



Press Release: Professor Kathleen S. Yep promoted to full professor (07/01/2014)

The Intercollegiate Department of Asian American Studies (IDAAS) at the Claremont Colleges is pleased to announce that our colleague, Professor Kathleen S. Yep, has been promoted to full professor, effective July 2014. Professor Yep holds an appointment in Asian American Studies at Pitzer College and has been the chair of IDAAS for the past 5 years.

Professor Yep received her B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. She was a University of California President's Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Her research and teaching interests include cultural politics, feminist/antiracist pedagogies, social documentation and social movements. She is the author of *Outside the Paint: When Basketball Ruled at the Chinese Playground* (Temple University Press, 2009), which examines how working-class Chinese American women and men utilized basketball to mediate poverty, patriarchy, heteronormativity, and racial segregation in the 1930s. Dr. Yep has published in over six peer-reviewed journals such as *Ethnic and Racial Studies* and *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies* and several essays in anthologies such as *Women's Lives* and *Democratic Dilemmas*. She also co-authored *Dragon's Child: The Story of Angel Island* (HarperCollins, 2008) with award-winning author Dr. Laurence Yep. The novel was named one of New York Public Library's "Top 100 Books to Read and Share in 2008" and a Cooperative Book Center Choice for 2009. With a specialization in oral historiography, she advised a community digital archive funded by the California Council of the Humanities called ["API Women, Faith, Action: Fourteen Oral Histories of Asian Pacific Islander women and their faith-based activism."](#) Funded by the Carnegie Foundation and California Campus Compact, Yep was awarded a two-year faculty fellowship in the "Service Learning for Political Engagement Program." In addition, the Bonner Foundation, the Weingart Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, and Project Pericles have funded her to integrate community-based learning and social action research in her teaching. Awarded Pitzer's Scholar-in-Residence, Dr. Yep is currently researching community (re)formations and health inequities in Southern California and Hawai'i. This work draws from the ongoing IDAAS' ongoing community collaborations with immigrant communities in Monterey Park and Pacific Islander communities in Ontario.

Established in 1998, IDAAS provides a rich academic program to all students at the Claremont Colleges (Claremont McKenna, Harvey Mudd, Pitzer, Pomona, and Scripps.) IDAAS has thirteen core faculty and offers interdisciplinary undergraduate majors and minors in Asian American Studies. Carrying forward the community-based origins of Asian American Studies, we provide innovative opportunities such as the [Margo Okazawa-Rey Summer Fellowship](#), creative and community-based theses, a student/faculty-run topical seminar, the [Peter Kiang Thesis Prize](#), and the [Merle Woo Project Prize](#).