Announcing a Chinese Studies public talk:

“Soochow Redux: The Life of the Law School in Taiwan”

Alison Conner

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Wednesday, November 14, 2018, 12:00 p.m.
Moore Hall Rm 109, University of Hawaii at Manoa
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Soochow Law School, which was founded by Americans in Shanghai in 1915, was one of the most famous Chinese law schools during the 1930s and 1940s. Known as The Comparative Law School of China, it trained many of the country’s best lawyers, law drafters and academics, before it was closed in the 1952 reorganization of higher education. But Soochow graduates in Taipei worked to reestablish their school (and the university) in Taipei, and, in 1954, they succeeded in gaining approval for the Soochow University Law College. This presentation will discuss Soochow’s history in Taiwan: how did a renowned Shanghai institution become the first private university and one of the earliest law schools in Taiwan? How do Soochow people view their history in Shanghai—and is it really their history?

About the Speaker: Alison Conner is Professor of Law and a Carlsmith Ball Faculty Scholar at the William S Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. Her research interests include comparative law, Chinese legal history, and the depiction of law in Chinese film. Her recent articles include: “Courtroom Drama, Chinese Style,” 17 Journal of Comparative Law 437 (2017); “Law and Justice in Evening Rain,” 47 Hong Kong Law Journal 615 (2017); and “Shanghai Calling: Law and Happiness in Another China,” forthcoming in 18 Journal of Comparative Law (2018).