



Raymond Burghardt is director of East-West Seminars.

INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON CRITICAL ISSUES

7TH SENIOR POLICY SEMINAR

Tense relations in Northeast Asia, regional economic growth, and Islam in Asia were the topics discussed when influential government officials, private sector leaders, and academic experts from throughout the Asia Pacific convened at the Center for the 2006 Senior Policy Seminar.

ASIA PACIFIC EXECUTIVE FORUM

Asia Pacific Executive Forums provide American industry leaders, policymakers and other experts with opportunities to discuss key issues that influence business and economic development in the Asia Pacific region. The November 2006 seminar, held in Youngstown, Ohio, focused on “The Rise of China: Challenges, Risks and Opportunities.”

SINO-AMERICAN SECURITY DIALOGUE

East-West Seminars hosted this annual retreat for 20 security experts from the United States and China on the topic, “U.S. – China Relations and the Security Dilemma in the Taiwan Strait.” This seminar, funded by the Ford Foundation, was organized by University of Colorado Professor Peter Gries, a 2005 EWC POSCO Fellow.

PACIFIC DIPLOMACY PROGRAM

In November, a new diplomacy program designed for leaders in government, business, civil society, and media from Pacific Islands Forum countries was launched in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific. The series of short but intensive modular lectures conducted in Fiji over five weeks focused on key international issues that impact the Pacific islands region. East-West Center specialists presented on the topics: “Understanding the Influence of Culture in Negotiations,” “Architecture of the World Trade Organization and APEC issues,” and “Fisheries Issues.”

At the Senior Policy Seminar, John Osborn, member of the EWC Board of Governors and Frank Jannuzzi (center), senior East Asia specialist for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, listen to James A. Kelly (right), former U.S. assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

The East-West Seminars program offers short-term dialogue and international study tours that address critical issues affecting the region. Designed for government and business leaders, journalists and other professionals, and scholars from the United States and Asia Pacific, these seminars engage colleagues in discussion and analysis and serve as a catalyst for regional cooperation.

The highlights of 2006 included a Senior Policy Seminar that brought together prominent leaders from throughout the region; and four new initiatives — the Health Journalism Fellowships, the Cambodia Journalism Fellowships, the Pacific Diplomacy Program, and the Vanuatu Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management National Action Plan Workshop. These new initiatives supplemented our annual exchange programs for journalists and emerging leaders.



MEDIA PROGRAMS

JEFFERSON FELLOWSHIPS

The 2006 Jefferson Fellowships programs focused on South Asia, energy, and population and social dynamics. A total of 36 journalists participated in the spring, fall, and newly added winter programs, supported by a grant from The Freeman Foundation.

The 13 winter Jefferson Fellows explored the theme, “South Asia Shining,” in a study tour to Pakistan and India. The journalists interviewed key leaders throughout the seminar, including Pakistan’s President Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz, and Admiral William J. Fallon, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command in Honolulu. Fellows visited a progressive madrassah and a refugee camp for earthquake victims in Pakistan, then explored India’s IT boom with a visit to Bangalore’s Infosys and a poor rural elementary school connected to the world through technology. EWC alumni coordinated the Chennai site visits, which included an AIDS treatment center, a movie production studio, a Ford assembly plant, and a village devastated by the 2004 tsunami.

The 12 spring Jefferson Fellows focused on “Powering the Future: Energy Sources and Alternatives” visiting Sacramento, Houston, Lafayette (Louisiana), Seoul, and Beijing. They met with California’s Energy Commission and Environmental Protection Agency, and heard the closing arguments for the Enron trial in Houston. They also explored Korea’s innovative alternative energy programs and met with North Korean defectors. In Beijing, they



Manmohan Sharma (right), an Uttar Pradesh government representative, introduces Fall Jefferson Fellows at a village assembly in India.

heard from the Foreign Ministry spokesman, the campaign director for Greenpeace, and the president of BP China.

The Fall Fellowship focused on “Population and Social Dynamics in the Asia Pacific Region.” Working with the EWC’s Population and Health research staff, this 21-day study tour with stops in Honolulu, Tokyo, Hiroshima, Bangkok, Chiang Mai, New Delhi and Agra, focused on issues of population aging and fertility decline, gender relations, marriage and family, youth concerns, immigration, and health care. Highlights included an interview with India’s

Minister of Health, discussions with women’s groups in impoverished urban areas and rural villages in India and Thailand, homestays in Hiroshima, and dinners with EWC alumni in New Delhi.

In 2006, the Mary Morgan Hewett Fund, administered by The Friends of the EWC, granted its first annual female Jefferson Fellowships Program participant award. Former Jefferson Fellowships Curator Robert Hewett and his friends established the Fund to honor the journalistic achievements of his late wife.



Spring Jefferson Fellows meeting with the president of a nuclear power plant in Kyeongju, South Korea.

Winter Jefferson Fellows interview Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf in Islamabad.



4TH SENIOR JOURNALISTS SEMINAR

Journalists from the U.S. and Asian countries with substantial Muslim populations participated in the 2006 seminar aimed at fostering understanding on U.S.-Muslim issues. The seven American journalists visited Jakarta and Dhaka, where they interviewed Indonesia's Minister of Defense and Bangladesh government leaders, and stayed at an Islamic school. The Asian journalists visited Washington, D.C.; Cincinnati; San Francisco; San Jose; and Honolulu, where they met with their U.S. counterparts. Highlights included interviews with U.S.

Congressional representatives, a synagogue visit, homestays, and the group's panel presentation at the Asian American Journalists Association's convention.

HEALTH JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS

This new two-week program, co-sponsored with the University of Hong Kong, focused on infectious diseases and pandemic prevention in Asia. Four U.S. and five Asian health journalists traveled to Hong Kong to learn about infectious disease containment since the SARS outbreak, then to Kunming and Lijiang in Yunnan, China. In Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, journalists met with health experts to discuss issues around tuberculosis, dengue fever, and Vietnam's leading role in preventing the spread of avian flu.

Health Journalism Fellows interview leading health specialists at a tuberculosis hospital in Haiphong, Vietnam.



Senior Journalist Seminar participants interviewing Amir Ma'aruf (left), member of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI).

CAMBODIA JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS

Six U.S. journalists participated in this new study tour to Cambodia, co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Program, and aimed at exposing journalists to developing Asian nations that receive scant U.S. media attention. Highlights included interviews with government leaders, a round-table discussion with Khmer Rouge victims and the prison guards that brutalized them, and a meeting in the high court of Cambodia, which was preparing for the Khmer Rouge tribunals. In Siem Reap, tourism officials discussed the country's historic preservation challenges and plans.

2ND KOREA-UNITED STATES JOURNALISTS EXCHANGE

This two-week program, "Bridging the Gaps in Understanding," aimed at enhancing the quality and quantity of media reporting on U.S.-Korea issues. American journalists visited Seoul, Pusan, and Geongju in South Korea, while their Korean counterparts traveled to Washington, D.C.; New York; Atlanta; and Minneapolis. Highlights included meetings with South Korea's Secretary of Diplomacy and Security, U.S. Congressional representatives and corporate executives; and a visit to a Korean TV studio. At the conclusion, all participants convened in Honolulu to share ways to improve media coverage of their countries. The program is co-sponsored by the Korea Press Foundation with funding from the Henry Luce Foundation.



HONG KONG JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS

Eight U.S. journalists participated in the 2006 Hong Kong Journalism Fellowships, designed to foster greater understanding of contemporary China and Hong Kong. The two-week program, co-sponsored with the Better Hong Kong Foundation, started at the EWC with a China seminar, followed by a study tour to Beijing, Nanning, Guilin and Hong Kong. Highlights included meetings with officials of the Organizing Committee of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Environment Protection Administration, and the Guangxi Autonomous Region Government.

JAPAN-U.S. JOURNALISTS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Eight Japanese journalists, sponsored by Nihon Shimbun Kyokai (Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association), participated in a two-week study tour on disaster management policies and activities in Hawai'i, Los Angeles, Louisiana (New Orleans and St. Bernard Parish), Mississippi, and Washington, D.C. The journalists investigated new technological advances addressing multiple natural hazards that threaten both the U.S. and Japan, and discussed policy issues and strategies involved in disaster risk reduction. Highlights included interviews with U.S. Congressional representatives and meetings with newspaper reporters recognized for their excellent hurricane coverage.



Hong Kong Journalism fellows participate in a press conference held by the Beijing 2008 Olympics Organizing Committee (above) and visit the new national stadium under construction (right).

2006 ASIA PACIFIC JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS

Six American journalists gathered at the EWC for an Asia seminar then traveled to Singapore and Taiwan, where they met with political, economic, and cultural leaders. Highlights included interviews with Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian and Taipei Mayor Ma Ying-jeou. The program was co-sponsored by the Association of Taiwan Journalists and Singapore International Foundation.



Asia Pacific Journalism Fellows meeting with Singapore's Minister for Information, Communication, and the Arts, Lee Boon Yang (top photo) and Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian (bottom).



KOREAN COMMUNICATIONS STUDENTS SEMINAR

Thirty Korean students and professors from Chung Ang University and Namseoul University came to Hawai'i to learn about American journalism and mass media practices in an EWC seminar co-sponsored with Chung Ang University's Department of Mass Communication.

■ *Susan Kreifels is the Media Programs Coordinator.*



New Generation Seminar participants discuss disaster management issues with American Red Cross staff at their Disaster Operations Center in New Orleans.

LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CHANGING FACES WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

“Women’s Political Empowerment in Asia, the Pacific, and the United States” was the theme of the program, now in its fifth year, which brought together 12 women from mid-level leadership positions throughout the Asia Pacific. The two-week seminar incorporated leadership development workshops,

panel presentations and site visits around Hawai’i followed by a one-week study tour to Thailand, where participants met with women leaders in Thai government, international organizations, and civil society. The program concluded with a regional networking meeting in which 17 previous program participants joined the 2006 group for meetings and site visits in Bangkok and Surat Thani province.

- *Abigail Sines is program specialist for the Changing Faces Women’s Leadership Program.*



“The Changing Faces Program showed me that women leaders all over the world face the same problems, and we all can bring about change, given the skills to do so.”

HASINA KHARBHIH,
PRESIDENT, IMPULSE NGO NETWORK, MEGHALAYA, INDIA

16TH NEW GENERATION SEMINAR

Eighteen emerging leaders from Asia, the Pacific and the United States addressed the theme, “Building a Resilient Asia Pacific Community: Disaster Risk Reduction Tools and Strategies for Decision Makers.” During this two-week program, participants visited the Pacific Disaster Center on Maui; and New Orleans, which provided a case study of disaster management and rehabilitation using a democratic process; and concluding in Washington, DC with sessions about federal level disaster mitigation and management.

- *Ann Hartman is program specialist for the New Generation Seminar.*

VANUATU DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT NATIONAL ACTION PLAN WORKSHOP

In October, 16 Vanuatu government officials attended the four-day workshop in Port Vila, Vanuatu on disaster risk reduction, which was co-sponsored with the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission and the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office. This was the first in a series of Pacific islands national workshops aimed at developing integrated strategies for mainstreaming disaster risk management to improve government capacity to manage disasters and enhance the security of civil society. As an outcome, Vanuatu is the first Pacific island country to develop a national action plan for disaster reduction and management.

- *Meril Dobrin Fujiki is the project manager of the Building the Foundation Program, which encompasses this program on disaster risk reduction and management.*