

<b>10:45 – 12:15 pm – SASA Concurrent Session 4 Bauer South</b>		
<b>Panel 2A: China Pakistan Economic Corridor: Economic and Geostrategic Implications,</b>	Bauer Center Room 23	Chair: Vandana Asthana, Eastern Washington University
Murad Ali, German Development Institute/ Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), Bonn, Germany: <b>Is China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a form of South-South Cooperation?</b>		
Iram Naseer Ahmed, University of Lahore, Punjab Pakistan: <b>Building the Nation and Regional Stability, Constructing the Infrastructure: CPEC, Benefits, Apprehensions and Future.</b>		
Ashok Chandra Shukla, Independent Scholar, New Delhi, India: <b>South Asian Perspectives on China Pakistan Economic Corridor.</b>		

<b>Panel 2 B: Improving Outcomes through Pedagogical Innovations in the United States and South Asia</b>	Bauer Center Room 24	Chair: Purnima Bhatt, Hood College
Adam Pave, San Bernardino Valley College: <b>Teaching the Moral Issues of World Hunger.</b>		
Mayuri Deka, University of the Bahamas: <b>Re-visioning Stereotypes in the Multi-Ethnic Literature Classroom: Bias and the South-Asian body.</b>		
JoAnne Pandey, Cal. State. University, Northridge: <b>Preliminary Results from a Classroom-Based Writing Therapy Intervention to Help Students Cope with the Psychological Impact of the Gorkha Earthquake in Nepal.</b>		
Rhea Handa, Scripps College, Claremont: <b>A Lesson in Learning: Improving Learning Outcomes in India via Pedagogical Innovation.</b>		

<b>Panel 2 C: Understanding the Glocal, Hybrid and Identity Politics in South Asia</b>	Bauer Center Room 25	Chair: Susan Seymour, Pitzer College
Agata Joanna Lagiewka, National University of Ireland: <b>Wealth, Poverty and the Attraction of Beauty in India.</b>		
Sayanti Mondal, Illinois State University: <b>Picturing Experience: The Performing of Transnational Identity in <i>The London Jungle Book</i>.</b>		
Isha Jain, The University of British Columbia: <b>Dreaming of a Lost Home: Identity, Memory and Trauma amongst the Kashmiri Pandits.</b>		
Young Hoon Oh, University of California, Riverside: <b>Himalayan Ambassador: The Rise of Ethnic Sherpa through Mountain Tourism.</b>		
Anita Razin, Third Street Writers: <b><i>Lost Time</i>: Narrative Analysis.</b>		

<b>Panel 2 D: Buddhism, Monasticism and Yoga</b>	Bauer Center Room 22	Chair, Bradley Clough, University of Montana
Wijitha Bandara, Salt Lake Community College: <b>Ideals of Virtue in Monasticism.</b>		

Khang Bao Nguyen, Claremont Graduate University: **Unbounded Wholeness and Emptiness.**

Leslie Roth, Claremont School of Theology: **Fifty Shades of Yoga.**

Veena Howard, California State University, Fresno: **Vaishnava Devotionalism and Gandhi's *Ahimsa*: A Method of Love and Compassion for All Beings.**

**LUNCHEON 12.30-1.30pm**

**Fireside Chat with Mukesh Aghi President US-India Strategic Partnership Forum  
1.15-2.00 pm  
McKenna Auditorium**

**PLENARY SESSION 1: HIGHER EDUCATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP/CROSS  
BORDER ALLIANCES**

**2:00pm - 3:15 pm  
McKenna Auditorium**

**Coffee Break 3:15 – 3:30pm**

**3.30-5pm SASA Concurrent Session 3 Bauer South**

<b>Panel 3A: Voices of Women: Marginalization, Empowerment and Resilience</b>	Bauer Center Room 23	Chair: Carol Mukhopadhyay, San Jose State University
Purnima Mehta Bhatt, Hood College: <b>An Exploration of Spirit Possession in India: Marginalization or Empowerment of Women?</b>		
Kohsheen Sharma, Scripps College: <b>Voices of Women: The Impact of Women's Political Reservations on Female Child Mortality in India.</b>		
Bidyut Mohanty, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi, India: <b>Lakshmi the Rebel: Cultural Symbol of Status of Women in An Agrarian Economy.</b>		
Kuldeep Singh, IIHS, H.P. University Shimla, India: <b>Village Deity Tradition in the Himalayas- Case Study of Shimla Hills of Himachal Pradesh.</b>		

<b>Roundtable 3B: Samkhya and Accounting for the Real</b>	Bauer Center Room 24	Moderator: Christopher Key Chapple, Loyola Marymount College
Geoff Ashton, University of San Francisco		
Christopher Miller, University of California, Davis		
Al Collins, Independent scholar		
Christopher Key Chapple, Loyola Marymount University		

<b>Panel 3C: Religious Philanthropy, Inter-civilizational Understanding and Challenges of Civil Society in India and South Asia</b>	Bauer Center Room 25	Chair: Ashok Chandra Shukla, Eco Friends, India
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Kuldeep Singh, Nanak Sadan Sikh Temple: **Sikh Langar - A Philanthropic Model for Food Insecurity.**

Nitin Shah, Loma Linda University: **Compassion in Action.**

Durgesh Kasbekar, Independent Scholar, Canada: ***Agar Ab Bhi Na Jage to and Khudabaksh Oriental Public Library: Milestones in Inter-Civilizational Understanding in India.***

Muthusami Kumaran, University of Florida: **The Stifling of Civil Society in South Asia: Weak Governance, Rise of Special Interests, and Restrictive Regulatory Frameworks.**

**Panel 3D: Caste and Social Justice**

Bauer Center Room 22

Chair: David Blundell,  
University of California, Los Angeles

Pradnya Garud, Independent Scholar: **Space, Caste, and Disasters.**

Ravikiran Shinde, University of Arizona: **Lack of Diversity in South Asia's Biggest Film Industry.**

Suraj Yengde, Harvard University: **The Genre of Neo-Dalit Identity**

**PLENARY SESSION 2: NGOS, NON-PROFITS AND PHILANTHROPY**  
**5:00pm – 6:15 pm**  
**Pickford Auditorium**

**Cocktail Reception 6:30 – 7:15 pm**  
**McKenna Lobby**

**Banquet and Exemplar Awards 7:15 – 8:30 pm**  
**McKenna Auditorium**

Honorees:  
**Academic Achievement**  
Christopher Key Chapple  
Doshi Professor of Indic & Comparative Theology  
Loyola Marymount University

**Business Leadership**

Mukesh Aghi

President

US-India Strategic Partnership Forum USISPF

**Community Service**

Varun Soni

Dean of Religious Life

University of Southern California (USC)

**CULTURAL PROGRAM 8:30 – 9:00 pm**

**Sunday, March 25, 2018**

**8:45 am – 9:15 am Coffee and Sweets, Bauer South**

**9:15- 10:45 am – SASA Concurrent Session 3 Bauer South**

**Panel 4A: The Impact of Globalization, Nationalism and Neoliberalism in India and Indian Americans**

Bauer Center Room 23

Chair: Muthusami Kumaran,  
University of Florida

Amit Gupta, USAF Air War College: **Indian is the New Black? The Rise of Indian Americans on American Television.**

Jon Paul Sydnor, Emmanuel College: **Globalization, Minoritization, and the Retreat into the Local: India Moving Forward.**

Annapurna Devi Pandey, University of California, Santa Cruz: **Ethnographies of Economic Nationalism as Experienced by Young Women Garment Factory Workers in India.**

Deepa Mahadevan, University of California, Davis: **The Bharatnatyam Body and Neoliberalism.**

**Panel 4 B: Mahayana Buddhism and Yantra**

Bauer Center Room 24

Chair: Bradley Clough,  
University of Montana

Ralph Craig III, Loyola Marymount College: **Theologies of Awakening: Dharmamegha Samadhi in the Yoga Sutra and Bodhisattva-Marga Literature.**

Joseph Cadiff, Loyola Marymount College: **The Culmination of the Mahayana: Dzogchen and the Nine Vehicles of the Nyingmapa.**

Catherine Weiss, Loyola Marymount College: **Anatomy of a Yantra.**

<b>Panel 4 C: Art in Nepal</b>	Bauer Center Room 25	Chair: Ingrid Aall, Professor Emirati California State University, Long Beach
Maureen Drdak, Independent Scholar: <b>Eternal Visions—Contemporary Forms: A Twenty-first Century Guru-Shikshya Art Relationship Reimagined.</b>		
Supriya Manandhar, The Record, Kathmandu, Nepal: <b>Exploring Public Art Archetypes in Kathmandu Valley.</b>		
Deepak Shimkhada, Claremont School of Theology: <b>Churning of the Ocean of Milk-Tension of a Cosmic Scale: What are the lessons learnt?</b>		
Ashmina Ranjit, Visual Artist, Nepal: <b>The Expanding Self: A Newari Artist’s Journey from the Local to the Glocal.</b>		
<b>10:45 – 11:00 am Coffee Break</b>		

**11:00 – 12:30pm – SASA Concurrent Session 4 Bauer South**

<b>Panel 5A: Modernity, Nationalism and Politics</b>	Bauer Center Room 23	Chair: Deepak Shimkhada, Claremont School of Theology
Md. Mizanur Rahman, Illinois State University: <b>‘Modernity’ in Question: Rise of Islamic Public Sphere in Bangladesh.</b>		
Haydn Campmier, Claremont School of Theology: <b>Padmaavat, Right-Wing Hindu Protests and Global Anti Muslim Bias.</b>		
Naumana Kiran, University of Lahore, Pakistan: <b>Muslim Mystics of the Punjab and the Pakistan Movement</b>		



Sundus Jaber, Claremont School of Theology: **What Killed Muḥammad Dārā Shikūh: Syncretism, Apostasy or Politics?**

**Panel 5 B: South Asian Buddhism: Ancient Roots, Contemporary Developments**

Bauer Center  
Room 24

Chair: Adam Pave,  
San Bernardino Community  
College

Bradley Clough, University of Montana: **Reviving Meditation: A Modern Debate in Buddhist South Asia.**

Frank Tedesco, True Dharma International: **Dharma and End-of-Life Care: Indian Spiritual Paths & Western Medicine.**

Gautama Prabhu, Foundation of His Secret Majesty, India: **The Journey of Buddhists in South India: From Buddhist towards untouchability to Hindu untouchables to Buddhists.**

David Blundell, University of California, Los Angeles: **GIS Mapping Historical Buddhism in Southern Asia.**

**Panel 5C: Religion and Embodiment**

Bauer Center Room 25

Chair: Jon Paul Sydnor,  
Emmanuel College

Taylor Remington, Claremont School of Theology: **The Energetic Bodies of Tomorrow: A New Look at the Philosophies of Sri Aurobindo as Applied to Bodily Resurrection in Christian Scriptures.**

Jamie Mills, Claremont School of Theology: **The Use of Tantric Alchemy and Solidified Mercury by Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev in the Consecration of Linga Bhairavi.**

Fiona Angela Cruz Scott, Claremont School of Theology: **Near Death Experience in the Hindu Context.**

Princess O'Nika Auguste, Claremont School of Theology: **The Kama Sutra of Solomon.**

**Panel 5 D: Understanding the Diverse needs of South Asian Americans**

Bauer Center Room 22

Moderator: Purnima Bhatt  
Hood College

**The Importance of Data Disaggregation in Understanding the Diverse Needs of South Asian Americans and the Need for Innovative Outreach in Mainstream Programs.**

Leepi Shimkhada  
Los Angeles County Department of Health Services

Riti Shimkhada Relan.  
UCLA Center for Health Policy Research & UCLA Center for Global and Immigrant Health

Attorney Ravi Mahalingam  
Savant LLC, General Counsel and Partner

**LUNCHEON 12:45-1:45 pm**

**McKenna Auditorium**

**PLENARY 3: ENTREPRENEURS AND CEOS: AN INTERACTIVE EXCHANGE**  
**1:30 – 2:45pm**  
**McKenna Auditorium**

**3:00 – 4:30 pm – SASA Concurrent Round Table Sessions 4 Bauer South**

<b>Roundtable 6A: Performance in India and Possible Global Links</b>	Bauer Center Room 22	Moderator: Nita Kumar, Claremont McKenna College
William Alves, Harvey Mudd College		
Paul Livingstone, Musician and Educator, Los Angeles		
Irfana Majumdar, Founding Artistic Director, NIRMAN Theatre and Film Studio (NTS), Varanasi, India		
Gaurav Saini, Theatre Trainer, Actor, Director, and short-film maker, and Artist-in-Residence at NIRMAN, Varanasi.		
Sheetal Gandhi, Choreographer and Multi-Disciplinary Artist, California, USA		

<b>Roundtable 6 B: Jainism and Philanthropy</b>	Bauer Center Room 34	Moderator: Nitin Shah, Loma Linda University
Jasvant Modi, President, Jain Center of Southern California		
Mahesh Wadher, President, Anekant Community Center, First VP, Federation of Jain Association in North America.		

Prafulla Shah, Board Member, Jain Center of Southern California, Coordinator, Tender Care Community Outreach Program

Nitin Shah, Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Loma Linda University

<b>Roundtable 6 C: Ayurveda and Alternative Medicinal Practices</b>	Bauer Center Room 35	Moderator Dr. Habib Sadeghi Be Hive of Healing
Habib Sadeghi, Independent Scholar: <b>Of Mind and Medicine.</b>		
Discussant: Navin Doshi, Entrepreneur and Philanthropist		
Discussant: T SS Rajan, MD Internal Medicine/Cardiology, Temple Medical Associates, CA		

<b>Roundtable 6 D: Social Consciousness and Education in South Asia</b>	Bauer Center Room 36	Moderator: David Blundell, University of California, Los Angeles
Benjamin Kaila, Friends for Education International (FFEI)		
Naresh Barsagade, Independent Scholar		
David Blundell, University of California, Los Angeles		

**Closing Reception: High Tea 4:30 – 5:30 pm**