Global Medicine in Chinese East Asia, 1937–1970
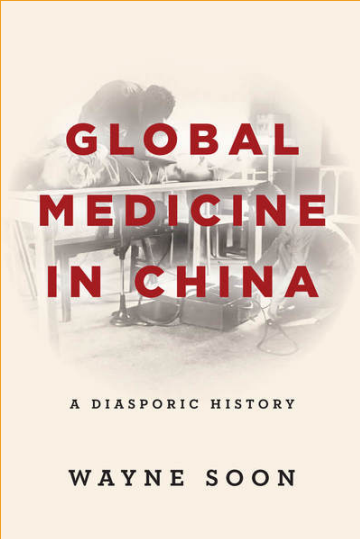
**MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 8, 2021**

TIME: 6:00 PM

ZOOM MEETING ID: 861 4681 7418
https://arizona.zoom.us/j/86146817418

GLOBAL
MEDICINE
IN CHINA

A DIASPORIC HISTORY

WAYNE SOON

Through a critical examination of how the Chinese diaspora came to shape biomedicine in China and Taiwan from 1937 to 1970, my talk makes the case for a new concept of "global medicine" in understanding the multivalent flows of medical practices and ideas circulating the world that shaped Chinese East Asia in the 20th century. I will explore two case studies in my book for this presentation. The first examines how Chinese American women medical personnel established the first Chinese blood bank in New York City and China. The second reveals how Singapore-born and Edinburgh-educated Dr. Robert Lim and his collaborators relocated the National Defense Medical Center from China to Taiwan in 1948 despite the tumultuous Chinese Civil War. This presentation highlights the critical intersections of scientific expertise, political freedoms, and transnational connections in shaping global medicine through the critical examination of these two medical encounters between the Chinese diaspora and local Chinese and Taiwanese.

Dr. Wayne Soon
Vassar College

WAYNE SOON (PhD Princeton) is an Assistant Professor of History at Vassar College. His book, Global Medicine in China: A Diasporic History (Stanford University Press, 2020), tells the global medical histories of China and Taiwan through the lens of diasporic Chinese medical personnel, who were central in introducing new practices of military medicine, blood banking, mobile medicine, and mass medical training to China and Taiwan. Universal care, practical medical education, and mobile medicine are all lasting legacies of this effort on both sides of the Taiwan Straits. Dr Soon's published articles can be found in *Twentieth Century China, Bulletin of the History of Medicine, American Journal of Chinese Studies*, and *East Asian Science, Technology and Society: An International Journal.*