

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

DR. BRIDGET WELSH

Hofstra University Joseph G. Astman Distinguished Conference Scholar

Friday, September 19, 3:10-4:25 p.m.

Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater, Joan and Donald E. Axinn Library,
First Floor, South Campus



“Democracies Under Threat in Asia?: Political Transitions and Transformations”

Dr. Bridget Welsh, currently a senior research associate at the Center for East Asian Democracy at National Taiwan University, is a leading international scholar on the politics of Southeast Asia. Scholarship includes the edited volumes *Reflections: The Mahathir Years; A Legacy of Engagement in Southeast Asia* (co-edited with Ann Marie Murphy); *Democracy Takeoff?: Reflections on the BJ Habibie Period* (co-edited with Dewi Fortuna Anwar); and *Impressions of the Goh Chok Tong Years in Singapore* and the Asian bestseller *Awakening: The Abdullah Badawi Years in Malaysia* (co-authored with James Chin). She is currently working on a number of projects, including *Embracing Democracy: How Malaysians Think about Politics; Beyond Ethnicity: Malaysian Voting Behavior; Reformasi Elections in Malaysia, Gender Politics and Elections in Southeast Asia* and an edited volume on regime support in Southeast Asia, which draws from her work with the Asia Barometer Project. She has also written numerous articles on a range of issues from elections and human rights in Southeast Asia, Islamic parties and democracy, to U.S.-Southeast Asia relations and gender. She is a contributor to *malaysiakini*, the leading news website in Malaysia. Her projects reflect a keen interest in the relationship between democracy and development in Southeast Asia.

Dr. Welsh is the Malaysia director of the Asia Barometer Survey Project. She studies women in politics in Southeast Asia, and has ongoing projects examining Islamist parties, vigilante violence in Indonesia, and political conditions in Myanmar/Burma. She is the former chair of the Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei Studies Group and been a consultant to Freedom House and the United Nations. She is a member of the Research Council for the International Forum of Democratic Studies of the National Endowment for Democracy and has also organized and helped fund numerous charitable organizations in Myanmar (Burma) and Vietnam. In addition to her academic publications, Dr. Welsh is a public intellectual on issues such as democracies in Asia.

From 1997 to 2001, Dr. Welsh was a member of the political science faculty at Hofstra. She has also been a faculty member at the Paul H. Nitze School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of Johns Hopkins University, and Singapore Management University. She was a Henry R. Luce Southeast Asian Fellow at the Australian National University and has received a grant from the USIP to study Islamic political parties in Southeast Asia. Dr. Welsh has been recognized for her teaching excellence at both Johns Hopkins SAIS and SMU.

PRESENTATION OF MAR/AAS DISTINGUISHED AWARD

DR. MARLENE MAYO

MAR/AAS Distinguished Asianist

Friday, September 19, 7:30 p.m.

Hofstra University Club, David S. Mack Hall, North Campus



Dr. Marlene Mayo, our MAR/AAS 2014 Distinguished Asianist, is associate professor emerita, History Department, University of Maryland, where she specialized in Japanese and East Asian history, with research interests in the early Meiji and Occupation periods of Japan, gender studies, and U.S.-East Asia relations. Her MA and PhD degrees are from Columbia University. She received a Fulbright Postgraduate Award to the London School of Economics; a Ford Foundation Foreign Area Research Fellowship; and a Fulbright Research Award to Japan. She has served as member and chair of the Northeast Asia Council, AAS; program committee member for the AAS and the American Historical Association; and member of the AHA John K. Fairbank Prize Committee for best book in East Asian History. Her long association with MAR/AAS from the 1980s includes service on its Advisory Committee, co-site manager for its 2007 conference, and president, 2008-09; she has also been an active participant in its annual conferences, presenting papers, organizing panels, and working to initiate a graduate student award.

Dr. Mayo is a prolific scholar. She edited *The Emergence of Imperial Japan: Self-Defense or Systematic Aggression*, and co-edited *War, Occupation, and Creativity: Japan in East Asia, 1920-1960*. Early publications on Meiji Japan appeared in *The Journal of Asian Studies*, *Monumenta Nipponica*, and elsewhere, followed by an impressive list of articles and book chapters, several in Japanese, on the Allied Occupation and aftermath, focusing on economic, political, and cultural links between pre-war and post-war Japan, including war-time planning for the Occupation, censorship of the media, and women's movements.

Dr. Mayo was named distinguished lecturer by the AAS, 1988; best faculty mentor, National Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi, 1995; and adjunct distinguished lecturer, Foreign Service Institute, 1999. In 1972 she founded the Washington and Southeast Regional Seminar on Japan, which is still in existence. At the University of Maryland, she co-founded, in 1969, the Committee (now Center) for East Asian Studies. As chair of CEAS, she launched the Undergraduate Certificate Program in East Asian Studies; raised funds from the Japan Foundation for a tenure track position in Japanese art history and an oral history project on Americans in the Allied Occupation of Japan. She co-wrote a successful application to the Freeman Foundation for a four-year grant to expand undergraduate studies in East Asia, and was the first to secure funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the Gordon W. Prange Collection.

ANNUAL LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

MRINALINI SINHA

Association of Asian Studies President

Saturday, September 20, 12:45 p.m.

Multipurpose Room, Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center, North Campus



“Kunti’s Protest: The Anatomy of a Mass Movement in Late Colonial India”

Mrinalini Sinha is Alice Freeman Palmer Professor in the Department of History and professor in the Department of English Language and Literature (by courtesy) at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. She has written on various aspects of the political history of colonial India, with a focus on anti-colonialism, gender, and transnational approaches. She is also interested in the different forms of political imaginings, beyond the nation-state, that were part of anti-colonial thought in India at least until the interwar period. She is the author of two books, *Colonial Masculinity: The ‘Manly Englishman’ and the ‘Effeminate Bengali’ in the Late Nineteenth Century* (1995) and *Specters of Mother India: The Global Restructuring of an Empire* (2006), three edited volumes, and more than two dozen articles, many of which have been reprinted in anthologies. She is also a co-editor of two important book series, *Critical Perspectives on Empire* and *History of the Present*, holds positions in numerous professional organizations and associations, and is currently president of the Association for Asian Studies, a scholarly, non-political, non-profit professional association open to all persons interested in Asia and the study of Asia with approximately 8,000 members worldwide. Dr. Sinha is also the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards, including, most recently, a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her Guggenheim project, “Complete Political Independence: The Curious History of a Nationalist Indian Demand,” will explore the contingency of the development of the nation-state form in India.