KAI OSTWALD

University of British Columbia C.K. Choi Bldg, #254 1855 West Mall Vancouver, Canada V6T 1Z2

kai.ostwald@ubc.ca www.kaiostwald.me

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of British Columbia

- 2021 **Associate Professor,** School of Public Policy and Global Affairs | Department of Political Science
- 2017 2021 **Assistant Professor**, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs | Department of Political Science
- 2014 2017 **Assistant Professor**, Institute of Asian Research | Department of Political Science

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego, Ph.D. with distinction in Political Science, 2014

- Committee: Edmund Malesky (chair), Claire Adida, Karen Ferree, Stephan Haggard, Phil Roeder

National University of Singapore, MA, Political Science, 2008

University of Bern, graduate coursework, 2006

Rutgers University, BA, Political Science, magna cum laude and highest departmental honors, 2001

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS

- 2021 **Director,** Institute of Asian Research (IAR), UBC
- 2018 **Associate Editor** (Southeast Asia), *Pacific Affairs*
- 2023 **Associate Senior Fellow**, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore
- 2021 **Distinguished Adjunct Researcher**, Penang Institute, Malaysia
- 2024 **Senior Fellow**, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
- 2022 **Executive Council**, Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG)

PAST PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS AND AFFILIATIONS

- 2023 – 2023 Visiting Senior Fellow , ISEAS-Yusof Ishak, Sing	rapore	
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- 2020 2021 **Vice President**, Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies
- 2019 2023 **Associate Fellow**, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore
- 2018 2021 **Director**, Centre for Southeast Asia Research (CSEAR), UBC
- 2018 2020 Chair, American Political Science Association, SE Asia Politics Related Group
- 2017 2023 **Executive Committee**, Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies
- 2014 2016 **Director**, Centre for Southeast Asia Research (CSEAR), UBC
- 2013 2013 **Visiting Researcher**, Penang Institute, Malaysia
- 2012 2013 **Visiting Associate**, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore
- 2012 2014 Associate-in (lecturer), Graduate School of Int'l Relations & Pacific Studies, UCSD

AWARDS

- Best Paper Award (Explaining Elections in Singapore), APSA Southeast Asia Politics Group, 2016
- Fellow, Inaugural Class, Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG), 2013

- Luce Foundation (for the Canadian Southeast Asian Studies Initiative) (co-investigator, with Richard Fox, Susanna Barnes, Dominique Caouette, Erik Kuhonta, Alexandre Pelletier, Nhung Tran, and David Webster) (550k USD), 2023-2028)
- Luce Foundation (for SEAREG) (co-investigator, with Edmund Malesky, Tom Pepinsky, Nico Ravanilla, Joel Selway, and Risa Toha), (261k USD), 2023-25
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (1.01M), 2022-25
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (131k), 2020-21
- SSHRC Insight Development Grant (PI), (49k), 2019-21
- SSHRC bridging fund (5k), 2018
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (214k), 2018-20
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (104k), 2017
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (PI), (124k), 2016
- Hampton Grant (10k), 2015
- Startup fund, UBC (20k), 2014/15
- National Science Foundation, DDIG (12k), 2012/13
- UC Pacific Rim Research Institute grant (19k), 2012/13
- Emerging Pacific Economies (EmPac) research grant (3.5k), 2012/13
- UCSD Department of Political Science Fellowship, 2013
- Sanford Lakoff Research Fellowship, 2013
- IICAS Travel Grant, 2013, 2011
- Emerging Pacific Economies (EmPac) research grant, 2011

PUBLICATIONS

(UNDERLINE DENOTES GRAD STUDENT AT TIME OF PUBLICATION)

Peer Reviewed:

- "Regime Resilience in Malaysia and Singapore Revisited: Ideologically-Bounded Democracies?" forthcoming in Oxford Research Encyclopedia, 2024.
- "Voting behaviour under doubts of ballot secrecy: reinforcing dominant party rule" (with Guillem Riambau) *Democratization*, 30(5): 855-874, 2023.
- "Placebo Statements in List Experiments" (with Guillem Riambau) *Political Science Research and Methods*, 9(1): 172-179, 2021.
- "Regional Identity Formation in Malaysia: Primacy of the Political Center and its Essentialized Ethnic Identities" (with Mohamed Salihin Subhan) Asian Politics and Policy, 13(1): 37-55), 2021.
- "Singapore's Pandemic Election: Opposition Parties and Valence Politics in GE2020" (with Steven Oliver) *Pacific Affairs*, 93(4): 759-780, 2020.
- "Malapportionment in Myanmar's Elections: A Slumbering Menace" (with Constant Courtin) Contemporary Southeast Asia, 42(2), 145-173, 2020.
- "Four Arenas: Malaysia's 2018 Election, Reform, and Democratization" (with Steven Oliver) *Democratization*, 27(4): 662-680, 2020.
- "Language Politics, Education, and Ethnic Integration: The pluralist dilemma in Singapore" (with Elvin Ong and Dimitar Gueorguiev) *Politics, Groups, and Identities*, 7(1): 89-108, 2019.
- "Rematch: Islamic Politics, Mobilisation, and the Indonesian Presidential Election" (with Dimitar Gueorguiev and Paul Schuler) *Political Science*, 70(3): 240-252, 2018.

- "Triple Duel: The Impact of Coalition Fragmentation and Three-Corner Fights on the 2018 Malaysian Election" (with Paul Schuler and <u>Jie Ming Chong</u>) *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, 37(3): 31-55, 2018.
- "Canada's Foreign Policy and Bureaucratic (Un)Responsiveness: Public Diplomacy in the Digital Domain" (with Julian Dierkes) Canadian Foreign Policy Journal, 24(2): 202-222, 2018.
- "Ethnic Segregation and Public Goods: Evidence from Indonesia" (with Yuhki Tajima and Krislert Samphantharak) American Political Science Review, 112(3): 637-653, 2018.
- "Explaining Elections in Singapore: Dominant Party Resilience and Valence Politics" (with Steven Oliver) *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 18(2): 129-156, 2018.
- "Federalism without Decentralization: Power Consolidation in Malaysia" *Journal of Southeast Asian Economies*, 34(3): 488-506, 2017.
- "Indonesia's Decentralization Experiment: Motivations, successes, and unintended consequences" (with Yuhki Tajima and Krislert Samphantharak) *Journal of Southeast Asian Economies*, 33(2): 139-156, 2016.
- "Context and Comparison in Southeast Asia: the Practical Side of the Area Studies Discipline Debate" (with Paul Schuler) *Pacific Affairs*, 88(4): 871-888, 2015.
- "How to Win a Lost Election: Malapportionment and Malaysia's 2013 General Election" *The Round Table: Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs*, 102(6): 521-532, 2013.

Chapters:

- "Regionalism in Malaysia: Containing Grievances in an Ethnoreligious Dominant Party System" (with Mohamed Salihin Subhan) in Amy Liu and Joel Selway (eds), Regionalism and Identity in Developing Democracies: Southeast Asia in Comparative Perspective. University of Michigan Press, 2023.
- "The Politics of Malapportionment and Electoral Reform in a Dominant Party Regime" in Helen Ting M. H. and Donald L. Horowitz (eds), *Electoral Reform and Democracy in Malaysia*. Copenhagen: NIAS Press, 2023 [peer-reviewed].
- "When the Whole Menu is Not Enough: Electoral Manipulation, Malpractice, and Turnover in Malaysia" in Netina Tan and Kharis Templeman (eds), Electoral Malpractice in East and Southeast Asia: Patterns and Consequences. Lynne Reinner, 2023.
- "Myanmar: Pandemic in a Time of Transition" (with Tun Myint) in Victor Ramraj (ed), *Covid-19 in Asia: Law and Policy Contexts*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2021.
- "Ethnic and National Identity: Origins, Contestation, and Polarization in Malaysia and Singapore" (with <u>Isabel Chew</u>) in Michael Weiner (ed), *The Routledge Handbook on Race and Ethnicity in Asia*. Routledge, 2021.
- "Against the Odds: Malaysia's Electoral Process and Pakatan Harapan's Unlikely Victory" in Francis E. Hutchinson and Lee Hwok Aun (eds) *The Defeat of Barisan Nasional: Missed Signs or Late Surge?*, Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, 2019.
- "Local Elections, Decentralization, and Institutional Reform in Malaysia" in Sophie Lemiere (ed)
 Minorities Matter: Malaysian Politics and People, Kuala Lumpur: SIRD & Singapore: ISEAS-Yusof Ishak,
 2019 [peer-reviewed].
- "Electoral boundaries in Malaysia's 2018 Election: Malapportionment, Gerrymandering and UMNO's Fall" in Edmund Terence Gomez and Mohamed Nawab Mohamed Osman (eds) Malaysia's 14th General Election and UMNO's Fall: Intra-Elite Feuding in the Pursuit of Power", Routledge, 2019.

- "Canada's foreign policy and bureaucratic (un)responsiveness: Public diplomacy in the digital domain" (with Julian Dierkes) in Richard Nimijean and David Carament (eds), *Canada, Nation Branding and Domestic Politics*. Routledge, 2019 [chapter is reprint of journal article]
- "National Service and Nation Building: Successes and Limitations of the Singaporean Model" in Ho Shu Huang and Graham Ong-Webb (eds), *National Service in Singapore*. 2019.
- "Democratic Crossroads and Political Transitions in Southeast Asia: Domestic and International Factors" in *Southeast Asia in an Evolving Global Landscape*, proceedings from the Global Affairs Canada conference on Southeast Asia, 2017.

Special Issues Edited:

- "Canada and Southeast Asia in the new Indo-Pacific Era" Canadian Foreign Policy Journal, 29(2), 2023 (with Grégoire Legault and Dominique Caouette).
- "Myanmar's Transition Stalled: From Opening to Coup" Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia, #31, 2021 (with Kyaw Yin Hlaing).

Editor Reviewed Print Publications:

- "Canada and Southeast Asia in the new Indo-Pacific era" Canadian Foreign Policy Journal, 29(2): 117-130, 2023 (with Grégoire Legault and Dominique Caouette).
- "Why Malaysia's Unity Government Will (Probably) Survive" ISEAS Perspective, #36, 2023.
- "Malaysia in 2022: Election Year, Islamization, and Politics of Compromise" *Asian Survey*, 63(2): 291-300, 2023 (with Muhamad M. N. Nadzri).
- "Malaysia in 2021: Pandemic, Emergency, and Reprieve" Asian Survey, 62(1): 82-92, 2022.
- "Malaysia 2020: The Impasse of Two-Coalition Politics" ISEAS Perspective, #25, 2020.
- "Power Distribution and Decentralisation in New Malaysia" ISEAS Perspective, #66, 2019.
- "Malaysia's Electoral Process: The Methods and Costs of Perpetuating UMNO Rule" *ISEAS Trends*, no. 19, 2017. [peer-reviewed by three ISEAS fellows]
- "Fieldwork and the Academic Job Market as a Southeast Asianist" *APSA Comparative Democratization newsletter*, vol. 15, 2017.
- "Delayed Transition: The end of consensus leadership in Vietnam?" *ISEAS Perspective*, #2, 2016 (with Paul Schuler).
- "Myanmar's landmark elections: unresolved questions" *ISEAS Perspectives*, #68, 2015 (with Paul Schuler).
- "Ebola, SARS, and the Economies of Southeast Asia" ISEAS Perspective, #63, 2014.

Other Publications:

- "Canada and ASEAN: the inaugural IPS year" Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, 2023
- "Malaysia's State Elections: Surprisingly Unremarkable" ISEAS Fulcrum, #196, 2023.
- "Malaysia's Democracy in the Shadow of Hegemonic Rule" ISEAS Fulcrum, #143, 2023.
- "Anwar's Uneasy Truce with Malaysia's Powerful Civil Service" ISEAS Fulcrum, #64, 2023.

- Introduction to "Myanmar's Transition Stalled: From Opening to Coup" *Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia*, #31, 2021 (with Kyaw Yin Hlaing).
- "Myanmar's Pro-Democracy Movement" *Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia*, #31, 2021 (with Kyaw Yin Hlaing).
- "Covid-19 in Myanmar" Asia Research News, 2020 (with Tun Myint)
- "The Singapore PAP's waning dominance" East Asia Forum, 2020 (with Steven Oliver)
- "Singapore's PAP has little to fear from Malaysia's political transition" East Asia Forum, 2018 (with Steven Oliver)
- "Ethnic diversity matters for decentralisation and development" East Asia Forum, 2018 (with Yuhki Tajima and Krislert Samphantharak)
- "Centralisation not reconciliation under Najib Razak" East Asia Forum, 2018
- "Legitimacy and Longevity in Singapore's Reserved Presidency" *East Asia Forum*, 2017 (with <u>Isabel Chew</u>).
- "China's Ambitions Welcomed in Kuala Lumpur?" *Asia Pacific Memo*, #388, 2016 (with Phuong Nguyen).
- "Has Chinese foreign policy in Southeast Asia entered a bolder and more assertive phase?" *Asia Pacific Memo*, #342, 2015.
- "LNG in British Columbia, scandals in Malaysia, and the complexity of policy decisions" *Asia Pacific Memo*, #340, 2015.
- "The many implications of cheap oil in Southeast Asia" Asia Pacific Foundation, 2015.
- "Will the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) transform Southeast Asian economies in 2015?" *Asia Pacific Memo*, #322, 2015 (with Krislert Samphantharak)
- "The Perilous Start and Uncertain Future of the Jokowi Era in Indonesia" *Asia Pacific Memo*, #311, 2014.
- "The Year in Malaysian Politics: Democracy's Crooked Trajectory" Asia Pacific Memo, #310, 2014.
- "Malaysian elections, malapportionment, and redelineation" New Mandala, 2013.

Major Policy Reports:

- "2019 Canada-ASEAN Business Outlook" Survey and report prepared in conjunction with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, 2019.
- "The Canada Advantage", contributed analysis with UBC's MPPGA research team in conjunction with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council and the National University of Singapore, 2018.
- "The ASEAN Advantage: Exploring Canada's Trade Potential", contributed analysis with UBC's MPPGA research team in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, the Business Council of Canada, and the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, 2017.
- "2016 Canada-ASEAN Business Outlook", prepared for the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, and the International Development Research Centre (with UBC's MPPGA research team), 2016.

Book Reviews:

- Everyday Justice in Myanmar: Informal Resolutions and State Evasion in a Time of Contested Transition, by Helene Maria Kyed in Contemporary Southeast Asia, 2021.
- The Roots of Resilience: Party Machines and Grassroots Politics in Southeast Asia, by Meredith Weiss in Pacific Affairs, 2021.
- Secrets and Power in Myanmar: Intelligence and the Fall of General Khin Nyunt, by Andrew Selth in Pacific Affairs, 2020.
- *Singapore: Identity, Brand, Power*, by Kenneth Paul Tan in *Pacific Affairs*, 2019.
- Participation without Democracy: Containing Conflict in Southeast Asia, by Garry Rodan in Pacific Affairs, 2019.
- Hard Choices: Challenging the Singapore Consensus, by Donald Low and Sudhir Vadaketh (eds) in Journal of East Asian Studies, 2016.
- Political Change in Southeast Asia, by Jacques Bertrand in Journal of East Asian Studies, 2015.
- Southeast Asia in the New International Era, by Dayley, R. and Neher, C. in Journal of East Asian Studies, 2014.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate (MA/PhD) level:

- Measurement and Data Analysis for Policy, MPPGA, UBC, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
- Research Design and Quantitative Methods, Yangon University of Economics [Myanmar], 2017, 2018, 2019
- Directed Reading: ASEAN Integration and Economic Populism, UBC, 2018
- Domestic and Global Policy Process, MPPGA, UBC, 2016 (with Yves Tiberghien)
- Directed Reading: Ethnicity and Race in Political Communication and Public Policy, UBC, 2016
- Anthropology Directed Reading: Thailand State and Society, UBC, 2016
- Quantitative Analysis for Policy, MPPGA, UBC, 2015 (with Cesi Cruz)
- Policy Making Process, IAR, UBC, 2015
- Perspectives and Methods of Asia Pacific Policy Studies, IAR, UBC, 2014 (with Julian Dierkes)
- Political Economy of Southeast Asia, IRPS, UCSD, 2013 & 2014 (with Paul Schuler)
- Economic Development of Southeast Asia, IRPS, UCSD, 2012 & 2014 (with Krislert Samphantharak)

Undergraduate (BA) level:

- Southeast Asian Governments and Politics, UBC, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023
- Politics of Southeast Asia, UCSD, 2012 (with Paul Schuler)
- Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict, UCSD, 2012
- Politics of Multiculturalism, UCSD, 2012

GRADUATE SUPERVISION

Postdoctoral supervision:

- Elvin Ong (Institute of Asian Research / School of Public Policy and Global Affairs), 2018 – 2020, now Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science at the National University of Singapore

PhD supervision:

- Nay Yan Oo (Political Science), 2023 -
- Sampada KC (Political Science, co-supervisor), 2021 2026 (anticipated)
- Mohamed Salihin Subhan (Political Science), 2019 2026 (anticipated)
- Constant Courtin (Political Science), 2019 2025 (anticipated)

- Isabel Chew (Political Science), 2017 2023
- Nathan Peng (Political Science), 2017 2023, now Singapore Management University

PhD committee:

- Fraser Germann (Anthropology), 2015 2023.
- Salta Zhumatova (Political Science), 2014 2022, now postdoctoral fellow at Simon Fraser Uni

MA supervision:

- Kaung Kyaw (Calvin) San (Political Science, 2023 2025 (anticipated)
- Viktoria Zlomanova (Political Science), 2021 2023 (anticipated)
- Kah Mun Wan (Institute for Resources, Environment, and Sustainability), 2021 2023
- Kylie Luu (Institute of Asian Research), 2014 2017
- Lotus Ruan (Institute of Asian Research), 2014 2016
- Clarrie Ng (Institute of Asian Research), 2014 2016

MA committee:

- Sungwook Park (Political Science), 2017 2019
- Peggy Lam (Journalism), 2015 2017

GRADUATE EXAMINATIONS

External Examiner:

- Tricia Yeoh, PhD in Political Science, Nottingham University (Malaysia campus), 2022
- Wan Juwairiah Nurbadrin Binti Wan Ahmad Tajuddin, MA in Development Studies, *Universiti* Malaya, 2021

University Examiner:

- Alexandre Bernard Rivard, PhD Political Science, University of British Columbia, 2021
- Edgar Bolun Liao, PhD History, University of British Columbia, 2021

CONSULTING AND OTHER PROJECTS

- Consultant and contributing author, Malaysia's transition to a high-income country, World Bank, 2019-21.
- Consultant and author, Institutional reform in Malaysia: a new governance model, World Bank, 2020-21
- *Project Lead*, Building Capacity for Policy Research in Myanmar (2017-21): Capacity building project with the Yangon University of Economics in Myanmar (IDRC sponsored).
- *Project Lead*, Canada-ASEAN Business Outlook 2016: A study with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council (CABC) on market conditions facing the Canadian private sector in the ASEAN region (IDRC sponsored).
- *Contributor*, Canada-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement feasibility study, with the Business Council of Canada, the Canada-ASEAN Business Council, and the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Affiliations

- American Political Science Association
- Association for Asian Studies
- Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies
- Canadian Political Science Association
- European Southeast Asian Studies Association
- Western Political Science Association

Editorial Board

- Pacific Affairs (since 2016)
- Asian Survey (since 2021)
- Association of Asian Studies (since 2021)

Country Expert

- Bertelsmann Transformation Index, 2023
- Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem), 2017- ongoing
- Electoral Integrity Project, 2021 ongoing
- Freedom House, 2017, 2018, 2019

Referee Services

- American Journal of Political Science (AJPS)
- American Political Science Review (APSR)
- Asian Studies Review
- Asian Survey
- Canadian Foreign Policy Journal
- Comparative Politics
- Comparative Political Studies
- Contemporary Southeast Asia
- Current Southeast Asian Affairs
- Democratization
- East Asia
- Electoral Studies
- European Journal of Development Research
- Government and Opposition
- International Association for Energy Economics
- International Journal of Intercultural Relations

- International Political Science Review
- ISEAS Trends
- Journal of East Asian Studies
- Journal of Southeast Asian Economies
- Legislative Studies Quarterly
- Oxford Research Encyclopedia
- Pacific Affairs
- Parliamentary Affairs
- Politics and Religion
- Research and Politics
- Round Table
- Social Science Quarterly
- Social Sciences
- Southeast Asian Studies
- Taiwan Journal of Democracy

Invited Talks

- Canada and Southeast Asia: One year into the IPS, Université de Montréal, 2023
- Malaysia's GE15 and Aftermath: The Four Arenas framework, voting behaviour, and government stability. Singapore Management University (Singapore), 2023
- Malaysia's 2022 Election: An End to Instability? Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), 2022
- The "Asian Miracle" and Developmental State Revisited, Keynote talk at the Re-imaging Sustainable Development conference, LINA and Peter Allard Law School, UBC, 2022
- Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy and ASEAN, Canada China Forum (online due to covid), 2022
- Current Developments in Malaysia, US State Department, Foreign Service Institute (online due to covid), 2022
- Southeast Asia's geopolitics amidst rising great power tensions and internal turmoil, UC San Diego (online due to covid), 2022
- Current Developments in Malaysia, US State Department, Foreign Service Institute (online due to covid), 2021
- Current Developments in Malaysia, US State Department, Foreign Service Institute (online due to covid), 2020
- Southeast Asia and the New Normal in International Relations, Centre for Education and Training, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia (online due to covid), 2020
- Malaysia 2020: Impasse of ethnic and regional politics, Penang Institute (Malaysia), 2020
- Democratization and Political Islam in Malaysia, German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Hamburg (Germany), 2019
- Stalled transition and crisis in Myanmar? The complex politics of identity, conflict, and refugees, Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), 2019
- Stalled transition and crisis in Myanmar? The complex politics of identity, conflict, and refugees, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, 2019
- Four Arenas in Malaysian Politics, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (Singapore), 2019

- Four Arenas in Malaysian Politics, Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore), 2019
- Four Arenas in Malaysian Politics, IKMAS, National University of Malaysia (UKM), 2019
- Elections and Political Islam in Southeast Asia, UC San Diego, 2019
- The theory and practice of decentralizing policy making, Yangon University of Economics (Myanmar), 2018
- Decentralization in Myanmar Lessons from Indonesia: Yangon Region Parliament (Myanmar), 2017
- Decentralization in Myanmar Lessons from Indonesia: Shan State Parliament (Myanmar), 2017
- Myanmar, Decentralization, and Capacity Shortages, IDRC, Ottawa, 2017
- Contentious politics in Southeast Asia and the role of China, UC San Diego Osher Institute, 2017
- Decentralization in Myanmar: Lessons from Southeast Asia, IDRC Seminar, Yangon University of Economics (Myanmar), 2017
- Elections and other developments in Southeast Asia, Southeast Asia Link, UC San Diego, 2016
- Minorities in a Muslim Majority State: Examining Indonesia's 2014 Presidential Election, Yale-NUS (Singapore), 2016
- Public Policy and Identity in Penang and Singapore, Southeast Asia Lecture Series, McGill University, 2016
- Ethnic Politics and Political Crisis in Malaysia, University of Washington (Seattle), 2015
- Limits of Economic Integration in ASEAN, UC San Diego Osher Institute, 2015
- A Tale of Two Islands: Public Policy and Identity in Penang and Singapore, Cornell University, 2014
- Indonesia's Tenuous March Ahead, UC San Diego Osher Institute, 2014

Invited Panels, Seminars, and Workshops

- Navigating the New Geopolitical Landscape: ASEAN and Great Power Tensions in the Indo-Pacific, Indo-Pacific Strategy Forum (Institute for Peace & Diplomacy), Ottawa 2023
- Governing in the Shadow of UMNO's Long Rule: Anwar Ibrahim's Formula and Prospects for Reform, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak, 2023.
- Coalitions Before and After GE15: Fragmentation and Unity, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak, Singapore, 2023
- Malaysia's GE15: Four Arenas and Macro Perspectives, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak, Singapore, 2023
- Organizational Issues in Malaysia's Powerful Civil Service, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Malaysia Update, Singapore, 2023
- Myanmar: Federalism Update, IDRC Knowledge for Democracy Myanmar forum, Thailand, 2022
- Regional Perspectives on East Asia's Strategic Environment: Security Regimes, Challenges, & Actors, East Asia Strategy Forum (Institute for Peace & Diplomacy and Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada), Ottawa 2022
- AUKUS, Southeast Asia & the Indo-Pacific: Realignment, Conflict, or Cooperation? University of Victoria (online due to covid), 2021
- Decentralized Policy Responses to COVID-19, Fulbright University Vietnam (online due to covid), 2021
- US Election Debrief Roundtable: Implications for Southeast Asia, University of Victoria (online due to covid), 2020
- How is Myanmar Responding to Covid-19: Insights for Policy Makers, IDRC Knowledge for Democracy Myanmar (online due to covid), 2020
- Malapportionment in Myanmar: Inclusivity and the 2020 Elections, IDRC Myanmar Speaker Series (online due to covid), 2020
- Canada-ASEAN in Making Trade Work For All, IDRC forum (online due to COVID), 2020
- Electoral reform in Malaysia, IKMAS, National University of Malaysia (UKM), 2020
- Southeast Asia: Trends and Perspectives, Centre for International Policy Studies, University of Ottawa, 2019
- Myanmar's Democracy at a Crossroads, Human Rights Research and Education Centre, School of Law, University of Ottawa, 2019
- Canada-ASEAN 2019 economic integration and business outlook, Canada-ASEAN Business Council, Bangkok (Thailand), 2019
- South China Sea, US Army War College crisis negotiation simulation at University of Washington, 2019
- Human rights and politics in Myanmar, McGill University, 2019
- Myanmar in transition, International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, 2018
- Ethno-Religious Nationalism and Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia, University of Victoria, 2018

- ASEAN, China, and the South China Sea, Harvard Project on Asia and International Relations (HPAIR, Malaysia), 2018
- Border security and decentralization in Myanmar, keynote address: Payap University, Chiang Mai (Thailand), 2018
- Canada-Thailand political relations: co-sponsored by University of Victoria and UBC, with the Canada-ASEAN Business Council and Global Affairs Canada, Vancouver, 2018
- NTBs and other obstacles to ASEAN-Canada trade, National University of Singapore Business School, 2018
- Connectivity and Borders in Southeast Asia, University of Victoria, 2018
- Canada and Southeast Asia, University of Victoria, 2017
- Voting behavior under doubts of ballot secrety in Singapore, National Chengchi University (Taiwan), 2017
- Democratization and Political Transitions in Southeast Asia, Global Affairs Canada, Ottawa, 2017
- China's expanding backyard: the demand side in Southeast Asia, Freie Universität Berlin (Germany), 2017
- Canadian private sector and economic integration in Southeast Asia, Canada-ASEAN Business Council forum, Jakarta (Indonesia), 2016
- Security in Southeast Asia, University of Washington, 2016
- Human Capacity Development in Myanmar: the identity component, Payap University, Chiang Mai (Thailand), 2015
- Domestic political obstacles to the TPP and RCEP in Southeast Asia, Canada-ASEAN Business Council forum, Bangkok (Thailand), 2015.
- Contentious Politics in SE Asia: political developments in Indonesia and Malaysia, USMC 3rd Battalion 5th Marines, Pre-Deployment Briefing, 2014
- Contentious Politics in SE Asia: the Philippines and Thailand at critical junctures, USMC 3rd Battalion 5th Marines, Pre-Deployment Briefing. 2014

Panels

- Institutions and Development, Talkonomics, Vancouver School of Economics, UBC, 2024
- From the editor's desk: the ins and outs of publishing, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, UBC, 2023
- Editor's Roundtable, Beyond Essentialism: Elevating Women's Scholarship in Southeast Asian Social Sciences, University of Essex (online due to covid), 2022
- RCEP: the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, UBC, 2021 (online due to Covid-19)
- China's Belt and Road Initiative: The View from Southeast Asia, UBC, 2019
- The Rohingya Refugees in Limbo: Repatriation and Resettlement, Canadian Association for the Study of International Development, 2019.
- Education and exchange in Asia, Asia Pacific Foundation (Youth Council), 2019
- Diplomacy in Southeast Asia, UBC, 2019
- Thai elections during political instability, UBC, 2019
- Roundtable on Xinjiang: the Rohingya, UBC, 2018
- Fragile States, Asia Pacific Foundation, 2018
- ASEAN-Canada economic engagement, CABC Singapore, 2018
- Southeast Asia Ascendant? Implications for Canada, UBC, 2018
- The Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar, UBC, 2018
- Cultural Entrepreneurs in East and Southeast Asia, UBC, 2016
- Myanmar's elections: open questions, UBC, 2015
- Return to Normal? Singapore's 2015 General Election, UBC, 2015
- Discussion with Singapore's High Commissioner to Canada, UBC, 2015
- Singapore after Lee Kuan Yew, UBC, 2015
- The implications of cheap oil in Southeast Asia, Asia Pacific Forum, UBC, 2015
- Charlie Hebdo and Freedom of Speech in the Asia Pacific, Asia Pacific Forum, UBC, 2015
- Malaysia's road ahead: political and economic turmoil, UBC, 2015
- Is Ebola the New SARS?, Asia Pacific Forum, UBC, 2014
- Ethnic Diversity and Politics in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore, Southeast Asia Link (SEAL), IRPS, UCSD, 2010

Guest Lectures

- Institutions on paper and in practice, National University of Singapore, 2023
- Ethnic politics in Malaysia and Singapore, UBC SPPGA, 2022
- Myanmar's Transition: From Opening to Coup, UBC Extended Learning, 2021
- Data visualization, UBC 2021
- Development strategies in Southeast Asia, UBC, 2019
- Myanmar's Political Quagmire and the Rohingya Crisis, UBC SPPGA, 2018
- Myanmar's Political Quagmire and the Rohingya Crisis, UBC Extended Learning, 2018
- Development strategies in Southeast Asia, UBC, 2018
- Communicating Policy, Myanmar Development Institute, Naypyidaw (Myanmar), 2017
- Myanmar's Triple Transition, UBC, 2016
- School diversity and social networks, Yale-NUS, Singapore, 2016
- Perfect markets and the ASEAN Economic Community, Yale-NUS, Singapore, 2016
- The discipline area studies debate, Southeast Asia Program at University of Washington, Seattle, 2015
- Multiple Regression, IAR at UBC, 2015
- National Service as a tool for integration, Singapore Management University, Singapore, 2015
- ASEAN's integration aspirations: a reality check, Thammasat University, Thailand, 2015
- Malaysia: Colonial Origins of Contemporary Politics, UBC, 2015
- Overseas Chinese in Southeast Asia, UCSD, 2014
- The Development of Modern Malaysia, San Diego State University, 2013
- Experimental Research Design, National University of Singapore, 2012
- Survey Methods, National University of Singapore, 2012
- Economic and Political Development of Southeast Asia, UCSD, 2011
- Politics of Multiculturalism in Germany and Switzerland, UCSD, 2010

Conference Participation and Presentations

- APSA 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023; AAS 2013, 2014, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2022; SEAREG 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023; SEAREG-East 2017, 2018, 2022, 2023; CCSEAS 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021 (as organizer), 2023; WPSA 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020; UK PolPsych 2022; CPSA 2022; EuroSEAS 2022
- Rethinking post-hegemonic regimes in Southeast Asia, SEAREG, Duke University, 2023
- Democracy update in Southeast Asia [roundtable speaker], CCSEAS 2023, Quebec City
- The Canada and Southeast Asia Relationship [roundtable speaker], CCSEAS 2023, Quebec City
- Southeast Asian Studies in Canada, past and present [roundtable speaker], CCSEAS 2023, Quebec City
- Voting under doubts of ballot secrecy, APSA 2022, Montreal
- Party, Regime, and Compromise in Malaysia's 2018 Transition, EuroSEAS 2022, Paris
- The State of Democracy in the Developing World [roundtable speaker], CPSA 2022 (online due to covid)
- Voting under doubts of ballot secrecy, UK Political Psychology 2022 (online due to covid)
- Keynote Roundtable on Canada and Southeast Asia [moderator], CCSEAS 2021 (online due to covid)
- Myanmar's Transition Stalled [moderator], CCSEAS 2021 (online due to covid)
- Singapore's 2020 General Elections, AAS 2021 (online due to covid)
- Malapportionment in Myanmar's Elections, WPSA 2020 (online due to covid)
- Power and Democracy in Southeast Asia [moderator], CCSEAS 2019, Montreal
- Myanmar's Transition and the Role of Canada [moderator], CCSEAS 2019, Montreal
- Regionalism without Secessionism in Malaysia, APSA 2019, Washington DC
- Four Arenas: Malaysia's 2018 Election and Prospects for Reform, WPSA 2019, San Diego
- Four Arenas: Malaysia's 2018 Election and Prospects for Reform, AAS 2019, Denver
- Language politics in Malaysia, APSA 2018, Boston
- Blood, Beliefs, or Status: Microfoundations of integration in Singapore, WPSA 2018, San Francisco
- Decentralizing Myanmar, CCSEAS 2017, York University
- Blood or Beliefs: Microfoundations of Integration in Singapore, APSA 2017, San Francisco
- Electoral Malpractice in Malaysia, APSA 2017, San Francisco

- SEAREG Fellow Roundtable, SEAREG 2017, UT Austin
- Ballot Secrecy and Voting Behavior in Singapore, WPSA 2017, Vancouver
- Explaining Elections in Singapore: Party Credibility and Valence Voting, WPSA 2017, Vancouver
- Ballot Secrecy and Voting Behavior in Singapore, AAS 2017, Toronto
- A Tale of Two Islands: Ethnic Salience in Singapore and Penang, AAS 2017, Toronto
- Explaining Elections in Singapore: Party Credibility and Valence Voting, APSA 2016, Philadelphia
- Political Science fieldwork and the academic job market, APSA 2016 mini-course, Philadelphia
- Vernacular Education, Segregated Classrooms, and Ethnic Diversity: A comparison of SAP and non-SAP schools in Singapore, CCSEAS 2015, Ottawa
- Indonesia's 2014 Presidential Election: An Empirical Assessment, APSA 2015, San Francisco
- Vernacular Education, Segregated Classrooms, and Ethnic Diversity: A comparison of SAP and non-SAP schools in Singapore, APSA 2015, San Francisco
- Modes of Accommodating Diversity in Singapore and Penang, APSA 2014, Washington DC
- The Effects of Politicizing Ethnicity: the Malay Identity, AAS 2014, Philadelphia
- Public Policy and Nation Building: Singapore, CCSEAS 2013, University of Montreal
- Nation Building in Singapore through the National Service, SEAREG 2013, Duke University

Conferences Organized

- Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies (CCSEAS) biennial conference, University of British Columbia, 2021 (co-chair)
- Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG) meeting, University of British Columbia, 2019 (chair)

Selected Media Coverage

- Global Finance: interviewed on Anwar Ibrahim's leadership (Jan 2023)
- Canada Broadcasting Corporation (CBC): interviews on the Myanmar coup (Mar 2021)
- Global TV Global National News: interviewed on the Myanmar coup and protests (Mar 2021)
- The Diplomat: extended interview on challenges facing Malaysia's new government (Apr 2020)
- South China Morning Post: interview on Malaysia's political crisis (Mar 2020)
- The Guardian: on economic contagion from virus (Mar 2020)
- Bloomberg: coverage of Malaysian government's collapse (Feb 2020)
- Canada Broadcasting Corporation (CBC): economic contagion from coronavirus (Jan 2020)
- Asia Pacific Foundation Election Focus 2019: interview on ASEAN (Oct 2019)
- World Politics Review: interview on politics in Singapore (Mar 2019)
- South China Morning Post: interviewed on Mahathir's trip to China (Aug 2018)
- Los Angeles Times: interviewed on Malaysian politics (May 2018)
- Because Freedom Matters (Malaysian current affairs radio station): interviewed on Malaysian politics (2018)
- Nikkei Asian Review: interviewed on Malaysian politics (Jan 2018)
- Malaysian Insight, Malaysiakini, Free Malaysia Today, Asia Times, and Today (Singapore): coverage of paper on electoral manipulations in Malaysia (Dec 2017)
- CGTN: interviewed on the ASEAN Summit, (Nov 2017)
- The Atlantic: interviewed on urban/rural divide in Malaysian and US politics (Jan 4, 2017)
- Today (Singapore daily newspaper): feature analysis on Myanmar's election (Dec. 18, 2015)
- *Vancouver Sun*: interviewed on Petronas and LNG production in British Columbia (Sept. 10-11, 2015)
- CTV News: interviewed on bombing in Bangkok, Thailand (Aug. 18, 2015)
- Myanmar National Television: interviewed on Myanmar's triple transition (Aug. 2015)
- Canada Broadcasting Corporation (CBC): interviewed on Malaysia's 1MDB scandal (July 2015)
- Globe and Mail: interviewed on political instability in Malaysia (June 2015)
- Globe and Mail: interviewed on death of Lee Kuan Yew (Mar. 2015)
- Globe and Mail: interviewed on persecution of Anwar Ibrahim (Feb. 2015)

CITIZENSHIP AND RESIDENCE

Germany/EU (citizen) United States (citizen) Canada (permanent residence)