

# Laichen Sun, Ph.D

**Specialty:** Early modern Southeast Asian history.

**Research Interest:** Southeast Asian-Chinese interaction; Asian gunpowder technology.

## Courses Taught:

- 110B: "World Civilizations, 1500 to the Present"
- 461: "Modern Vietnam"
- 464A: "History of Southeast Asia to 1800"
- 464B: "History of Southeast Asia, c. 1800 to the Present"
- 491 & 490: "Gunpowder Technology and the Early Modern World,"
- 491: "Rural China since 1900"

## Educational Background

- 1994-2000, Ph. D. (Southeast Asian history), University of Michigan
- 1992-1994, M.A. (Southeast Asian history), Northern Illinois University
- 1984-1987, M.A. (Southeast Asian history), Peking University, China
- 1980-1984, B.A. (History), Zhengzhou University, China

## Major Fellowships

- Dec. 2007-May 2008, Visiting Fellow, Kyoto University
- 2003, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, National University of Singapore

## Major Publications

- "Chinese Historical Sources on Burma: A Bibliography of Primary and Secondary Works." *Journal of Burma Studies* (Special Issue) 2 (1997): 1-116.
- "Introduction" to Sao Saimong Mangrai, *The Padaeng Chronicle and the Jengtung State Chronicle Translated*. Reprint, Ann Arbor: Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies, the University of Michigan, 2002.
- "Chinese Military Technology Transfers and the Emergence of Northern Mainland Southeast Asia, c. 1390-1527." *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* 34, 3 (2003): 495-517 (Chinese translation by Chinese scholars appears in the *Bulletin of the Chinese Association for Southeast Asian Studies* 1 [2005]: 27-39).
- "Chinese Gunpowder Technology and Dai Viet: c. 1390-1497." In Nhung Tuyét Trân & Anthony Reid, ed., *Viet Nam: Borderless Histories* (Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press), 104-59. Also published in the *Working Papers Series* (#11, 2003) by the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore (<http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/pub/wps2003/abs011.htm>) and partially translated by "BBC Vietnamese" as "Công nghệ quân sự TQ và Đại Việt"

([http://www.bbc.co.uk/vietnamese/entertainment/story/2004/02/040210\\_militarytechnology.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/vietnamese/entertainment/story/2004/02/040210_militarytechnology.shtml)).

- “On Studying the ‘Burmo-Chinese’ Historical Relationship” (Part I). *Bulletin of the Chinese Association for Southeast Asian Studies* 2 (2005): 1-16 (In Chinese).
- “On Studying the ‘Burmo-Chinese’ Historical Relationship: Centering on China’s Cultural Influence on Early Burma.” *Ya Tai Yanjiu luncong* (Asia-Pacific Studies) [Beijing University] 3 (2006): 210-233 (In Chinese).
- “An Age of Gunpowder in Eastern Asia, c. 1390-1683.” Translated by Nakajima Gakushuo as “Toubu Ajia ni okeru kaki no jidai, c. 1390-1683.” *Kyushu University Oriental Historical Research* 34 (April 2006): 1-9.
- “The Burmese Bells and Chinese Eroticism: On Southeast Asia’s Cultural Influence on China,” forthcoming in *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* (June 2007).
- Co-editor (with Geoffrey Wade), *Southeast Asia in the 15th Century: The Ming Factor* (Singapore: Singapore University Press), under review.
- “Shan Gems, Chinese Silver, and the Rise of Shan Principalities in Northern Burma, c. 1450-1527.” In Geoffrey Wade & Sun Laichen, ed., *Southeast Asia in the 15th Century* (see above).
- “**Assessing the Ming Role in China’s Southern Expansion.**” In Geoff Wade & Sun Laichen, ed., *Southeast Asia in the 15th Century* (see above).

### Recent Conference Presentations

- “The Age of Gem Trade in Asian History, c. 1279-1911.” Presented at the border-crossing panel “Society and Circulation in Eastern Eurasia” for the 58th annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, April 5-9, 2006, San Francisco.
- “The Expansion of the Nanzhao-Dali Kingdom.” Presented at the “Workshop on Asian Expansions: Historical Processes of Polity Expansion in Asia,” Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 12-13 May, 2006.
- “An Age of Gunpowder in Eastern Asia, c. 1390-1683.” Lecture to be delivered at the workshop on “Theoretical Analysis of the Continuity and Discontinuity between the Early-Modern and Modern Periods in East and Southeast Asia,” Osaka & Kyushu University, Japan, January 11-20, 2006.
- “Qing-Burmese Gem Trade, c. 1644-1911.” To be presented at the workshop “Ethnic Chinese Merchants and Chinese Capitalism in Southeast Asia: A History through Commodities,” Academic Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, Dec. 19-20, 2005 (invited and fully funded)
- “The Moral World of Longquan Village.” To be presented at “The Second Annual California State University International Research Forum and Festival,” California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, November 15, 2005.
- “Gunpowder Technology and Commerce in East and Southeast Asia, c. 1368-1683.” Presented at workshop “Northeast Asia in Maritime Perspective: A Dialogue with Southeast Asia,” Oct. 29-30, 2004, Okinawa, Japan.
- “Qi Jiguang and the Japanese Invasion of Korea (1592-98)” (border-crossing panel). Presented at the border-crossing panel “**Perspectives on the First**

**Greater East Asian War and Its Aftermath, ca. 1560–1620,”** the 56th meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, March 4-7, 2004, San Diego.

### **Professional Services and other Academic Activities**

- Chair, panel of “Terrorists, Mortal Combat, and Women’s Communities,” Phi Alpha Theta Southern California Regional Conference, April 29, 2006.
- Co-chair & organizer, panel of “Globalizing Oral History: Understanding Rural China through Fieldwork.” To be presented at “The Second Annual California State University International Research Forum and Festival,” California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, November 15, 2005.
- Editor, E-AsPac (electronic journal of the scholarly association ASPAC [Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast]) (<http://mcel.pacificu.edu/aspac/home/aspac.html>).
- Coordinator, “California State University, Fullerton-Zhengzhou University Chinese Village Oral History Project” (funded by the President of Cal State Fullerton; undertaken in June 2005).
- Manuscripts reviewer for Journal of Southeast Asian Studies, Journal of Burma Studies, The Ming Studies, and Columbia University Press.
- Chair, panel of “The Ming Factor,” Workshop “Northeast Asia in Maritime Perspective: A Dialogue with Southeast Asia,” Oct. 29-30, 2004, Okinawa, Japan.
- Member of the Organizing Committee, “Workshop on Southeast Asia in the Fifteenth Century and the Ming Factor,” 18-19 July 2003, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- Principal organizer of panel “Yunnan as Southeast Asia” (“Border-crossing panel”), the 55th Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, March 27-30, 2003, NYC.
- Panel organizer and chair, “China-Burma Relations Panel.” The International Conference on “Burma-Myanma(r) Research and its Future Implications for Scholars and Policymakers,”

### **21-25 September, 2002, Gothenburg, Sweden.**

- Program co-chair & panel moderator, Burma Studies Conference, October 2-4, 1998, Dekalb, Northern Illinois University.
- Moderator, History Panel, Burma Studies Group Colloquium, October 26-27, 1995, Dekalb, Northern Illinois University.