Seminars programs provide short-term educational experiences for policymakers, professionals and scholars from Asia, the Pacific and the United States seeking greater understanding of the issues and challenges facing the region. The East-West Center provides a neutral meeting place where professionals, specialists and emerging leaders discuss regional issues and build relationships with their counterparts. By facilitating peer-to-peer engagement in a collegial setting, the Center is a catalyst for regional cooperation.

In January 2005 Ambassador Raymond Burghardt was appointed director of East-West Seminars to expand program activities and provide strategic direction. The office now includes all seminar and exchange programs, including media activities.

Anisul Hoque (left) of the Prothom Alo in Bangladesh and David Lamb, a former correspondent for the Los Angeles Times at the Senior Journalists’ Seminar.

“East-West Seminars brings professionals from government, civil society, business and the media together to share knowledge and address issues of regional and global concern. The significance of our short-term dialogue, field study and exchange programs stems from the authority of participants themselves—the people who make, implement and influence policies and attitudes in their respective societies. They are part of a growing Asia Pacific community built on friendship and dedicated to mutual understanding.”

Raymond Burghardt is director of East-West Seminars.
14TH NEW GENERATION SEMINAR

Fourteen emerging leaders from Asia, the Pacific and the United States addressed the theme of “Security and Leadership” at the 14th New Generation Seminar. The two-week program provided younger leaders with an opportunity to strengthen their understanding of regional challenges and establish contact with counterparts throughout the region. Participants from Cambodia, China, India, Malaysia, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, and the United States examined recent changes of government in the Asia Pacific region and the November 2004 elections in the United States. Security issues, the war on terrorism, and regional implications of American foreign policy in Iraq were examined.

In Honolulu, participants met with experts from the East-West Center, the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies, Pacific Forum, and community leaders including the deputy commander of the Pacific Command, the Hawai‘i state adjutant general and members of the Hawai‘i state legislature. The study tour to North Carolina emphasized state-level politics and voter attitudes, economics, minority issues, and the legal underpinnings of U.S. policy in Afghanistan. In Washington, participants gained perspective into international relations and security policy through meetings with officials at the National Security Council and senior staffers on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Ann Hartman is program specialist for the New Generation Seminar.

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION TRAINING SEMINAR

Twenty-one water and wastewater managers from 18 Pacific Island states attended the second program in the Building the Foundation Training series, which provided hands-on training to enhance leadership and team building skills. The program addressed issues identified in the “Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management,” with special emphasis on strengthening management and planning capacity. The seminar also focused on the development of a water authority implementation plan for natural and man-made disasters and extreme events that threaten water supplies.

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

CHANGING FACES WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Women from mid-level leadership positions gathered at the Center for dialogue and professional development related to “Environmental Conservation and Management in the Asia Pacific Region.” Thirteen participants—from the United States, Guam, India, Kazakhstan, Laos, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand—took part in nine days of discussion sessions, skills workshops, panel presentations and site visits, working closely with local environmental organizations and resource persons on Oahu and Maui.

Abigail Sines is program specialist for the Changing Faces Women’s Leadership Program.
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FOR SUSTAINABLE ISLAND DEVELOPMENT: BUILDING SAFER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Directors of national disaster management offices from 17 Pacific Island nations spent two weeks in Honolulu meeting with resource people from the Pacific Disaster Center, Oahu Civil Defense, NOAA’s Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, and other leading agencies. The program provided disaster management specialists with a broad awareness of emerging issues and best practices in and outside of the Asia Pacific region, as well as the skills and tools to strengthen leadership and management practices.

Meril Dobrin Fujiki is project manager of the Building the Foundation Program.

ASIA PACIFIC EXECUTIVE FORUM

Asia Pacific Executive Forum (APEF) programs provide corporate and industry leaders, policymakers and other experts with opportunities to discuss critical issues that influence business and economic development in the Asia Pacific region. There were two APEF programs in 2004: an international conference in New Delhi and a seminar series held in New Orleans and Houston.

At the New Delhi conference, more than 170 delegates discussed the political and economic implications of divestiture and liberalization in key Indian market sectors. Among the issues covered were trends affecting India’s economic and foreign policies, challenges and drivers of the Indian economy, energy policy, and the WTO’s Cancun meeting and its implications for India. The forum included special sessions on India’s relations with the U.S., China and the Asia Pacific region. APEF generated more than 35 news stories citing the East-West Center and EWC specialists.

A series of business and media outreach sessions on “Key Issues in Asia’s Economic Future and Impacts on the United States,” was held in New Orleans and Houston. The gatherings featured presentations by senior Center researchers on the following topics:

- “Asia Pacific Security Outlook,” by EWC President Charles E. Morrison.
- “China’s Capitalist Development: Faultlines, Opportunities, and Prospects for the Asia Pacific,” by Fellow Chris McNally.

ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

More than 90 speakers from 12 countries gathered in Seoul for two days of intensive discussions on the future of mobile communications and technology against the backdrop of the 3G World Congress held in Bangkok in November 2003. Sessions focused on issues related to wireless communication applications and platforms and their social implications on the digital divide. Senior Fellow emeritus Meheroo Jussawalla was the lead EWC researcher for the conference, co-sponsored by the East-West Center and the Korea Information Strategy Development Institute.

Sheree Groves was coordinator of the Seminars Program through June 2004.
**MEDIA ACTIVITIES**

**JEFFERSON FELLOWSHIPS**

Supported by a grant from the Freeman Foundation, the 2004 Jefferson Fellowships programs focused on governance and elections throughout the Asia Pacific-U.S. region. In all, 26 mid- and senior-level journalists increased their understanding of regional issues in the spring and fall programs.

Participants in the spring session represented Bangladesh, China, East Timor (first time this country was represented), India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan and the United States. Journalists began the program at the East-West Center with a week of discussions, lectures and self-study. The Asian journalists visited Washington, Chicago and San Francisco on their study tour while their American counterparts visited Beijing, Tokyo and Manila. The program concluded with all fellows reconvening in Honolulu to compare notes and discuss issues raised in their travels.

In the fall session, 12 journalists from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and the United States participated in a unique program focusing on the U.S. presidential elections. Fellows spent their first week in Honolulu discussing the upcoming elections in the U.S. and throughout the region. This portion of the program featured sessions with veteran Washington Post reporter and noted political biographer Lou Cannon, who provided historical context for the year’s elections, candidates and platforms. The fellows then traveled to Washington, Boston and Austin to observe the run-up to the election and examine broader political, economic and social issues.

For more information on the Media Program, visit: [www.eastwestcenter.org/sem-mp.asp](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/sem-mp.asp)
ASIA PACIFIC JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS

Six U.S. journalists completed the two-day Asia Seminar at the East-West Center followed by a one-week study tour of Singapore and Taiwan. In Singapore, reporters met with government officials, business leaders, scholars and journalists, and interviewed Lee Hsien Loong, then deputy prime minister and now prime minister. In Taiwan, the group observed the presidential elections and reactions to the shootings of President Chen Shui-bien and Vice President Annette Lu. Participating journalists represented the San Francisco Chronicle, the Omaha World-Herald, the Seattle Times, the Deseret News (Salt Lake City), Forbes magazine and Lou Dobbs Tonight (CNN).

2ND SENIOR JOURNALISTS’ SEMINAR

The Center hosted 10 senior journalists from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Singapore in a seminar and travel program focusing on differences in perceptions among Asian Islamic communities and the United States. Part of the Center’s “Muslim Initiative,” the project explored the differences and the role of journalists in bridging them. The group spent a week in Washington, where they attended a two-day colloquium with American journalists. During their stay in the nation’s capital, participants also met with officials from the U.S. State Department, then Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, and a number of experts from area think tanks.

The group also traveled to Atlanta and Los Angeles to gauge American attitudes and perceptions “outside the beltway.” Highlights in Atlanta included a visit to global media giant CNN and the Atlanta Journal Constitution; an overview of the history of the civil rights movement at the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site; and discussions with local high school students at a private Islamic school. In Los Angeles, participants studied West Coast perspectives on U.S. domestic and foreign policy issues; discussed community diversity and empowerment with the Los Angeles Human Relations Commission; and met with area religious leaders in an interfaith dialogue.

HONG KONG JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIPS

In September, six senior U.S. journalists participated in a two-day China seminar at the East-West Center followed by a study tour to Beijing, Chengdu, Guangzhou and Hong Kong. The journalists met with business executives, scholars, journalists, political leaders and government officials including Chief Executive C.H. Tung of the Hong Kong special administrative region; Jiang Xiaoyu, vice president of the organizing committee of the 2008 Beijing Olympics; and Zhou Wenzhong, vice minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China.

JAPAN-UNITED STATES JOURNALISTS’ EXCHANGE

The Japan-United States Journalists’ Exchange brought four journalists to the United States for a study tour that coincided with the November 2004 elections. Journalists began their tour in Seattle and Detroit to learn about U.S. politics and issues of importance to voters before traveling to Washington to observe Election Day activities. They gathered later at the East-West Center for a two-day debriefing of their experiences with EWC staff and members of the Honolulu community. The program was funded by Nihon Shinbun Kyokai (NSK — the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association) and the East-West Center. The travel program was coordinated by the International Center for Journalists.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz met with participants at the Senior Journalists’ Seminar.

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