

Teachers in Chicago and the Chicago Region

Geographical Names: Their Origin, Meaning, and Roles as Cultural Icons

Have you ever wondered about the origin of a geographical name used in the Chicago Region? “Blue Island”, for example, is a regional geographical name. “What is in a Name” is the topic for the workshop. International naming issues, such as the East Sea and Salish Sea will be examined. Geographical naming is a persistent issue and differs from place name recognition. Naming inquires about the origin and meaning of a geographical place name.

When: October 24, 2015

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Where: Rosati Room, Richardson Library at DePaul University Lincoln Park Campus
2350 N. Kenmore Ave., Chicago, IL 60614

Participants: Social Studies Teachers in Chicago Metropolitan Area (Teachers of social studies, history, civics, geography, and economics are invited).

Geographical names communicate the power of place in political, social, and economical contexts. Geopolitical fault zones sometimes occur over the names used to express conflicting, but deeply held, emotive values about places. Geographical names capture the cultural attributes and historical contexts of people living in a particular place. A geographical name conjures up an expression of the past, the meaning of the present, and anticipation of the future. This workshop will present historical and contemporary examples of geographical naming and its consequences, ranging from sea names to island names.

Participants are invited to a group dinner following the workshop at restaurant close to DePaul University from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

Expenses covered:

Registration is complementary for current teachers. Registration for other attendees is \$75.00. Pre-service teachers are invited to apply; invitations will be extended based on space available. Mileage will be paid for those who drive more than 10 miles per round trip, and a maximum of 60 miles per round trip .

Parking will be provided.

Materials will be provided.

Dinner following the workshop will be provided.

For more information or to register, please contact Prof. Jongnam Choi <chojinam@hotmail.com>.

Workshop hosts are Prof. Jongnam Choi, Western Illinois University, and Prof. Joseph Stoltman, Western Michigan University, who have organized the Workshop. Both are professional geographers with major interests in geographical naming as an engaging topic within social studies education.