

SEUNG-JOON LEE

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

National University of Singapore, Department of History
Associate Professor (2016–Present)
Assistant Professor (2007–2016)

University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, Department of History
Assistant Professor (2005–2007)

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, Department of History
PhD (2005)
Field of Study: East Asia/Modern China

Korea University
MA, History (1996)
BA, Asian History (1993)

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS (SELECT)

Extramural:

National Humanities Center Residential Fellowship, Research Triangle, NC
Henry Luce East Asia Fellow (2019-2020)

Needham Research Institute Jing Brand Scholarship (Spring, 2018)
Needham Research Institute, University of Cambridge

D. Kim Foundation for the History of Science and Technology in East Asia (2014-2015)
Traveling and Research Grant

Harvard-Yenching Institute Visiting Scholar Program (2013–2014)
Harvard-Yenching Institute, Harvard University

Internal:

Humanities and Social Science International Sabbatical Fellowship (2019/2020)
Office of Deputy President for Research & Technology,
National University of Singapore

Humanities and Social Science Faculty Research Fellowship (Spring, 2018)
Office of Deputy President for Research & Technology,
National University of Singapore

Faculty Research Award for Promising Researcher (2011)
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, National University of Singapore

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Revolutions at the Canteens: Labor, Energy, and the Politics of Diet in Industrial China, 1910s–1950s (manuscript complete)

Gourmets in the Land of Famine: the Culture and Politics of Rice in Modern Canton
(Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2011)

Reviewed by

1. Julia C. Strauss, *China Quarterly* 206 (June 2011): 456–57.
2. Edward Melillo, (Aug. 2011): (<http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=32797>)
3. Emily Hill, *Twentieth Century China* (Aug. 2011): (<http://www.thechinabeat.org/?p=3639>)
4. Amy Zader, *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*: (Feb. 2012).
5. Dominique Tyle, S.J. *Shenzhou jiaoliu* (Macau Ricci Institute) 9, no. 2 (2012).
6. Tae-ho Kim, *Technology and Culture* 53, no. 1 (Apr. 2012): 225–26.
7. Xavier Paules, *Vingtième siècle* no. 114 (Apr. 2012): 277–78.
8. Erica J. Peters, *Gastronomica; the Journal of Food and Culture* 12, no. 3 (Fall, 2012): 110–11.
9. Edward Rhoads, *China Review International* 18, no. 2 (2012): 204–209.
10. Yusheng Yao, *Agricultural History* 86, no. 4 (Oct. 2012): 278–80.
11. Luo Leran, *Hanxue yanjiu tongxun* (Taiwan) 31, no. 4 (Nov. 2012): 38–39.
12. Wing-ho Wong, *Journal of History and Anthropology* (Hong Kong) 10:1 (2012): 142–45.
13. Kang Jina, *Chungguk kŭnhyŏndaesa yŏn'gu* (Seoul, S. Korea) 56 (Dec. 2012): 223–31.
14. Sucheta Mazumdar, *Social History* 38, no. 1 (Mar. 2013): 133–34.
15. Tomoko Shiroyama, *Pacific Affairs* 86, no 4 (Dec. 2013): 911–13.
16. Nancy C. Chen, *China Journal* 72 (Jul. 2014): 212–14.
17. Mark S. Swislocki, *Food, Culture, and Society* 17: 3 (Sep. 2014): 513–15.
18. Jia-chen Fu, *East Asian Science, Technology, and Medicine* no. 9 (Jan. 2015): 1–4.
19. Prakash Kurma, *Middle Ground Journal* no. 12 (May 2016): (<https://middlegroundjournal.com>.)

Journal Articles

“Canteens and the Politics of Working-Class Diets in Industrial China, 1920–1937.”
Modern Asian Studies 54, no.1 (Jan. 2020): 1–29.

“Airborne Prawn and Decayed Rice: Food Politics in Wartime Chongqing.”
Journal of Modern Chinese History 13, no. 1 (Sep. 2019): 124–147.

“Expertise Marginalized: Quality Inspection and the Grain Market in Republican China,” *Frontiers of History in China* 10, no. 4 (Dec. 2015): 668–94.

“The Patriot’s Scientific Diet: Nutrition Science and Dietary Reform Campaigns in China, 1910s–1950s,” *Modern Asian Studies* 49, no. 6 (Nov. 2015): 1808–39.

“Taste in Numbers: Science and the Food Problem in Republican Guangzhou, 1927–1937,” *Twentieth-Century China* 35, no. 2 (April, 2010): 81–103.

Book Chapters

“Striking for Rice: The Struggle for the ‘Rice Allowance’ in Republican China,” in *Proletarian China: A Century of Chinese Labor*, Edited by Ivan Franceschini and Christian Sorace (London: Verso, 2022)

“Rice and Maritime Modernity: the Modern Chinese State and the South China Sea Rice Trade, 1911–1937,” *Rice: Global Networks and New Histories*. Edited by Francesca Bray, Dagmar Schafer, and Edda Fields-Black (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015).

Book Reviews:

The Master in the Bondage: Factory Workers in China, 1949–2019 By Huaiyin Li (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2023), *Journal of Asian Studies* (forthcoming)

Forging Global Fordism: Nazi Germany, Soviet Russia, and the Contest over the Industrial Order By Stefan Link, (Princeton University Press, 2020). H-Diplo (roundtable review, 2022)

Moral Foods: The Construction of Nutrition and Health in Modern Asia. Eds. by Angela Ki Che Leung and Melissa L. Caldwell, (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2019) [in Korean]. *Hanguk Kwahaksa hakhoe chi* [The Korean Society for History of Science Review] 43, no. 1 (Apr. 2021): 281–86.

Bitter and Sweet: Food, Meaning, and Modernity in Rural China. By Ellen Oxfeld. (Oakland: University of California Press, 2017) *Journal of Asian Studies* 77, no. 3 (Aug. 2018): 786–88.

Negotiating Religion in Modern China: State and Common People in Guangzhou, 1900–1937. By Poon Shuk-wah (Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2011) *China Review International* 20, no.3 & 4 (2013): 359–62.

Cuisine, Colonialism, and Cold War: Food in Twentieth-Century Korea. By Katarzyna J. Cwiertka. (London: Reaktion, 2012) *Agricultural History* 88, no. 3 (Summer, 2014): 467–68.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Mao’s Industrious Revolution: Food and the Socialist Industrialization Plan in the 1950s PRC” (Research article in preparation)

“Enemies at the Granaries: Wartime Environment and Food Politics in Modern China, 1937–1958” (Research article in preparation)

“A Miracle Rice beyond the Greater East Asian Co-prosperity Sphere: A Transnational History of Rice Breeding Technology in Twentieth-Century East Asia” (Research article in preparation)

“Spectacular Compassion: the Transnational Merchant Networks and Famine Relief in South China, 1900–1919” (Research article in preparation)

INVITED LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

“Seeing like an Engineer: Thermodynamics and the Global Politics of the Factory Diet in the 1920s-1930s,” Fellow Seminar, National Humanities Center, Durham, NC (April 2020)

“Canteens and the Biopolitics of Food in Industrial China,”
Invited to Carolina Asia Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Feb. 2020)

“Science, Food, and Energy in Twentieth-Century China.”
Invited to a Keynote Speaker to the Workshop, “Cultures of Chinese Science, Technology and Medicine” hosted by Science Museum, London, UK (June 2018)

“Food Science and the Politics of Eating in Republican Shanghai.”
Invited to the Text Reading Seminar, Needham Research Institute, University of Cambridge (June 2018)

“Canteens and the Politics of Working-Class Diets in Industrial China, 1920s-1950s.”
Invited to “China Research Seminar series hosted by the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge (May 2018)

“People’s Vital Minimum: Canteens and Nutrition Science in Industrial China.”
Invited to “Twentieth-Century Think Tank Talk,” Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge (February 2018)

“Building People’s Nutrition: Food, Energy, and Socialist Industrialization in China, 1950s.” Invited to Institute of Taiwan History, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan (Sep. 2017)

“Food and Hunger in Wartime China.” Invited to the Berkeley-Cambridge Summer Institute: “China in a Global World War II,” University of Cambridge (July 2017)

“Joseon Korea and Early Modern East Asia.” Invited to the Monthly Series of Public Lectures at the Asian Civilization Museum, Singapore (May, 2017)

“Revolution at the Canteen: Food and Labor Politics in Industrial China, 1910s – 1950s.”
Invited to the workshop, “Culinary Nationalism in Asia,” University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Mar. 2017)

“Canteen and the Politics of Labor in Industrial China, 1910s-1950s.” Invited to History Programme Seminar Series, Nanyang Technology University, Singapore (Oct. 2016)

“Provincial Divergence: the Great Depression and Guangdong Economy.” Invited to

the conference, "Coping with transnational crisis: Chinese economic and social lives in East Asian Ports-Cities, 1850-1950," Department of History, Chinese University of Hong Kong (Jun. 2016)

"Revolution at the Canteen: Food and Labor Politics in Industrial China, 1910s - 1950s." Invited to the Department of History, Chinese University of Hong Kong (Mar. 2016)

"Revolution at the Canteen: Food and Labor Politics in Industrial China, 1910s - 1950s." Invited to Harvard-Yenching Institute, Harvard University (Nov. 2015)

"Expertise Marginalized: Quality Inspection and the Grain Market in Republican China." Invited to the workshop, "Rethinking the Market in Modern China," Center for History and Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (Apr. 2014)

"Archival Research in the Age of Digitization"
Invited to Council on East Asian Libraries, the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (Mar. 2014)

"The Patriot's Scientific Diet: Nutrition Science and Food Politics in Modern China, 1910s-1950s."
Invited to History Department, University College London (Jan. 2014)

"The Patriot's Scientific Diet: Nutrition Science and Food Politics in Modern China, 1910s-1950s."
Invited to Modern Chinese History Seminar, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University (Nov. 2013)

"Gourmets in the Land of Famine: the Culture and Politics of Rice in Modern Canton."
Invited to Visiting Scholar Talk Series, Harvard-Yenching Institute, Harvard University (Oct. 2013)

"Rice and Maritime Modernity: Modern Chinese State and the South China Sea Rice Trade, 1911-1937."
Invited to the workshop, "New Histories of Rice," Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (Berlin, Mar. 2011)

"Politics, Memory, and the National Identity Construction of Singapore."
Invited to the workshop, "Asian Memories: Interaction, Integration, and Diversion," organized by Mikyung Kim. Hiroshima City University-Hiroshima Peace Institute (Atlanta, GA, Feb. 2010)

PAPER PRESENTATIONS (SELECT)

"*Chinese People's Minimum Nutrition Requirements and Rethinking China's Labor History, 1937-1958*" at the British Association for Chinese Studies Annual Conference, King's College, London (Sep. 2023)

Canteens, Seeing Like an Engineer: Thermodynamics and the Politics of the Factory

Diet in 20th Century China” at the History of Science Society Annual Conference, Chicago, IL (Nov. 2022)

“Canteen, Seeing like an Engineer: The Politics of Working-Class Diets in Republican China” at 6th International Conference on Food History and Food Studies Milan, Italy (Online, June 2021)

“Beyond the White Terror: Food and Labor Politics in Nationalist China” The British Association for Chinese Studies Annual Conference, King’s College, London, UK (Sep. 2018)

“Mao’s Culinary Revolution: Food Politics and Socialist Industrialization in 1950s-China,” The Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Washington DC (Mar. 2018)

SCHOLARLY REFEREE

Publishers:

Cambridge University Press

John’s Hopkins University Press

MIT Press

Routledge

University of Michigan Press

University of Washington Press

Journals:

Bulletin of the Institute of Modern History (中央研究院近代史研究所集刊)

Cross-Currents: East Asian History and Culture Review

EASTS: East Asian Science, Technology, and Society

Endeavour

European Review of Economic History

Global Food History

Journal of Chinese Military History

Journal of Modern Chinese History

Modern Asian Studies

Modern China

Twentieth-Century China

Fellowships and Grants:

Harvard-Yenching Visiting Scholarship

Harvard-Yenching Institute, 2023-2024

Wang Gungwu Medal and Prize Committee

NUS Graduate School, 2022-2025

National Humanities Center (Research Triangle, NC)

Residential Fellowship, 2020-2021

Joan Cahalin Robinson Prize Committee,
The SHOT (Society for History of Technology), 2015-2017
Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship Scheme,
Hong Kong Research Grant Council
General Research Fund & Early Career Scheme,
Hong Kong Research Grant Council

REFERENCES

Available upon request