

ASDP 2020 Host City Proposal - Atlanta

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Background:

At the ASDP 2017 conference in Portland, Liam Madden (GSU Perimeter College) conceived the idea and informally discussed with ASDP leadership the possibility of the USG Asia Council hosting a future conference in Atlanta, an idea for which ASDP was amenable.

The close ties between USG faculty and ASDP over the years, as well as the strong showing from Georgia faculty at ASDP 2017 (ten participants, all presenting), reinforced this idea.

Another strong consideration was the long history of statewide faculty development workshops sponsored by the USG Asia Council, giving the council exceptional experience in this area and positioning it as a national leaders in this area.

The initial proposal was for 2019, but since the annual national conference is sponsored by the ASDP Alumni Board in even years, and USG Asia Council member Eric Spears (Columbus State) is on the board, it seemed logical to amend the proposal for 2020, which ASDP supported and approved.

Positive Considerations for Atlanta:

1. The number of faculty with experience in both the Asia Council and ASDP located in Georgia, particularly Atlanta, who can contribute to organization.
2. Convenience and affordability of air and ground transportation (Atlanta Airport, major and regional airlines, MARTA, interstates 85, 75, and 20).
3. Various conference hotel options in Midtown relevant to the size and scope of the ASDP conference
Downtown Atlanta is NOT an option, as most hotels cater to larger groups, and the area is not as pleasant for a conference experience as Midtown; tourist sites downtown are close and easily assessable by MARTA from Midtown.
4. Opportunity to offer pre-conference and conference activities and programs that will distinguish this conference (more info below).

Possible Hotels:

Both hotels appear to have cheaper rates than the conference rates for the 2018 D.C. hotel, so negotiated conference rates could make both appealing given the Midtown locations (photos below).

Atlanta Hyatt Midtown	Georgia Tech Conference Center
10 th and Peachtree/Piedmont <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 block from Margaret Mitchell House• 2 blocks from MARTA station / Piedmont Park• 3-4 blocks from High Museum of Art• Great restaurants in ALL directions	800 Spring Street (Tech Square) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Located in Tech Square• 3 blocks from Peachtree St.• 2 blocks from Marta Station• 2 blocks from Varsity Drive-In



Distinctive Conference Features:

- Access to exceptional plenary speakers in the Atlanta area and vicinity (Emory, Georgia Tech, UGA, foreign consulates, government agencies, NGOs, etc.)
- Access to cultural displays and demonstrations from Asian organizations that I work with regularly: Japanese Consulate, Japan-America Society, Taipei Economic & Cultural Office (TECO), and various artists (see below)
- Access to cultural entertainment, e.g. Atlanta Taiko Project (performed at 2017 Asia Council workshop).



Pre-Conference Program:

In a previous email, I included info about a Pre-conference Asian Culture Professional Development Tour that I organized for Asia Council members in conjunction with the 2017 conference in Portland, and plans for the same with the 2018 conference in D.C. As the largest city in the south with one of the largest Asian American communities in the U.S., Atlanta offers exceptional opportunities for a similar pre-conference program in 2020 open to all conference participants.

See the information below for a proposed itinerary.



ASDP 2020 ▪ Atlanta, GA
Pre-Conference **ASIAN CULTURE**
Professional Development Tour



ASIA COUNCIL



University System of Georgia

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Atlanta [VISITOR INFO](#)

This traditional Hindu mandir, or place of worship, is affiliated with the Swaminarayan branch of Hinduism. The largest of its kind outside of India, It was constructed in accordance with ancient Hindu architectural scriptures. It is made of 34,450 pieces of hand-carved Italian marble, Turkish Limestone and Indian pink sandstone, situated on 30 landscaped acres. The complex also includes an exhibition on the key tenets of Hinduism. Open daily to visitors of any faith.



The largest and oldest organization in the Southeast to focus on issues and concerns of Asian Americans, especially women, children and low-income families, the missions of CPACS is to promote self-sufficiency and equity for immigrants, refugees and the underprivileged through comprehensive health and social services, capacity building, and advocacy. [INFO](#)



Note: Participants who wish to visit only the Hindu Temple, or only the temple and CPACS, may take the metro back to the conference hotel, as the station is located adjacent to CPACS, and very close to the Korean sites below.

Optional Korean Cultural Sites

Korean Market	Korean BBQ	Korean Bakery

Explore Asian cultural sites in metro Atlanta before the conference begins with colleagues from the
USG ASIA COUNCIL ▪ Minimal fees for transportation ▪ MORE DETAILS FORTHCOMING

Large Friday Exhibits featuring Japan

- Consul General of Japan in Atlanta
- Georgia Japan America Society
- Konnichiwa Club
- Origami Christmas Trees & More
- Atlanta Bonsai Society
- Ichiyo Art Center Ikebana
- Origami & Calligraphy Interactive Tables
- GSU Perimeter College Japan Club cultural posters (70+)



Small Saturday Exhibit featuring Taiwan

TECO – Taipei Economic & Cultural Organization / Atlanta Chinese School – featuring Chinese Knots

