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 U.S. and Asia Pacific, these seminars engage colleagues in discussion and analysis and serve as a catalyst for regional cooperation.

In the 2008 Asia Pacific Journalism Fellowships Program eight U.S. journalists visited Taiwan, Singapore and Bangkok and met the new Taiwan president.

The Japan-United States Journalists Exchange focused on immigration issues and the U.S. presidential election.

In the Korea-U.S. Journalists Exchange, supported by The Henry Luce Foundation, Korean journalists explored anti-trade sentiments and presidential campaign offices in the Rust Belt, while their American counterparts visited North Korea and met the new South Korean government.

In the Spring 2008 Jefferson Fellowships Asian and American journalists focused on the theme “Beyond the Boomtowns: Development Challenges in ‘the Other China’” while visiting Chongqing and Sichuan in Western China.

The Senior Journalists Seminar on “Bridging Gaps between the United States and Muslim World” engaged journalists from the U.S. and Asian countries with large Muslim populations in dialogue and study tours that ranged from Kolkata to Colorado Springs.

The first in a new series on Urban Asia focused on policy implications of decentralization including democracy and governance, civil society engagement, and environmental risk. The participants included city leaders from Ho Chi Minh City, Jakarta, Kathmandu, Seoul, Manila, Los Angeles, and San Diego plus urban planners.

In the Senior Policy Seminar high-level officials, private sector leaders, and experts discussed the global economy and made recommendations for the next U.S. Administration.

The Conference on Prospects for Peace Across the Taiwan Strait, co-sponsored with the National Committee on American Foreign Policy, and Pacific Forum CSIS, engaged representatives from China, Taiwan and the U.S. in this first three-way Track Two conference on Taiwan since the inauguration of Taiwan’s new president.


Highlights of the 2008 Hong Kong Journalism Fellowship Program included visiting Yunnan, Hong Kong, and the Beijing Olympics Village and meeting with Tibetan monks.

The Asia Pacific Executive Forum held in Dallas, Fort Worth, and Austin focused on “Doing Business in China.”

The 18th New Generation Seminar brought young Asia Pacific and American leaders to Ohio and Washington, D.C. to explore the politics of globalization.

The Fall 2008 Jefferson Fellows followed the U.S. Presidential election through meetings with political leaders and voting constituencies, and attended Palin and Obama rallies.