



Dr. May Gao

SAUPO Chair

Professor of Communication & Asian Studies

Kennesaw State University, Atlanta, GA

mgao@kennesaw.edu, 770-598-7009

Dr. May Hongmei Gao is a Professor of Communication and Asian Studies at Kennesaw State University in Atlanta, GA since 2004. Dr. Gao is the Founder and Chair of the *Symposium on ASIA-USA Partnership Opportunities (SAUPO)*, the largest Asia business conference in the U. S. SAUPO has become an effective platform for information exchange, network building, global visibility, and cross border investment since 2011. Dr. Gao has provided business communication consulting service for Duracell, P&G, Nanfu, Euramax, tvsdesign, Tyson Chicken, Taiping Carpets, Cobb Vantress, and Kids'R'Kids China. Dr. Gao conducts research in communication, Asian Studies, business, and conflict resolution. The focus of her current research is on global business expansion strategies for companies in Asia Pacific, focusing on Chinese companies coming to the U.S. and American companies going to China, Japan and Korea.

Both "The White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders" and "Asian American Heritage Foundation" recognize Dr. Gao for her leadership in enhancing business with and education on Asia. *Georgia Asian Times* named Dr. Gao as one of the "25 Most Influential Asian Americans in Georgia (2013 & 2016)." Dr. Gao holds a Ph.D. in Communication from the University of South Florida, an MA in Mass Communication from Brigham Young University and a BA in English from Shanghai International Studies University. Dr. Gao worked as a PR Specialist in the University of Science and Technology of China from 1989-1998, and as a TV Anchorwoman at Anhui Television Station from 1994-1998. She came to BYU for her graduate education in 1998. She lives with her husband Todd and son Marlon in Atlanta, GA. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening and travel.