



# B.A.D.A.A.S.

Beginnings of Activism for the  
Department of Asian American Studies

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UCI Office of  
Inclusive  
Excellence  
Spring 2020

Does everyone feel safe,  
respected and valued at  
UCI? How can we improve?  
(Part 2)

# OUTLINE



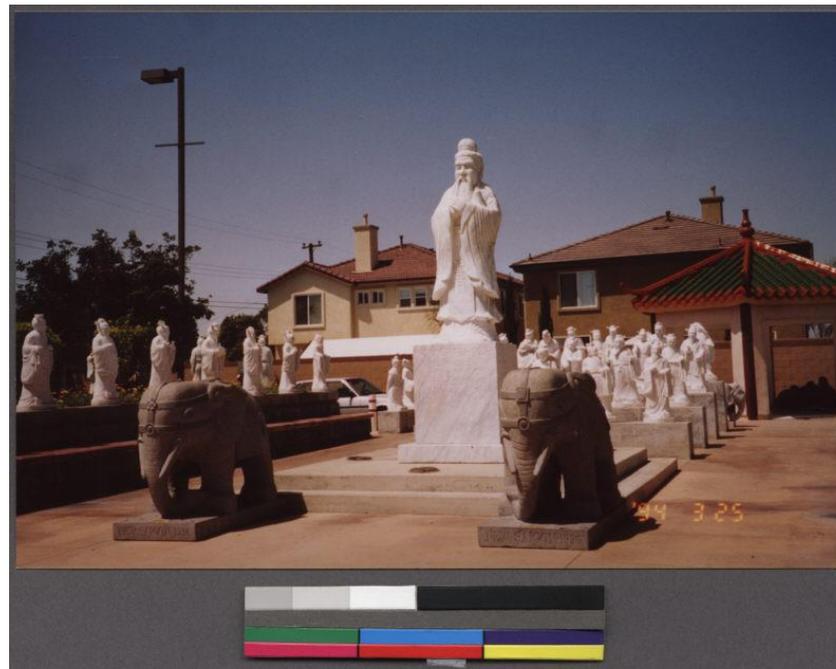
- Introduction: who we are, how we started working together
  - Asian American Studies (25<sup>th</sup> anniversary)
  - Southeast Asian Archive (30<sup>th</sup> anniversary)
- Research Internship Goals
  - Foreground students and student activism
  - Reveal what's missing in the historical record
  - Empower students to be records creators (history-makers)

“I came to UCI not knowing what direction I wanted to go, aside from the physical sciences. However, after taking one class, I was introduced to all the history and oppression that not only Asian Americans and Asians faced, but also minorities in America....I delved into books and was inspired to expand my knowledge of who I am and my peers as well....I also learned that these histories don't define our paths or our futures. I think that's what kept me going.”  
~Erica Eao

# Seeing Yourself in History: Community Archives and the Fight Against Symbolic Annihilation

~Michelle Caswell~

“Given the long trajectory of archival use, in which remnants of the past are preserved in the present for use in the future, the symbolic annihilation marginalized communities face in the archives has far-reaching consequences for both how communities see themselves and how history is written for decades to come. If archives are to be true and meaningful reflections of the diversity of society instead of distorted funhouse mirrors that magnify privilege, then they must dispense with antiquated notions of whose history counts and make deliberate efforts to collect voices that have been marginalized by the mainstream.”



UCI Southeast Asian Archive; Anne Frank Photographs  
Cultural Court in Little Saigon, Westminster, CA  
2003

# Research Skills

- Archival research
- Community outreach
- Oral history
- Storytelling through short documentaries, website

(<https://sites.uci.edu/badaas/>)



# Materials from the archives



B.A.D.A.A.S.@UCI  
The Beginnings of Activism for the  
Department of Asian American Studies  
University of California, Irvine



Rice Paper, a UCI student newspaper published from 1991 to 1997, analyzed Asian American issues on campus and in the broader community. Its writers and editors helped to advocate for the establishment of Asian American Studies at UCI.

 **UCI** Department of Asian American Studies  
B.A.D.A.A.S. UCI Libraries | OC & SEAA Center

"This alternative newsmagazine represented a voice for the Asian Pacific American community at UCI. The paper educated and helped raise awareness on this campus."

- Audrena Cheung, 1997 Final Rice Paper Publication

# Community Engagement

Opportunities to engage with alumni and build community around shared interest in Asian American Studies

Student scholarship funded by alums



2017 Homecoming

2017 Asian American Studies graduation reception



# Academic / Professional Development

Opportunities for undergraduate students to gain experience in presenting their research at academic conferences



2018 Association  
for Asian American  
Studies Conference  
in San Francisco

2017 American  
Association of  
University  
Professors  
conference,  
Washington DC



## Archives and Activism

## Creating Knowledge with Community and Students at the Center

- Future Directions
  - Learning from Our AAPI Elders
    - OIE Spirit Award
    - Historypin Site
  - Sharing Comfort and Care
    - California Humanities
- Questions?
- Breakout room:
  - How might your unit utilize this model of research and student/community engagement?
  - How do you define community? How do you help make everyone feel safe, respected, and valued at UCI?

