



The **APLP Navigator** is the annual newsletter of the EWC APLP Alumni Chapter, written, edited, and published by APLP alumni. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the East-West Center.

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Inside this issue:

New Environmental Leadership Program	2
APLP Nainoa Thompson Scholar	3
Bali Alumni Conference Reflection	4
EWC's 50th Birthday Celebration	5
Getting the "GIST" of Burma	6
Building Alumni Community	7
Alumni Profiles	8-9
Op-Ed: A Kashmiri Journalist in China	10
Op-Ed: Democracy in Nepal	11
Class Notes	12-23
Spotlight on Nepal	24

The APLP Navigator

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"G8": A NEW SUMMIT OF LEADERS

APLP's Eighth Generation welcomes 37 fellows, from Finland to Tonga and beyond



By Monique Wedderburn (G4)

The Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP) welcomed a new cohort of participants to the East-West Center in August 2008. The Eighth Generation, or "G8," consists of 37 fellows from 18 countries, with 81 percent of the participants from outside the United States. Hailing from all over the Asia-Pacific—from China to Bhutan to the Pacific Islands—the cohort also included participants from France and, for the first time, Finland.

This year's cohort had a nearly even distribution of men and women: just over half of the G8 participants (54%) are female—down from over two-thirds of the previous year's class. The mean age of the co-

hort is 32 years (though ages ranged from 23-51 years), consistent with last year's average age. This statistic reflects the APLP's ongoing effort to recruit more professionally qualified and experienced participants.

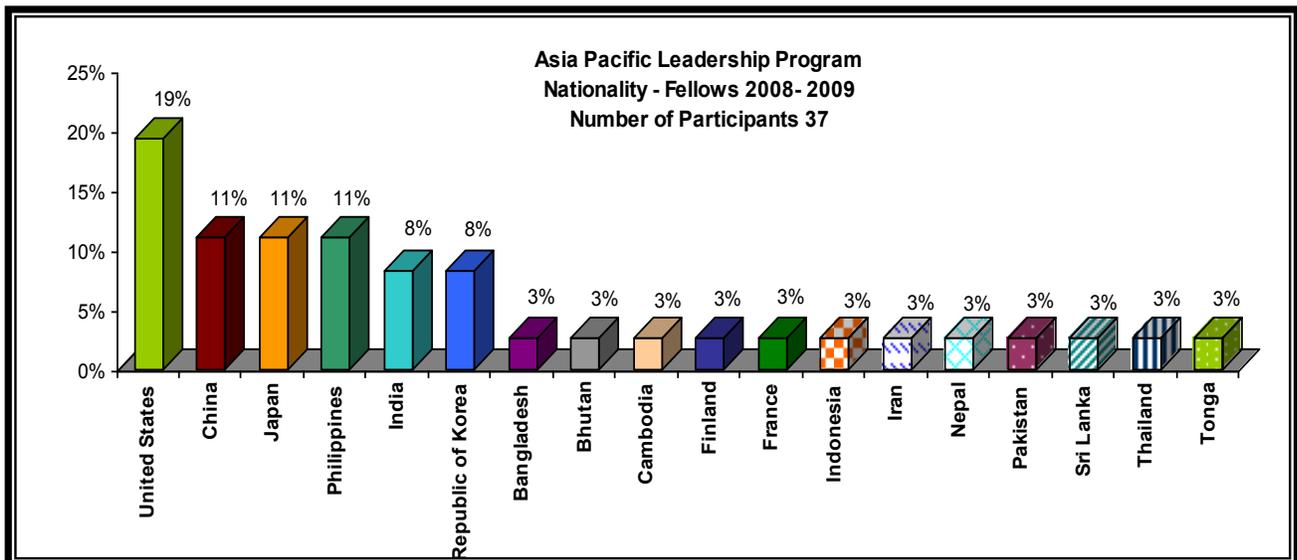
As with prior APLP generations, the 2008-09 cohort brought together fellows from a wide variety of professional backgrounds and experiences. Included in Generation Eight, for example, are the Director of the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority of the Pakistan Federal Government, a Corporate Communications Director from China, a Senior Journalist from Kashmir, a Researcher for the Commission on Truth and Friendship in Indonesia, one of only two Geotechnical Engineers in Bhutan, a Senior Eco-

nomics Specialist for the Senate of the Philippines, and the former Personal Assistant to the Prime Minister of Finland.

Described by APLP Coordinator Nick Barker as "worldly" and "extraordinarily diverse," the new group took part in a bold new curriculum that included group independent study travels to China and Burma, as well as optional internships (see details on page 3 of this issue) and visits to Washington, DC, and other East Coast cities in the United States.

The APLP remains a signature program of the East-West Center and is designed to train fellows to exercise leadership and learn to cooperate and "navigate change" in a variety of cultural, geographical, and institutional environments.

G8 at a Glance: 81 Percent of New Fellows From Outside the U.S.



New State Department Grant Helps APLP Launch Path-breaking Environmental Leadership Program

By Christina Monroe (G4)

A PLP staff successfully submitted a \$350,000 grant application to the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs for hosting the United States Institute for the Environment (USIE), a pioneering institute designed to foster a greater understanding of the U.S. environmental movement and aid in the development of sustainable pathways to environmental stewardship. The program provides leadership training and a venue for sharing insights into the U.S. experience—especially in Hawai'i—in dealing with environmental challenges.

Twenty undergraduates from Singapore, Malaysia, and the Pacific Islands are currently participating in the six-week program at the East-West Center this summer. The program includes a series of lectures at the East-West Center and the University of Hawai'i, as well as a trip to the U.S. mainland during the last two weeks. There, the group will travel to California—visiting Stanford University, the University of California

at Berkeley, and Moss Landing Marine Lab—and then to Washington, DC, with briefings by national leaders in environmental policy at places such as the Pew Center for Global Climate Change and the EPA. Supporting partners include the University of Hawai'i, Stanford's Woods Institute for the Environment, and the Nature Conservancy.

The institute is designed to help participants achieve an understanding of the environmental movement in the U.S. by engaging advocacy, market, policy, cultural, and scientific approaches to environmental issues. The Institute embraces the diversity of actors (from regulators to businesses) involved in the environmental movement and will capture the dynamic nature of the challenges at hand and the need for active leadership to deal with these challenges. A key principle of the institute is leadership through diversity, reflected in the backgrounds of the program participants. The majors of the 20 fellows include aerospace engineering, green chemistry, environmental sciences, urban development, and international relations, among others.

Dina Zenitha of Indonesia Wins 2008 Nainoa Thompson Scholarship

By Justin Liang (G2)

Dina Zenitha of Indonesia—a human rights activist, legal researcher, and humanitarian—was named APLP's fourth Nainoa Thompson Scholar. Zenitha, a lawyer by training, had previously worked on addressing anti-corruption and human rights violations in Indonesia. Her list of accolades include drafting the final report to the Commission on Truth and Friendship Indonesia-Timor Leste and working for Indonesia Corruption Watch.

Zenitha, who said her experience with APLP “helped reawaken [her] interest and passion for social and legal justice,” hopes to work at the intersection of law and development in the future. “The program gave me a chance to reflect in advance about how I could most effectively contribute to the world, and taught me to be persistent in striving for my goals and dreams. It was also a great experience to build friendships and networks from many countries, especially from Asia and the Pacific.”

Zenitha plans to continue her career in social justice, specifically in building international cooperation through local communities. “I am very grateful to the East-West Center for providing me this opportunity to participate in such a wonderful program,” she added. “For me, the APLP is about learning how to lead in the relevant context, and dealing with critical issues. APLP reminded me to dare to be the

change—to see the world in the future in spite of all of the problems of today.”

The Nainoa Thompson Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship awarded annually to an incoming APLP fellow. It was named in honor of Nainoa Thompson, head of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and a visiting lecturer for the program. The scholarship's fund, founded as a G4 legacy project, consists mostly of alumni donations. Zenitha is the fourth fellow to receive the scholarship. The previous recipients were Lhobsang Pandan of Tibet (G5), Linda Furuto of Hawai'i (G6), and Huyen Truong of Vietnam (G7).



Dina Zenitha of Indonesia (G8) is the new Nainoa Thompson Scholar.

For more information about the Nainoa Thompson Scholarship or to make a donation, please visit: www.eastwestcenter.org/fileadmin/resources/education/aplp_pdfs/nainoafund.pdf

New G8 Curriculum Includes High-Profile Speakers, Visits, Internships

By Vinh Ho (G3)

This year's APLP fellows were the auspicious beneficiaries of a bold, innovative new curriculum that included a number of renowned guest lecturers, high-profile internships, and independent study tours to China and—for the first time—Burma.

Guest speakers for G8 included a number of eminent leaders. In Hawai'i, Margaret Wheatley, author of *Leadership and the New Science* and a noted expert on leadership, gave an intensive three-day workshop on how to think about 21st-century leadership and organizational change. In Washington, DC, during an optional field study, fellows met privately with U.S. Senator Daniel Akaka of Hawai'i and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, who in her earlier days was a scholar-in-



Members of G8 met with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg during their Washington, DC, field study. From L to R: Christina Monroe (G4), Isa Rettig, Khalid Lodhi, Shaaroni Wong, John Taylor, Justice Ginsberg, Rita Gallardo, Shawn Hall, and Meredith Holmgren.

residence at the University of Hawai'i Law School. The APLP delegation was also at the U.S. Capitol during the financial bailout package vote, and listened to Congresswoman Mazie Hirono (D-HI) address the House on the issue.

Internships, which typically take

place during the fellows' second semester—and for many represent a crucial part of the APLP experience—also gave some students an opportunity to immerse themselves in new cultures. Teresa Cheung of Hong Kong worked for Sarvodaya, the largest NGO in Sri Lanka, while journalist Huma Sheikh of Pakistan interned for China's Xinhua News Agency.

The program also sent fellows on a number of field studies: to mainland China, Burma, and some to the U.S. East Coast (Boston, New York, and Washington, DC). The new field study model, the Group Independent Study Travel (GIST)—now in its second year—sent groups of students overseas on specific research, travel, and small-scale community support activities.

2008 BALI ALUMNI CONFERENCE REFLECTION

Reflection by Aynne Kokas (G2)

Where do people from the East-West Center go to find beauty, cultural diversity, and a new space for critical inquiry? November's East-West Center Alumni Conference in Bali answered my question. A stunning, culturally rich island that also exists at the nexus of questions about terrorism, tourism, and even the American presidency, the venue was appropriate for asking the types of probing questions that undergird East-West Center life while offering a beautiful environment for community building.

At the conference, Ing Phansavath (G2) and I had the pleasure to give back to the EWC community with the seeds of ideas planted during our APLP year. Ing and I led a conference session based on the Shanti Yoga peace-building process, a yoga-inspired conflict resolution practice that we developed together during post-APLP discussions about pragmatic approaches to facilitating peace in our communities. In attendance were Laurel Dudley (G6) and Iris Prasetyo (G2), among other active members of the East-West Center alumni community. The inspiration for the process emerged out of a brainstorming session with Shanthini Black (G2) demonstrating how the informal social support networks we began in APLP are



“A stunning, culturally rich island that also exists at the nexus of questions about terrorism, tourism, and even the American presidency, Bali was the appropriate venue for asking the types of probing questions that undergird East-West Center life.”

helping us to grow into our interests and contribute to our communities, and had its roots in our work with the Peace and Conflict Resolution Work Group (PCRW) in Honolulu, a non-profit organization founded by G2 alumni D.L. McNeal and Kirk Lange. I have continued to incorporate our yoga peace-building process into my yoga classes in Shanghai, and have plans to conduct additional seminars in Beijing and Los Angeles. For anyone interested in more information or a training for your group, please feel free to contact me at [aynnkokas \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:aynnkokas[at]gmail.com).

As always, spending time with the APLP helped to create connections, to inspire ideas for future projects, and to offer opportunities to learn more about the human side of the Asia-Pacific. I loved hearing about the lives of the APLP fellows who have settled in Hawai'i. Sitting at a communal dinner in Bali with multiple generations of the APLP family nearly six years after graduation reinforced for me the importance of groups like the APLP. As I have moved onward in my life, I have come to realize what a rare treasure it is to spend an evening in earnest discussion with a group of people as diverse and constructive as the APLP. After an amazing experience in Bali, I look forward to returning to Honolulu for the 50th anniversary celebration. I hope to see many of you there.



From L to R: Aynne Kokas (G2), Iris Prasetyo (G2), Ing Phansavath (G2), Neneng Rosmy (EWC degree fellow), Beryl Yang (EWC degree fellow), and Miloni Gandhi (G3).



Wining and dining in Bali-wood! From L to R: Atif Butt (G6), Iris Prasetyo (G2), Budhi Gozali (G7), and Miloni Gandhi (G3) share a moment of reflection at the EWC Alumni Conference.



HAWAII ALUMNI CONFERENCE 2010: Celebrating 50 Years of the East-West Center



By Eric Hanson (G4)

With just 12 months to go, planning for the EWCA's 50th Anniversary Conference in Honolulu is well underway. The dates of the conference are from July 2-5, 2010. It is expected that over 1,000 alumni and friends from throughout the Asia-Pacific region will attend and participate.

According to officials at the EWCA Office, the program will include plenary, concurrent, and poster sessions on a wide range of themes such as Leadership (e.g., Strengthening Good Governance and Social Justice), Community Building (e.g., Promoting Economic Recovery and Sustainable Growth and Cooperation on Social Issues), and the East-West Center: Past, Present, and Future.

The EWCA is working hard to secure notable speakers for the conference, and thus far, speakers such as the Nobel Prize winning environmental expert Rajendra Kumar Pachauri (EWC alumnus 1981) and Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle have been invited to participate.

The EWCA has reported that the tentative schedule includes: an Opening Ceremony followed by EWC Day with a wide variety of activities on the EWC campus; a Welcoming Dinner featuring cultural presentations; a 4th of July all-American picnic with hot dogs, hamburgers, and the Royal Hawaiian Band (invited); and finally an "Aloha Dinner" featuring the talent of many EWC alumni.

We hope that you will join other APLP Alumni as the conference will be a wonderful place to reunite with friends and make special new relationships with more recent APLP graduates. The conference will be held at the Hawaii Convention Center, which offers excellent conference facilities and is conveniently located near Waikiki. The EWCA is currently lining up a variety of hotels ranging from economy to five-star to assist in



making your trip planning easier. In addition, for those of you who dearly miss your dorm room at the Center, the EWCA has 100 rooms reserved at the EWC (dorms and guest facilities) as well as 100 rooms in a brand new UH dormitory just across the street from the East-West Center.

For more information on the conference, visit: www.eastwestcenter.org/alumni/ewca-conferences/2010-hawaii/



EWC 50TH ANNIVERSARY ALUMNI CONFERENCE "LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY BUILDING IN THE ASIA PACIFIC"

Interested in participating in the East-West Center's 50th Anniversary Alumni Conference as a paper presenter or panel moderator? The EWC is accepting papers between now and **January 31, 2010**, on the following themes:

- *Leadership: Global, National, and Local Frameworks in the 21st Century*
- *Community: Global, National, and Local Frameworks in the 21st Century*
- *The East-West Center: 50 Years of Community Building in the Asia Pacific*
- *The East-West Center: 50 Years as Community*

Individual papers will be presented as part of panel presentations, roundtable discussions, or poster sessions. A complete panel based on a particular theme can also be proposed. All sessions are limited to 90 minutes. Individual papers must be summarized into short oral presentations. Presenters should NOT read their papers and should be prepared to summarize the key points of their papers in an informal and interesting way. Each presenter must submit an abstract not longer than 150 words. Include with the abstract your contact details (mailing address and email address). If possible, submit the abstract via email using MS Word Format. The abstract should be attached to an email message or sent on a separate disk.

All presenters are required to register and pay the registration fee in order to have their papers considered for inclusion in the program. If the paper is not accepted, the registration fee will be returned upon request. **Moderators** are also needed. If you wish to volunteer, please indicate that on the "Call for Papers" form.

Abstracts should be submitted to the EWCA Associates Office: hawaii2010@eastwestcenter.org or (808) 944-7376 (Fax)

GETTING THE "GIST" OF BURMA

Reflection by Shaaroni Wong (G8)

South East Asia has an air to it that continues to attract tourists and travelers hoping to uncover the mysteries that seem to surround the region. Yet for all the allure, perhaps no place is shrouded in mystery more than Myanmar, still known to many as Burma. Home to both natural and archeological wonders, Myanmar has inspired the imaginations of travelers and artists for generations. Certainly it sparked the interest of the members of the 2009 Spring GIST (Group Independent Study Travel) delegation.

Coming from the bustling city of Bangkok, I was not sure what to expect from Myanmar when I made my travel plans, but decided to stay for three weeks, going along with the GIST theme, "slow makes flow."

Of the six members of G8 who were a part the 2009 Spring GIST delegation, three joined Dr. Scott MacLeod (APLP Staff) in Myanmar. The short flight to Yangon transported us into a world completely different from the rest of South East Asia. Though a city of five million people, Yangon maintains a small-town feel to it, both because of the lack of skyscrapers and the warmth of its residents, which we immediately felt thanks to the welcome received from APLP alumni Khaine Thidar Aung (G7) and Mu Mu Kyi (G4) as well as Rose Swe, an alumna from Scott MacLeod's business program in Canada.



Under the Burmese Sun. Eva Haahti, Shaaroni Wong, and Derek Pan (all G8) enjoy a moment of camaraderie and novelty during their GIST trek to Burma this past Spring.



Ridin' Burmese style. Eva Haahti (G8) and Shaaroni Wong (G8) cruise the Burmese outback on the back of a jeep as part of the APLP's 2009 Group Independent Study Travel (GIST).

Myanmar is not known for being easy to navigate. People, hesitant to speak candidly to strangers, prefer not to be questioned, particularly on sensitive matters such as those of education and protection of children. In addition, access to areas like the Irrawaddy Delta, which was recently hit by Cyclone Nargis, is difficult to obtain. Looking at Myanmar through the themes of APLP quickly showed us that Myanmar is not closed off, but rather a

country of networks. The same people who shy away from the questions of strangers are more than happy to talk to friends. Khaine and Mu Mu were amore than happy to introduce us to friends and colleagues, and Rose was even able to take us to the Delta, where we visited the Tirthyte Village which is currently recovering from the effects of Nargis.

Along with Eva Haahti (G8), I made my way north to explore the mysteries of Bagan, Mandalay, and Inle Lake while Scott and Derek

Pan (G8) stayed in Yangon to further explore the city. Those who know nothing of Myanmar hear the name Mandalay and think of a romantic and exotic city, and the temples of Bagan could satisfy the most avid archeology and religion fanatics. Inle Lake, one of the most visited areas of Myanmar, is the home to ethnic minorities famous for their one-legged boat rowing technique.

For all the beauty of the locations I visited in the country, they paled in comparison to the beauty of the people there. On looking back at my three weeks in Myanmar, my mind turns to the people in the Tirthyte Village who followed us as we walked down the road, the children crowding to hold our hands, stopping to give us an impromptu concert and happy to welcome us into their dark, one-room houses to share food and drinks. In her book *Letters From Burma*, Aung San Suu Kyi, called "The Lady" in Myanmar, speaks of the hospitality of the Burmese people. Throughout my travels I have found it is the people you meet that make the place you're in. I found this to be especially true in Myanmar.

Staying Connected: Building an On-Line APLP Community

By Justin Liang (G2)

The APLP alumni network is growing—and it's growing fast. With over 300 alumni from nearly 50 countries, the alumni group represents a rich reservoir of information and knowledge for current and past participants. But while this growth has the potential to help alumni both personally and professionally, it has also become more difficult to manage. Are we as alumni doing enough to make our network accessible to everyone? How can we best take advantage of this

ample, G8 has a blog (<http://hiaplblogs.com/>) that details many of their GIST adventures to China, with photos, stories, and useful links. Similarly, the APLP's Filipino alumni, thanks to the initiative of Mel Gregorio (G4), have created an on-line community hub (www.aplpphils.blogspot.com) that serves as a regional portal for all past and future participants from the Philippines. The site includes reflections, stories, and other resources that help the Philippines' contingent stay connected—both to each other and to the program.

administrators allow all alumni to join and are amenable to “trans-generational” interaction.

Admittedly, not everyone has a Facebook profile—or wants one. If that's the case, good old-fashioned e-mailing and group-mailing can be a reasonable alternative. Yahoo and Google groups are relatively easy to start, and have opt-in features that enable you to receive or block group messages as you see fit.

The APLP Alumni Leadership Committee is still deliberating over which of



network and stay connected to past, present, and future generations of the program?

As the newly appointed APLP Alumni Director, I often find myself asking or being asked these questions. And in seeking answers, I began looking at what other alumni have done to alleviate our miniature Malthusian dilemma. My search revealed that alumni are doing plenty to stay connected, thanks in large part to the expansive lanes of the information superhighway.

Blogging is one way to recapture the APLP experience and share it with others. A number of alumni have set up their own blogs on websites such as blogspot.com and wordpress.com, which are free and fairly user-friendly. For ex-

For those who don't wish to launch and maintain a personal site, the East-West Center has a blog, *East-West Views*, that welcomes posts and commentary from EWC and APLP alumni (<http://forum.eastwestcenter.org>). Writing for the EWC blog is a great way to reconnect with the Center, share your recent experiences, and get some relatively easy PR.

Perhaps the most popular on-line tool for keeping in touch with classmates is the social networking site Facebook. There are at least five APLP-related Facebook “groups,” each with their own administrators, members, and levels of exclusivity. While it would be nice to consolidate these pages into a single site, the proliferation of APLP Facebook groups is not necessarily a bad thing, provided group ad-

these options is the most viable and sustainable given their respective advantages and constraints. In the meantime, however, APLP alumni can make sure they get notified of any new listserves and networking opportunities by registering with the EWC's alumni community. You can update your contact information by visiting <http://www.eastwestcenter.org/alumni/contact-information>.

Getting to know alumni from other cohorts has been rewarding and invaluable to me on both a personal level and for my career—a virtual passport to the world. As our network expands, I hope we continue to find ways to meet, greet, and stay connected to our thriving alumni 'ohana.

ALUMNI PROFILE: Abhay Abhay (G5, India)

Interview by Justin Liang (G2)

For over 20 years, Abhay (G5) has been a real life crime fighter, beginning as an officer in the Indian police force in 1986 and working his way up to Inspector General. In 2001, the President of India awarded him the police medal for meritorious achievement—in large part to recognize his decade of leadership in the field of anti-corruption. Presently seconded to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) of Nigeria, where he trains the institute's prosecutors and advises the director, Abhay took a break from putting bad guys behind bars to tell *The Navigator* about his “mid-career sabbatical” at the APLP and the thin blue line separating order from chaos in his noble profession.

Tell us about your current line of work. What kind of responsibilities does it entail?

I am currently working as Advisor to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) of Nigeria. I am on secondment from the Indian Police for two years for this assignment. EFCC has started a new Training and Research Institute. I advise the director of this institute in designing, organizing, managing, and delivering training programs in the prevention, detection, and the prosecution of economic and financial crimes. I also mentor the teaching staff on how best to deliver the designed programs.

How did you become interested in law enforcement?

Injustice, inequality, and discrimination are rampant in Indian society. Law enforcement leadership, I felt, provides an opportunity to address these issues in a meaningful way.

How did the APLP impact your work in the law enforcement field, and what do you think was the most valuable outcome of the program for you?

All APLP program values are relevant in law enforcement, but especially those of inclusiveness, compassion, and humility. There were several outcomes I found to be particularly beneficial to me. Visioning and personal action planning are tools that I have used repeatedly since the APLP, though I was initially not very enthusiastic about them. The program provided me with the time and intellectual resources to analyze and reflect on my leadership style, and work towards improving it.



Abhay (G5), center (blue tie), with prosecutors from the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) of Nigeria. A decorated police officer in India, Abhay advises the director of the organization and serves as a mentor to the institute's teachers.

“The APLP provided me with the time and intellectual resources to analyze and reflect on my leadership style, and work towards improving it.”

For example, I have consistently worked to reduce the elements of my commanding style—which is not unusual in law enforcement—from the way I lead. The APLP also rekindled my idealism, my desire to work for the community.

Do you have any interesting stories from your time working as a police officer in India?

One time, when I was working as Police Chief of Berhampur, the biggest town in southern Orissa, a jail break took place at a city jail. While supervising the investigation, I came in repeated contact with the prisoners. I was surprised by their lack of hostility towards me or my organization. In fact, they provided honest feedback on our policies and programs and helped me realize many of our follies and weaknesses.

Economic and financial crimes are a major issue in Nigeria. How is your Commission cracking down on these injustices?

The Commission's strategy is multifaceted. Prevention, education (raising awareness), and enforcement (investigation and prosecution) are the three main pillars of this strategy. However, EFCC is a young organization, barely six years old, so it has a long way to go.

Do you have any advice for current and future APLP Fellows?

APLP is as good a time as any to go out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself. All of us attending the program are privileged; we have better opportunities than most in our respective communities. So, our communities—and people beyond our communities—should benefit from our successes.

ALUMNI PROFILE: Marivic Daray (G7, Philippines)

Interview by Justin Liang (G2)

Marivic Daray (G7) doesn't just preach fairness—she lives, defines, and embodies the virtue every single day. Appointed to be a regional court judge in the Philippine judicial system—the youngest for her position at the time—Marivic has ruled on several high-profile cases, including convicting a terrorist connected to the al-Qaeda network. Her commitment to justice manifests itself in her extensive and humbling resume: She holds degrees in law, history, and management; teaches at a local college; established and serves as executive director for Ateneo de Davao Legal Advocacy Works, a human rights advocacy group; and won the “most outstanding lawyer” award from the Ombudsman's Office in Mindanao, Philippines, in 1993. While working in Mindanao, considered one of the more dangerous provinces in the Philippines, she investigated criminal complaints filed against public officers, served as chief of the Public Assistance Unit, and was a media spokesperson. *The Navigator* recently asked the judge about her time in Hawai'i and experiences “serving justice.”

Tell us about your current profession and all the various jobs you juggle.

I am presently a judge of one of the Regional Trial Courts in the Philippine Judicial System. As such, I hear and decide on cases, both criminal and civil, assigned to my court. I am also the head of office in my own court, where I supervise about 20 people. On top of that, I am a professorial lecturer at the Philippine Judicial Academy of the Supreme Court and a professor of law at the Ateneo de Davao University, College of Law, handling subjects on remedial, civil, and international law.

What about the APLP have you found applicable to your jobs?

The leadership aspect of the APLP has been most applicable to me. As the head of office, I have been introducing in my court some new concepts and theories in leadership and management. It is in this area that I found the APLP teachings on leadership most helpful, as they enhanced my knowledge in this area and have given me a useful and pertinent skill set.

How did the APLP impact your thinking about the legal profession?

My APLP experience truly changed my life. I notice now that I have become more reflective about the events that are transpiring around me. Numerous opportunities have now



“My APLP experience truly changed my life. I notice now that I have become more reflective about the events transpiring around me.”

opened up for me, giving me chances to employ and enhance my skills, and develop new ones. Moreover, I now have a different outlook on adversity and how to deal with such things.

To what extent do you remain involved with the East-West Center community—with your classmates, friends, professors?

I still get in touch with classmates and professors. If there are things that I think need to be shared with them or should be referred to them, I send them e-mails. I am also a member of the East-West Center Alumni Group here in the Philippines and have even met up with other APLPers here in the Philippines, like Pauline Bautista (G6), Mel Gregorio (G4), and others. Of course, I am always in close contact with fellow G7 cohort mates through the Hub. I have also helped in the recruitment of new APLP students by advertising the APLP here in my side of the country, Mindanao.

Describe your experience convicting a terrorist in the al-Qaeda network.

Fathur Roman Al-Ghozi is an Indonesian who is a member of the Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) network, one of those listed by the United Nations as a terrorist organization linked to al-Qaeda or the Taliban. He was imprisoned in General Santos City, Mindanao, Philippines, for keeping a ton of explosives in a warehouse. On his day of arraignment, he offered to plead guilty to the crime as charged and prayed that his sentence be mitigated considering his voluntary plea. Thus, we allowed him to plead guilty to the crime and sentenced him to a mitigated penalty of between 10 to 12 years imprisonment, plus a fine of 200,000 Philippine Pesos (about US\$4,200).

What words of wisdom do you have for current APLP Fellows, especially those interested in a legal career?

The APLP is a wonderful experience for fellows to open their doors to a lot of opportunities. While you are participating in the program, always be ready to give your own share of the experience so that the learning of your generation will be more complete and you are able to learn from each other more comprehensively. As for pursuing a legal career, my advice for APLP fellows is this: always give your best in everything that you do, and in any field of endeavor. The fact that you have been accepted as an APLP fellow has, I think, already equipped you with the tools necessary for you to enter law school and become a successful lawyer.



OPINIONS & EDITORIALS: A KASHMIRI JOURNALIST IN CHINA



By Huma Sheikh (G8)

My visit to Beijing in November 2008 as an APLP fellow, and now as an employee for Xinhua News, have been as different experiences for me as the two professions—student and journalist—themselves. On the earlier occasion, my time (24 days) was split among different places to be visited in China, including Beijing. I traveled to four different cities all across China, spending only a few days at each place, with Beijing, where I spent a longer time, an exception. As a result, receiving “superior treatment” from people in different places was the norm.

Yet, things often become different when a person starts living and working with the same people at a new place for a longer period of time. In Beijing, however, the people have proven me wrong. In fact, every time I come across my colleagues and friends, I get closer to them.

There are many things I like about China and its people. With their patience and unswerving determination, many have inspired me immensely. China is doing remarkably well—even amid the economic downturn that has paralyzed the world—yet the Chinese people continue to work hard.



“In a globalized world, people must collaborate to compete globally. In China, the youth are answering this call. They are building the capacity to succeed both within and beyond their own country.”

The Chinese government has announced a four trillion *yan* stimulus package to offset the economic meltdown by boosting its domestic demand. The country is also keen to create jobs for the unemployed, especially for rural youth, that will help people to earn, as well as to spend, thus generating revenue for the coun-

try to make up for its losses.

There has also been a huge reduction in the illiteracy rate in China, the world’s most populous country because of its strenuous efforts made in the past three decades. According to the United Nations Development Program Report (2007-08), China’s literacy rate is now an astonishing 90.9 percent!

Amid economic, education, and employment booms, Chinese youth have shifted their interests. The development of their country has precipitated a desire to increase their breadth of knowledge about different cultures and countries. I have seen almost 90 percent of youth here taking English classes, either individually or in small groups given by universities on the weekends. As our APLP professor, Scott MacLeod, once noted in class, in about a decade, China will have the highest number of English speaking people in the world. Indeed, I have no



Huma Sheikh (G8), second from right, with other fellows and friends.

The film and fashion industries in China have also made their presence felt abroad. When Chinese model Zhang Zilin became the Miss World in 2007—the first East Asian to win the highly coveted title—Chinese fashion went international.

One of my Chinese colleagues is working hard to make it in the electronic media industry. Xinhua News is launching its audio and video channel, and my friend’s infectious enthusiasm is taking her to places where she can hone her broadcasting skills. Though she is employed at Xinhuanet, the news portal of Xinhua News, and earning decent money, she yearns to acquire more skills to be able to do even better in the future.

In a globalized world, individuals must collaborate to compete globally. The dynamic forces of globalization call for individuals to possess varied skills that enable them to be versatile and resourceful.

In China, the youth are answering this call. Chinese youth travel to different places to learn new things and expand their knowledge. They trust others and behave with integrity. Above all, they encourage others to act with them. They are building the capacity to succeed both within and beyond their own country.

Huma Sheikh (G8) is a journalist from Kashmir currently writing for Xinhua News in China. You can follow her through her blog at <http://huma123.blogspot.com/>

OPINIONS & EDITORIALS: ATTACK ON JOURNALISTS THREATENS DEMOCRACY IN NEPAL

By Kamal Raj Sigdel (G8)

A few weeks ago, yet another journalist was attacked and brutally killed by a group of unidentified men in Nepal. This time it was Uma Singh, a female radio journalist working in the Tarai, the southern plains of Nepal. Singh, whose father and brother were also abducted and killed by the Maoists two years ago, had been writing articles on politics, crime, and what are considered to be very sensitive issues in Tarai. What is disturbing is the fact that this is not the first incident, and as the past records foretell there are chances many other journalists are soon going to be victimized.

This reminds Nepalis of the fact that two years after the peace agreement, the country's level of security, press freedom, and peace are still a far cry from optimistic. In 2006, the Maoists struck a peace deal with the government, ending a decade-long violent war that they had waged to overthrow the monarchy and establish a communist regime based on the principles of Mao. The former have been accomplished while the latter looks impossible. The Maoists accepted multi-party democracy, which they say was a strategic move to reach their ultimate goal, took part in the constituent assembly election held in last April, and won a majority. They headed a coalition government assigned with the task of forming the first federal-republican constitution of the nation.

One year on, things are getting worse, especially the records of human rights violations by Maoist militias and cadres. In recent days, as the conflict took a new turn, the press has come under attack by other sectarian groups besides the Maoists.

The Maoists, during their rebellion against the establishment, had promised different federal states based on caste and region to different ethnic groups. This idea, adopted as a strategy to gain wider support from the underprivileged sections of the Nepalese society, gave the Maoists unprecedented strength. But after they were elected to form the government, the

same has been the source of major problems. Dozens of ethnic and regional groups, both armed and unarmed, have mushroomed, and are shaking the Maoist government, demanding autonomy and at times independence of their so-called self-declared federal states.



Capturing a reflection: Kamal Sigdel (G8) is sketched about the situation in his home of Nepal.

The question now is *how does the press become victim to this new sort of conflict?* The Nepalese media is undergoing probably the most difficult times in its history. The mainstream media—the only means of reaching people of all backgrounds—are pressured to “print” and “not to print” different reports concerning different groups.

The first threat to the press these days comes from the armed and unarmed groups, mostly active in the southern plains of Nepal, which have been agitating for some time against the Maoist government, demanding federal autonomy. They threaten over the phone, abducting and at times killing journalists who do not comply with their warnings. There has been a stampede of hill-origin people from the Tarai region toward the hill region to save their lives. To date, this new regional conflict has displaced thousands of people,

including journalists, civil servants, and businessmen. In fact, a sort of sectarian violence is still ongoing, and has frequently turned into communal violence.

What is more paradoxical is the second major threat to the Nepalese free press. It comes from the Maoists themselves, the party leading a “democratic” government. A number of journalists have been abducted, intimidated, physically assaulted, and even killed by Maoist-affiliated sister organizations in the past few months. I am talking not about the pre-ceasefire period; I am talking about the period *after* the Maoists started leading the government, following the constituent assembly election. The slow and complicated process of arms surrender and army management has been giving rise to violence perpetrated by Maoist combatants who, at their will, come out of UN-monitored cantonments with firearms and instigate violence.

The third major reason why the press is unprotected in Nepal is the sheer lack of rule of law and the culture of impunity. The government has completely failed to maintain rule of law. The party that is heading the government has been sponsoring acts of violence through its youth wings like Young Communist League (YCL). This is, however, not only a characteristic of the Maoist party alone. In a bid to counter the atrocities of the YCL, other parties like Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) and Nepali Congress (NC) have formed their own youth wings like Youth Force and Tarun Dal, respectively. These youth wings operate like police and law-enforcing agents. They incite confrontations with one another, sparking violent attacks that kill and injure dozens of innocent citizens every week.

What is promoting this culture of impunity is the government's negligence on bringing the culprits to book. Until and unless the Maoists, as a responsible party leading the government, bring together other parties to have a common commitment to protecting journalists and a free press, democracy is sure to be rooted out once again from Nepal.

Kamal Raj Sigdel (G8), from Nepal, is sub-editor of the Kathmandu Post.

CLASS NOTES: Who Did What, Where, When, and Why?

Compiled by Meutia Chaerani (G1), Lani Suzuki (G1), Justin Liang (G2), Ing Phansavath (G2), Vinh Ho (G3), Mel Gregorio (G4), Kitty Chiu (G5), Ginny Saetia (G5), Ivey Cruz (G6), Timothy McInerny (G7), and Andrew De Castro (G7)

G1

Starting things never seemed to be a problem for the inaugural APLP group. Take **PRASANNA YONZON**, for example, who has established a national NGO in Nepal: Wildlife Conservation Nepal (www.wcn.org.np), now with two branch offices—one in Chitwan national park and another in Nepalgunj—with headquarters in Kathmandu. The NGO monitors illegal wildlife trade, provides training to enforcement officials, conducts outreach program in schools and communities on environmental awareness, and will soon be launching a livelihood program. Currently, WCN has an elephant conservation project in eastern Nepal, a rhino conservation project in Chitwan, a tiger project in Bardia and Suklaphanta, a number of wildlife reserves, etc. WCN now has over 20 staff working for Prasanna in the field and in the office.

Also working in the development field is **JANE LYNN CAPACIO**, who returned to school after the APLP to do research and teaching. After a few years, however, she "felt the need to move on and be where the actual development work is." So in 2004, she decided to transfer to an NGO that works on agrarian reform in the Philippines (<http://kaisahan.net/>). "I have long been enamored by land reform, as I think asset redistribution is imperative for development. When property regimes are changed, a host of 'public goods' ensue: rural peace, increase in farmers' confidence leading to demands for accountability, reforms—and to some extent, governance." Kenneth Arrow, the Nobel winner for Economics, said that before people can truly compete in the market, we need to adjust starting positions. Agrarian reform, thinks Jane, is a good way to level starting positions.

JOSELITO SESCON is also in Manila, working as a lecturer at the department of economics at Ateneo de Manila University in Quezon City, Metro Manila. He teaches undergraduate courses on macro and microeconomics, development economics, as well as



Soe Naing (G2) and Iris Prasetyo (G2) reconnected in Bali, Indonesia, for the 2008 EWC Alumni Conference.

various graduate courses on development. He has also participated in a number of research studies affiliated with UNDP-Manila, the International Labor Organization's regional office in Manila, as well as government agencies and non-government organizations.

MEUTIA CHAERANI (Rani) graduated with an MSc degree in Environmental Management from the National University of Singapore in January 2008, and has just recently relocated to Jakarta, Indonesia. While focusing on helping her two kids settle down in Jakarta, Rani works part-time researching on the subject of environmental planning policy. She is also actively involved in giving new mothers support in breastfeeding as a volunteer breastfeeding counselor, and is one of the founders of the Indonesia Breastfeeding Mothers Association.

Not far from Rani is **THERESA TAN**, who is still a journalist living in Singapore. Reflecting on her APLP experience, she said, "Hawai'i seems like ages ago to me. But what a beautiful six-

month respite from the rush and worries of daily life!"

CHATWUT WANGWON is still working for Thailand Ministry of Public Health - U.S. CDC Collaboration (TUC). He loves his job very much, especially working for HIV prevention and care among Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), proven by his three happy years at TUC. Next month, he will provide technical support for MSM in Laos in a brand new role. Like Miss Universe, he wants everyone to be healthy and, of course, have world peace. He's still single and really longing to have a steady partner.

LUCAS HARTLEY finished law school in 2005 and started practice in San Diego, California, as an attorney. After a year in San Diego, he and his wife, Sarah, moved to New York, where they both worked for large corporate firms. Now it happens they have moved again! Sarah has started a job as an environmental impact attorney with a non-profit called EarthJustice.org in Denver, so the two have set up a new home in the rocky mountain state of Colorado! Though Luke was unsure what he would be doing next, he said, "Hopefully, whatever I end up doing will have a significant Asia Pacific focus, as I truly miss the environment of the APLP group and the EWC!"

G2

Several G2ers had a chance to reconnect at the 2008 EWC Alumni Conference in Bali, Indonesia. **ING PHANSAVATH**

attended the event, where she and **AYNNE KOKAS** facilitated a workshop called "Yoga Peace," which combined Ing's experience in conflict resolution and Aynne's experience as a yoga instructor to teach personal conflict resolution through yoga practice. You can read Aynne's reflection on the experience on page 4 of this issue. **IRIS PRASETYO**, a Bali native, also joined the session. Iris spent a few days playing host in Bali to **DR. SOE NAING**—whom Ing saw in Kuala Lumpur.

Continued on page 13

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 12)

ur—and who noted that "Iris's skills as a tour guide have really improved!"

The biggest news from Ing, however, came when she announced her engagement to her long-time boyfriend and APLP classmate **CHARLES BABB**. Chuck recently graduated from the Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy of the University of Central Florida with an MS in Video Game Production. He is currently working for Neversoft, the video game studio that produced the "Guitar Hero" series. Congrats to Ing and Chuck on their engagement!

Bali was not the only venue for G2 reunions. In late December, there was a mini APLP/EWC reunion in Los Angeles. In attendance were: Ing, Chuck, **ANH PHAM**, Jeanna Trammell (G3), Shafiq Meyer (G5), Farzana Nayani (EWC degree fellow and Shafiq's wife), Wilmar Salim (degree fellow), Feriyal Aslam (degree fellow and Wilmar's wife), and Yohei Shinozuka (degree fellow).

Los Angeles is still home to **SHANTHINI BLACK**, who is still living in Santa Monica and working in real estate development. She recently became LEED (Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design) certified, which means she can work on green/sustainable developments. Outside of work, Shanthini was training for a triathlon to raise money for lymphoma and leukemia. With the support of her APLP classmates and others, she raised over \$4,000 for the cause, and finished the grueling trek—which included a 0.75 mile swim, 24-mile bike ride, and 10k run-over—in Palm Desert, California, last March!

Speaking of trekking, a number of G2's U.S. contingent have relocated to Asia for work. **ISAAC SOUWEINE** moved to Singapore in January 2008 and spent the year freelancing on various technology projects while his wife, Andrea, worked as a professor at the National University of Singapore. Among other big news, he completed an MBA at INSEAD-Singapore; traveled the region extensively (Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia)—including one trip with **BEN WAGNER**; and had a baby girl! His new daughter, Halia Farran, was "named after the Malay word for ginger, the spice of course, but more importantly the family of flowers (*zingiberaceae*), which grow beautifully in Singapore and across South-

east Asia." Halia also has her own blog, which you can follow at: <http://ourhalia.wordpress.com/>.



The newest member of the APLP G2 'ohana: Halia Farrah Souweine.

Speaking of newborns, **SAIMA HUMA**'s son, Daniyal, celebrated his first birthday last December! Saima is currently in Karachi, Pakistan, working at Pak-Kuwait Takaful Company (First Islamic Insurance Company) as Assistant Manager for HR/Administration.

This year has been just as active for **BEN WAGNER**. Ben is a professor of law at Kyung Hee University School of Law in Seoul, South Korea. Human Rights Watch has recently expressed support for a report he submitted to the National Human Rights Commission of Korea calling for an end to compulsory in-country AIDS tests for foreigners. Ben's report is available at: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/15768998/Nhrck-Report-2>. He has also been active in coordinating a case brought to the Constitutional Court of Korea. His work has been widely reported in the Korean and international media, including the *Los Angeles Times*.

JUSTIN LIANG has shipped off to the Philippines for the summer and is working for the Asian Development Bank in their Pacific Operations Division in Manila. He feels fortunate to have had the large and hospitable Filipino APLP 'ohana welcome him to his new home, and has met up with numerous alumni, including Mel Gregorio (G4), Emilio Garrido (G5), Jamal Hadjiusman (G5), Jinli He (G5), Nash Sampaco (G5), Nilu Doranagama (G5), Rita Gallardo (G8), Nais Sampaco (G8), and Teresa Cheung (G8). Justin will return to the States (Boston) in late August, where he is pursuing dual graduate degrees at

Continued on page 14



The Advocate: Ben Wagner (G2) has been fighting to end compulsory in-country AIDS tests for foreigners in South Korea as a professor of law at Kyung Hee University in Seoul.

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 13)



Saalgirah Mubarak! Saima Huma (G2) with husband and son, Daniyal, on his first birthday.

Harvard and MIT, focusing on international trade and political economy. He was recently awarded a David L. Boren National Security Fellowship, which will take him to Japan next summer for research and language study.



May I Joie-n you? May Nwe Nwe Aung (G2, left) and Joie Aveno (G2, right) met up in Manila, Philippines, last December.

Meanwhile, Justin's surf mate **J.P. ONG** is finishing up his MBA from Tsinghua University in China and spent the past semester studying abroad in Paris. Never quite able to stay in one place, he made time for a few surf trips in Europe and recently caught some waves in Morocco. J.P.'s Filipino classmate **JOIE AVENO** hasn't been riding many waves so much as making them. As a professor in the Philippines, Joie was in Chiang Mai, Thailand, for eight days last September supervising one of her graduate students, who is conducting research on her home province in Thailand. There, she visited the Huai Hong Khrai Royal Development Study Center Projects and some of its village beneficiaries. Then, back in the Philippines in

December, she hosted classmate **MAY NWE NWE AUNG**, who was in town facilitating and serving as resource person for a training workshop her organization, the Red Cross, was conducting jointly with the Philippines Red Cross chapter.

Finally, **D.L. MCNEAL** had some big news to share: he was recently appointed to be Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense for East Asia and the Pacific at the Pentagon. D.L. previously served as Assistant Director of the China Center at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. Congratulations to D.L., who officially received the first U.S. presidential appointment!



For 2009, G3 reports that they're alive and well, busy pursuing various careers, and giving back to their communities in unique ways. **MILONI GAN-**

DHI is currently a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar studying in Singapore. She has taken advantage of her temporary Asia stint by attending the November EWC Bali conference and making it to Chawesa (Goi) Thienprasert-Fischer's (G4) wedding in Bangkok, where she was happy to meet up with a good number of APLP alumni, including Christina Monroe (G4), Thidarat Sukhanindr (G6), Nisha Onta (G4), Sirilux Trunzer (G4), and others.

In Thailand, **FAI U P A R A (OY) KEER-ANUN** has tried

elery making and has even dabbled in a little real estate, aside from her banking day job at the United Overseas Bank (UOB) in Bangkok as a research manager (see: www.ShineBuy.com, www.ShineEstate.com, and www.Hiabrand.com). She reports, "My interest has brought me to know more friends who have the same interest in handmade jewelry here." Oy urges APLPers who may know of friends or family members in search of jewelry to contact her.

In Japan, **FUMI TANAKA** has been working at Mazda car company, headquartered in Hiroshima. Currently, she is in charge of vehicle warranty analysis, working with her mostly European distribution counterparts. She is happy to be involved in one of the biggest projects at the company—called MGWS (Mazda Global Warranty System)—which is developing a new worldwide warranty operation system.

Reporting from Hong Kong, **CAROL LEUNG** is delighted to have recently completed a 10,000-mile China train ride in December 2008. Having made stops in Beijing, Qingdao, Dalian, Tianjin, Guangzhou, and Shenzhen, the adventure "mesmerized" her—most notably in experiencing the local way of

Continued on page 15



LA. Not-So-Confidential: APLPers reunite to celebrate the engagement of Chuck Babb (G2, far left) and Ing Phansavath (G2, far right). From L to R: Chuck Babb (G2), Shafiq Meyer (G5), Feriyal Aslam (EWC degree fellow), Yohei Shinozuka (EWC degree fellow), Jeanna Trammel (G3), Anh Pham (G2), Farzana Nayani (EWC degree fellow), and Ing Phansavath (G2).

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 14)



Bangkok Dangerous: G4 ladies Christina Monroe, Lux Trunzer, and Nisha Onta met up in Thailand for Goi Fischer's (G4) wedding.



Spandexerous! Vinh Ho (G3) takes to the South Korean hills with his trusty bike.

life. Her trip, which is summarized in a common Chinese expression—"Reading ten thousand books is less beneficial than traveling ten thousand miles"—has proven true in Carol's latest sojourn.

After returning from her epic journey, Carol hosted classmate **STEPHANIE SCHUMM**, who is living in New York City and working to promote travel between the East Coast of the U.S. and Hong Kong.

Another alumna who calls the Big Apple home is **CAITLIN HARRINGTON**, who lives in NYC with her boyfriend and their cat, and is practicing international law. They are hoping to move to the West Coast in the foreseeable future. For the time being, Caitlin is trying to spend as much time as possible up in the mountains skiing. She also has learned how to scuba dive recently, which she finds "fabulous." She says she would love to see any APLP alums who find themselves in New York City!

Just starting his law career is Canadian **JONNY JACOBS**, who has recently been admitted to the state bar of New York and is currently working at the Court of International Trade.

On the Big Island of Hawai'i in April, **LOLA SALIMOVA** hosted **ELIZABETH WILLMOTT** and her boyfriend, Andy. And in December 2007, Lola finished her Masters degree

and presented her thesis at the EWC International Graduate Conference. Since then, Lola has been working at UH-Hilo coordinating a sexual violence prevention project. This summer, she is happy to be finally going back home to Uzbekistan for a visit.

Aside from her Hawai'i trip, last summer **LIZ WILLMOTT** worked as a national delegate for Hillary Clinton to the Democratic National Convention, and once the general election was underway, took two months off from her job to volunteer for the Obama campaign in Ohio. While there, she staffed Congressman Neil Abercrombie from Hawai'i and silk-screened "Aloha" t-shirts with Obama's face in the "O." Liz also got a homemade "Obama 'Ohana" t-shirt to celebrate putting some Hawaiian spirit in the White House.

Liz has since returned to being climate change policy advisor to the regional government in Seattle, where she loves it. She is looking forward to seeing **MICHELE FUGIEL** soon, when she visits from Calgary. Like Caitlin, she welcomes APLP visitors.

Michele finds herself still married, though living in a new country with a new job. Last August she moved to Calgary and is proud to have received her permanent residency to Canada in November. Recently, Michele started as Executive Director of Social Venture Partners-

Calgary! "I'm definitely staying entrenched in Philanthropy—and even blogging with the Foreign Policy Association on the topic," she says.

JEANNA TRAMMELL is still working as the program manager at the University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA) Extension for the Engineering Short Courses and Technical Management Unit. She also served as the assistant director for the Model UN Conference in New York City from April 7-11, 2009, on the General Assembly 2nd Committee. Jeanna researched and prepared extensively for the conference and was excited to volunteer her leadership expertise honed during the APLP.

In Honolulu, **CHRIS CLEMMENS** recently purchased a motorcycle and reports, "It's been a long time since I had one. Two wheels good, four wheels bad." He also is teaching part-time at UH business school and enjoys getting back into the classroom again.

GEORGINA MICHAEL is currently doing a Masters degree in urban planning at the Ibero University in Mexico City. She reports: "I love the program, and the people that I've met there as well, but it certainly has been challenging since I'm paired with architects and engineers when it comes to 'drawing' and 'design' projects! At the end, it's all fun!" On the personal side, Georgina and her boyfriend are

Continued on page 16

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 15)

busy preparing for a new baby in their lives—"a future APLPer indeed!" she proclaims!

In San Francisco, California, **ASHTON UDALL** reports that he will be completing his MBA in 2010 at Santa Clara University. In the meantime, Ashton finds himself immersed in building his international trade and consulting company, Global Sourcing Services, by spending a lot of time criss-crossing the United States and Asia. In the past year, he traveled twice to China and once to Vietnam, visiting business clients and factories. More immediately, Ashton is getting ready to enter the 2009 Global Social Venture Competition, a business plan competition focused on ventures that create sustainable economic and social value.

LEAH PRICE is also in San Francisco studying at Hastings Law School, where she has been involved in the Hastings International and Comparative Law Society and the Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation and is still trying to lay the foundation for her career in international refugee/human rights work.

And on the topic of international work, **ERIN HENGEL** is still working for the OECD on South East Europe. She has had a lot of work-related travel recently—all to that region. But she has also started working a bit on North African countries, which took her to Egypt in early May, as well as Croatia.

After having spent 2008 in San Francisco searching for that ever elusive "Asia career," **VINH HO** now finds himself back in Florida working at the family boat canvas business. "Truthfully, I never thought I'd find myself learning the boat canvas trade, but I'm finding it's quite a lucrative niche market despite the global economic downturn, and hopefully, one day I'll be able to tie it in some way to Asia." Let's just all hope Vinh learns how to operate and navigate a boat well before we all join him on his inaugural voyage!

G4

We start the APLP G4 journey right where it all began: in Hawai'i. **CHRISTINA MONROE** never left the Aloha State—or the EWC. She and Dr. Scott



"Thai-ing" the knot: Goi Thienprasert-Fischer (G4) on her wedding day in Bangkok, Thailand, with husband Seth Fischer.

MacLeod successfully won a State Department grant to run the "U.S. Institute on the Environment" this May and June (see the article on page 2). The program is partnering with the Nature Conservancy and Stanford's Woods Institute for the Environment. Christina is giggly with green ideas, reading all she can on the topic. Her recommendation: "World Changing: the User's Guide to the 21st Century."

DOUGLAS CHUN is still in his home of sunny Hawai'i, starting the second year of a PhD in the business program at UH-Manoa. This is his last semester before he needs to start writing his dissertation.

AMIR FARMANESH is also in the middle of doing his doctoral dissertation. Based in the Washington, DC, area, where he studies at the

University of Maryland-College Park, Amir is scheduled to join the Brookings Institution at their Doha Center as a Visiting Fellow to research the Middle East's knowledge-based development. More related to the APLP, he just came back from Doha, Qatar, where they gathered 300 people as Muslim Leaders of Tomorrow, which reminded him of his times at the EWC.

Also studying in a sunnier part of the States is **ADITYA RAMETRA**, who is pursuing a Masters degree in education at the University of California-Berkeley on a Rotary World Peace Scholarship.

After Hawai'i, **EVA ZHANG** also moved to California (San Diego), where she started her career in the IT industry. Now, she is working for the U.S. Department of Navy in Japan. She has been in Japan for about 1.5 years and still has 1.5 years to go.

ERIC HANSON has taken a position as Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Grand Valley State University in his home state of Michigan. He is still very much involved with the EWC through the EWCA Executive Board. He is proud to share that he completed the Honu Half Ironman held on the Big Island last May.

Three of G4's women now have new names! **CHAWESA (GOI) THIENPRASERT** is now Mrs. Goi Fischer after she got married to Seth Fischer on November 1, 2008, in Bangkok. The couple now resides in Bangkok, where

Continued on page 17



Something to "Woo" about: Jackie Woo (G4) changed her marital status—and her last name—in Hong Kong last November when she married fiancé Augustine Chau (right).

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 16)

Goi is still directing the Concordia Child Care Ministry. Goi's love and passion for kids is evident in her plans to pursue further studies in education this year. You can check out their website at: www.concordiakids.com. **SIRILUX P. TRUNZER** is enjoying her motherhood with son, Alex, who is now two-and-a-half years old. They mainly live in Bangkok but usually fly to Germany to visit Alex's grandparents. At present, Lux is helping out with her husband's business in Bangkok. And finally, **JACKIE WOO** is now Mrs. Jackie Chau! She was married to Augustine Chau on November 2, 2008, in Hong Kong (see pic on page 16).

In Southeast Asia, **NISHA ONTA** is working on her PhD in Thailand, looking into effects on gender relations due to the livelihood strategies implemented for the adaptation to climate change. She will be starting her data collection in Nepal this summer. She's still living in Bangkok and enjoys the shopping and hanging out with friends, particularly Goi Fischer and Lux Trunzer. The three of them meet regularly and have weekend shopping trips to Chatuchak market, or lunch at various restaurants.

HEYTHEE KYI has finished her service at the Asian Disaster Prepared-

ness Center (ADPC), Bangkok, and has been working at Save the Children (UK) in Yangon, Myanmar, as Disaster Risk Reduction Manager since January 2009.

In the Philippines, **MEL GREGORIO** is still in her hometown of Manila, working for a government think-tank, the Development Academy of the Philippines, where she is tasked to handle projects such as conducting and managing trainings and seminars. She's also involved in an international youth NGO called the World Youth Alliance, and helps out in their projects in the Asia-Pacific office, located in Manila. Last July, Mel was in Sydney, Australia for the World Youth Day 2008. This year, she's been part of two international events taking place in the Philippines: the "5th Eco-Products International Fair" (Exhibit and Conference in March), and the "Decade of Dignity and Development" in July. She's also almost done with her Masters degree, which is just a seminar paper away!

G4's resident balladeer from the Philippines, **RITCHIE ASIBAL**, is happy to share that his University Choir recently got a Gold Prize in Popular Music at the Busan International Choral Festival and Competition in Busan, South

Korea, held last November. The choir bested 40 other choirs from the whole world! More importantly, Ritchie was judged the "Best Conductor" among 40 other choir conductors, making him the first

Filipino Conductor to get an award at the Festival. His choir will have a U.S. tour from July-September 2009, which is a Cultural Exchange Performance Project of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts of the Philippines. To read more on Ritchie's award, visit this link: <http://globalnation.inquirer.net/diaspora/diaspora/view/20081215-178100/Pinoy-choir-wins-top-prize-abroad>

Rounding out the Southeast Asian contingent is **JENNY WEINMAN**, who is currently in Singapore working for the University of Nevada Las Vegas-Singapore. She's enjoying her job, as well as the sights and sounds of Singapore.

Across the Atlantic is **ANNI HE**, who is still in UK working for a disability organization in London. She just experienced the coldest winter in the past decade in UK—her first real winter in the past six years! (She was excited to walk in the snow.) She's now planning to go on a pan-European trip in 2009, hoping she can get as many holidays as possible this year.

The G4 Canadians have made their way back home to Canada. **JESSICA SWARTZ** is in Toronto working at a law firm coordinating professional development programs. The job has brought her into the field of continuing education but still allows her to continue her work in logistics planning, which she really enjoys. **ADAM BANACK** is also in Toronto, working as an Articling Student at a law firm called Torys LLP,

Continued on page 18



Ritchie Asibal (G4) was named "Best Conductor" in the Busan International Choral Festival competition



I think, therefore I am . . . in Bangkok. From L to R: Goi Fischer (G4), Ngoc Luong (G4), and Lux Trunzer (G4) do their best "thinker" poses during a trip to Thailand for Goi's wedding.

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 17)

which primarily focuses on providing legal advice for complex corporate transactions and disputes. In Canada, "articling" is a 10-month period after graduating from law school where the student has to work as an apprentice of sorts learning the practical aspects of practicing law before he is called to the bar. Adam will be called to the Ontario Bar in June, and is planning to travel through South America for the summer months.

Finally, **SHARON SAKUMA** started working for the United Nations Development Programme in Palau in August 2008. She's the Country Development Manager for the Joint Presence Initiative Office of UNDP, UNFPA (UN Population Fund), and UNICEF. She is very excited about the work that she's doing now and spending more time with son Jack, who is now three years old.

G5

Higher education was among the many reasons they came to APLP, and a number of G5ers have just completed their graduate degrees. **JAMAL**

LATIPH HADJIUSMAN finished his law degree from Mindanao State University in March 2008 and is now working as a Legal Officer at the Commission in Elections in the Philippines and is a member of the Technical Working Group of the 2010 First Philippine Automation Election Project. While working, he is active with different non-governmental organizations, including the Muslim Legal Assistance Foundation (MUSLAF), where he volunteered as a paralegal officer. Last year, he helped design a module for an Islamic Leadership Program tailored to Muslim students in the Philippines. More recently, Jamal and his group have been busy in working for the proposed big account event: the First ASEAN Muslim Youth Conference.

In June, several G5ers tossed their graduation caps in the air as newly minted "Masters" of their field. **MAI RATTANAVONG** has been interning in Cambodia and Washington, DC, studying two organizations' microfinance programs as part of her Masters program in Sustainable International Development from Brandeis University, which she

completed this Spring. **TASHI CHODEN** also just completed her Masters degree from Columbia University. After her graduation in May, she and her husband visited Niagara Falls before heading home to Bhutan to get back to "being a hardworking civil servant . . . whatever that means." **CHARITY ESPIRITU** graduated in June 2009 with a Masters degree in Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and has resettled in California.

J U T A P O R N Huanying APLP! Sun Jie (G5, right) welcomes Ginny Saetia (G5, "GINNY" SAETIA left) to Beijing, China, during Ginny's business school trip.

went for an international business study abroad trip in China during the spring semester of 2008, giving her the chance of having a mini-reunion with **SUN JIE** in Beijing. Ginny then got her MBA, majoring in Marketing and International Business, from the University of Toledo last August 2008. She was the only person who received the "Pace

Maker Award"—the award for the most outstanding MBA student that year. So far, she completed her APLP three-year goal of getting her dream job as a marketing analyst in the United States. She got the position at Master Chemical Cooperation in Perrysburg, Ohio, right

Continued on page 19



An intergenerational affair: APLPers reunite at Nash Sampaco's (G5) wedding in the Tagaytay Highlands, Philippines. From L to R: Justin Liang (G2), Jinli He (G5), Nilu Doranegama (G5), Maita Milallos (G5), Teresa Cheung (G8), and Emilio Garrido (G5).

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 18)



Duman Wa'u (G5, center) heads the selection team of the election commission in his home district in Indonesia. Duman also works for a local disaster response NGO.

after getting her MBA degree.

Two others from G5 are advancing their knowledge even further, in doctoral programs. **KITTY CHIU** is now doing a PhD at INSEAD in France. She studied at the university's Singapore campus for the first six months, then came to France in March 2009. Before France, she was on a short vacation in Vietnam, where she met up with **MAITA MILALLOS**, **DENNY COWGER**, and two other APLPers. She misses all her APLP classmates very much! Meanwhile, **MYRON CHIU** is in the third year of a PhD course in political economy in rainy Wales. Since next June is the deadline for his thesis submission, he is currently trying hard to put every chapter together. At the same time, he is doing part-time teaching and learning physiotherapy.

Not studying, but still in Hawai'i, are **JAYLON BAYKAL** and **MIWA HIRONO**. Jaylon is now living in Maui with her husband Pete and is raising a beautiful son, Kristian. Miwa is doing well and still enjoying the sunshine and blue skies of the Aloha State. She had several opportunities to get together with some G5 APLPers last year. She went to a Thai New Year Festival

at Kapi'olani Park with **JINLI HE** and **PEARL WU** in the Spring. **PATIGUL AHAT** visited Hawai'i during the summer and had a good time. Nash Sampaco, Pearl, and Miwa enjoyed great food, drinks, and chatting at Kincaid's and the Waioli Tea Room in the Fall.

Speaking of APLP mini-reunions, **JINLI HE**, who is now teaching at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, USA, recently visited the Philippines to see classmate **NASH SAMPACO** get married to fiancé Edil Baddiri. Nash's



Nash Sampaco (G5, right) was married to fiancé Edil Baddiri in the Tagaytay Highlands, Philippines, this July.

wedding—a grand affair in the Manila highlands—was attended by a number of APLP alumni, including Justin Liang (G2), **EMILIO GARRIDO**, **JAMAL HADJIUSMAN**, **MAITA MILALLOS**, **NILU DORANEGAMA**, Teresa Cheung (G8), and Rita Gallardo (G8).

EMILIO GARRIDO is working as Architect-in-Contract with a cultural agency of the Philippine government. He assists the Chief of Historic Preservation Division, National Historical Institute, on a variety of undertakings: among them, resolving conflicting stakeholders' interests on a historic town plaza; researching on two 13th-century Islamic sites in southern Philippines disputed by different communities; spearheading efforts to write a conservation plan for heritage lighthouses in the Philippines; designing a chapel on a hill overlooking the sea; and preparing a nomination to UNESCO for an Asia Pacific Heritage Award.

A number of global non-profits are fortunate to have APLP G5 alumni at their helm. **DUMAN WA'U** still works for an NGO called LPAM-Nias, which focuses on tsunami and earthquake disaster response. Since it is a local NGO, he is very much involved in working at the grassroots level. Last year, Duman was invited to ICU (International Christian University), Tokyo, and Osaka University in Japan as a guest lecturer to share the lessons learnt over the past few years from his experience in humanitarian programs. He was also appointed a member of the selection team of the election commission of his district last year.

PRAKASH KAFLE is still continuing his previous job with a British NGO called Practical Action. Recently, he visited Mukti-nath, a joint Hindu and Buddhist shrine, which is located 3,800 meters above sea level. Mukti-nath falls on famous Annapurna circle trail (hike) and is a popular tourist attraction in Nepal.

KARIN EKADHL lives in Stockholm, Sweden, working for Energy Forum International, where she organizes conferences and training courses for the energy industry in Europe. She notes that she gets to travel

Continued on page 20

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 19)

quite a bit around Europe for her job, organizing events and meeting people.

A number of G5ers are also working in the private sector. After attending the Beijing Olympics last summer, **DENNY COWGER** moved from Dubai to work as a corporate associate at Mayer Brown JSM, a law firm in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Over the past few months he has had the opportunity to meet up with many APLPers—both old and new—who were traveling through the region. Denny is looking forward to seeing everyone next year at the 2010 reunion!

YULIA ZHURAVSKAYA has been working at Deloitte and Touche in Moscow, Russia, since 2006. Nothing has changed since August 2006, she reports, except for the fact that she has done some serious globe-trotting: she has been to China (Beijing, Lhasa, Baotou, and Xian), Turkey (Istanbul), the Czech Republic (Prague and Karlovy Vary), Austria (Vienna), and many other small towns. She has also been to Uzbekistan a couple times.

After coming back from Hawai'i, **STARLA MORI** worked with the Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia as a Graduate Management Trainee for a year and a half. She later took on a position as Loan Officer for the bank's Pohnpei Branch for another six months. She then realized working for the bank wasn't something she enjoyed doing (had too much people interaction) so she resigned in early March of this year. Since then, she has been working for the FSM National Government Office of SBOC (Statistics, Budget, and Economic Management, Overseas Development Management, and Compact Management) as an Economic Analyst. She sends her "Aloha" to all!

Two alumni have recently welcomed new children into the world—and into the APLP 'ohana. **NILU DORANEGAMA**, who is part-timing as an Advisor/Consultant on Child Rights/Child Protection and HIV and AIDS through her organization, Ge-Tha Consultancies, is blessed with her gorgeous two-year old daughter, Dharani Ashinshana Doranegama.

BLAINE BALDWIN and wife Anouhak Baldwin have been enriched this year by the presence of Mali, their one-year old daughter. "Seeing her grow



Blaine Baldwin (G5, right) with wife Anouhak and their new baby girl, Mali.

and develop so much during this past year has been a total joy. I was fortunate to teach Japanese at two Olathe, Kansas, high schools during this year and found this experience quite rewarding. We took a trip to Laos during the Christmas season so Mali's grandparents could see their granddaughter for the first time. Now that school is finished we are anxiously anticipating where our career/

travels will take us to next!"

Finally, **ABHAY ABHAY** continues his work in Nigeria as Advisor to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission of Nigeria. When he completes his assignment in September, he looks forward to joining Indian police. Check out Abhay's alumni profile on page 8 of this issue!



2008 was an unforgettable year for many G6ers—perhaps none more so than **YUNZHU HU** in China. The Beijing Olympics and Sichuan earthquake were among the many emotional ups and downs for Yunzhu and the Chinese people. But on the good side, Yunzhu's business, Infinity PR Agency, which she and a friend set up in 2007, has grown inch by inch. They hosted some wonderful events this past year and had some interesting clients, including Singelring from Sweden, Tadashi from New York, and Woooha from Taiwan. They also moved to a new office and hired more people. Yunzhu "enjoys work in spite of the frustrations I suffer or the happiness I achieve. From this experience, I have

Continued on page 21



Bear with me! Yunzhu Hu (G6, left) and her husband have moved to Vancouver, Canada, after an exciting year in Beijing.

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 20)

discovered some new strengths in me that I hadn't noticed before." She recently relocated to Vancouver, Canada, to be with her husband, whom she "couldn't stand living apart from anymore! . . . It was a difficult decision for me to leave Beijing and my company. But that's life, isn't it?"

Meanwhile, Chinese colleague **SHANSHAN WANG** has also journeyed to the West. She is now enrolled in a PhD program at the School of International Service at American University in Washington, DC. Says Shanshan of her studies: "I have been super enthusiastic in searching for the 'weapons' to break the ethnocentrism in international relations theories. But I miss Hawai'i!"

Heading in the opposite direction—from the U.S. to Asia—is **THUAN LE**, who recently left her job at the World Bank's Gender and Development Unit. During her tenure at the Bank, Thuan helped to coordinate the Private Sector Leaders Forum, an initiative of the World Bank Group's Gender Action Plan to engage private sector leaders in promoting women's economic empowerment (you can check out their website at: psforum.worldbankgroup.org). After leaving her job, Thuan spent some time back home at Vietnam and traveled through Asia. She had a chance to reunite with classmates **PHUONG ANH NGUYEN** and **STEVE RIEG** in Saigon. Steve is now in his second year as a Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme

participant, continuing to initiate various cultural exchanges between students in Japan and his family in the U.S. He is also making a humble attempt at playing the trumpet with his school's band! Steve helped out at underprivileged elementary schools and orphanages working with the International Volunteer Club (IVC) in Vietnam during the summer.

After spending four months teaching English in southern China, **CHRISTINA KWAUK** finally decided it was time to go back to school. She is now at the University of (freezing!) Minnesota, pursuing a PhD in Comparative and International Development Education. Notes Christina, "When I'm not studying, instead of surfing in the warm Hawaiian sun, I'm learning about all the logistics that go into surfing the frigid waters of the North Shore of Lake Superior, the largest of the Great Lakes in the U.S. Yes, people even surf when it's -20 degrees Fahrenheit! Maybe one day I'll actually venture out there and give it a try." Christina recently visited Laos, where she met up with **AMPHONE SIVONGXAY**, whose baby girl, Gloria, has just begun walking!

Some G6ers are not braving frigid waters but instead enjoying the more temperate beaches of Hawai'i. **VINCE OKADA** is back in Honolulu doing a PhD in Social Welfare at UH-Manoa and working for the State's Department of Human Services, Federal Eligibility Quality Assurance Center. There, he is re-

viewing foster care cases and eligibility and trying to get more money for the state from the federal government. Besides meeting up with APLP/EWC 'ohana still in Hawai'i, he met with APLP folks in Bali for the EWC Alumni Conference and with **MAC BRODIE** in Los Angeles during the holiday season.

Also still in Hawai'i is **ODNO ICHINKHORLOO**, who is now in her fourth semester at Kapi'olani Community College studying travel and tourism/hospitality. She is currently working on a project proposal that deals with sustainable ecotourism in Mongolia in collaboration with the UH-Manoa Environmental Center, and will graduate next Fall. Her future career will be in this area to promote sustainable tourism in Mongolia—but in her spare time, she continues to enjoy Hawai'i's hiking and beaches.

Speaking of Hawai'i, **TERRY QIAN** had some exciting news to report about the legacy project he launched during G6. Terry recently made a proposal to use some money from the Hale Aloha Fund to sponsor a program called "Class of Success" initiated by Humanitarian Services for Vietnamese Children (HSVC), the same organization that worked with G6 during their visit to the orphanage in Hanoi (see *The Navigator's* Winter 2006 issue for details). He received a packet from HSVC that has all the files (success stories) of each mem-

Continued on page 22



Miss(ing) Saigon: **Phuong Anh Nguyen** (G6, left), and **Steve Rieg** (G6, right) during a visit to Vietnam last August.



An "Incan-decent" view from Machu Picchu. **Mary Nakada** (G6, left) and **Cherry Ordoñez** (G6, right) trekked through Peru last July.

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 21)

ber of the first class of beneficiaries and was extremely happy to see what the program had accomplished.

MARY NAKADA says "Aloha" from Peru! Mary continues her work as Communications and Alumni Coordinator at Colegio Franklin Delano Roosevelt, her prep school alma mater. These are her highlights from the past year: In April, she organized and hosted the Annual Alumni Luncheon, an event which brought together 550 alumni from all over the world to one huge party at the school. In July, **CHERRY ORDOÑEZ** visited Mary for two weeks, and the two traveled to Cusco, Machu Picchu, and Tambopata rainforest. The trip was an amazing adventure: Cherry discovered Peruvian delicacies and Mary braved her vertigo! In August, Mary traveled to Sao Paulo, Brazil, where she participated in the Okinawan Immigration Centennial in Brazil and also promoted APLP to Brazilian-Okinawans. In September, **SONATA KAZDAILYTE** and her husband Gerardo came to Peru, and during their time in Lima, they feasted on Peruvian-style sushi and gelato! In November, she produced Roosevelt's Online Auc-



Angkor-ed in Love: Sophan Seng (G6, left) with his wife in Cambodia.



At peace in Pakistan: Atif Butt (G6, right) exchanged vows with his fiancé, Rabail, in Lahore, Pakistan, this past March.

tion, a fund-raising event for the construction of the school's Performing Arts Center, with proceeds benefiting the SOS Children's Villages in Peru.

The late Michael Jackson, in his song "Man in the Mirror," said that "If you wanna make the world a better place, take a look at yourself and make that change." No one from APLP, it seems, has made that change more than **SOPHAN SENG**. Sophan remembers how the theme of "change" permeated his APLP experience, and he now reports that tremendous change has come to his life. In his words: "Last summer after my MA graduation, I went back to Cambodia and talked with my preceptor (Monk) about my intent to pursue a PhD, and how I had to deal with some challenges, especially with finances. My preceptor, who is also the current Supreme Patriarch of the Cambodian Sangha, agreed to allow me to resign from monk-hood. That was a very important transition in my life. After I became a normal layman, I met a Cambodian lady and she agreed to marry me. This was a change that was not inscribed in my action plan. I can now see how change has shaped different aspects of my life: from teen life, to becoming a teenage monk, and now to have become a PhD student in the Department of Political Science at the University of Hawai'i, as a married man. How fast my life has changed! And what will become of the future? Maybe I need a fortune teller, or maybe I have to determine those fortunes myself?"

Finally, change has certainly come for **ATIF BUTT**, who married fiancée Rabail in Lahore, Pakistan, on March 29, 2009. Rabail, which literally translates as "a veil of flowers," is currently study-

ing for her Masters degree in International Relations. Big congrats to the newlyweds!



Disasters are not normally things people look forward to. But a number of G7ers seem to have developed a fair bit of expertise about them—or at least preventing and managing them. After submitting 87 job applications,

TIM MCINERNEY has finally achieved his goal of becoming a disaster manager. Working for the Australian Red Cross in Brisbane, he is splitting his time between managing evacuation centers during the recent flooding and training up the most hard-core group of retirees ever to wear the Red Cross symbol.

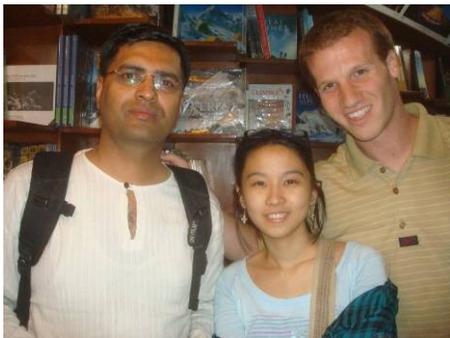
Also working on disasters, incidentally, are **KHAINE THIDAR AUNG** and **SAW MYA THINN**. Khaine recently started working for an NGO assisting tsunami-affected areas in southern Thailand, while Saw has been working for UNICEF Myanmar as a child protection officer in the Cyclone Nargis rehabilitation project. At present, Saw is navigating her own personal life as the mother of a new-born baby (see pic below) and as a full-time student in the

Continued on page 23



Saw Mya Thinn (G6) feeding her new baby.

CLASS NOTES (continued from page 22)



We'll be Nepalese if we please! From L to R: Hari Luintel (G7), Cathy Liamzon (G7), and Jeff Wood (G7) during a mini-reunion in Nepal.

Masters program in Global Leadership and Sustainable Development at Hawai'i Pacific University.

Similarly in the thick of NGO work is **CATHY LIAMZON**. While rejoicing over the recent passage of the bill extending agrarian reform in the Philippines, Cathy is mourning the loss of a dear farmer leader, Ka Rene Penas, who was ambushed and killed last June.

JEFF WOOD, QUDSIA MEHMOOD, SURESH TAMANG, and **RAM KUMAR** are also making a difference in the public sector in Asia. Since leaving APLP, Jeff has served as Project Coordinator for the American-Chinese Multi-Faith Religious Exchange. After hosting a delegation of Chinese government and religious leaders in the U.S. during September of 2008, this year, Jeff is helping to organize a reciprocal visit of American religious leaders, government officials, and academics to China, scheduled for October 2009.

Pakistani native **QUDSIA MEHMOOD** has just joined Population Council as Communication Officer for the FALAH Project, a five-year USAID-funded project for promoting birth spacing in Pakistan. Besides her job, she is also working as a volunteer carrying out relief work for the internally displaced peoples of Swat, Bajur, Momind, and Bunner, Pakistan.

After finishing the first part of APLP, **SURESH TAMANG** returned to Nepal and worked as short-term consultant for the International Federation for Election Systems (IFES) as a regional coordinator to support and monitor the historical Constituent Assembly (CA) Election in Nepal. Following that stint, he

became a survey manager for Concern Worldwide to conduct a district nutrition survey in Western Nepal. As per his APLP Personal Action Plan goal, he has also started his PhD in Social Work at UH-Manoa, specializing in rural aging and mental health. He lives in Hawai'i with his wife and daughter.

RAM KUMAR works as Deputy Director of the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, the premier Research and Training organization in India for the mentally challenged. Being the Deputy CEO, he is involved in the planning and implementation of the organization's policies and programs.

G7 lawyers **WILLIAM KONG** and **ANDREW DE CASTRO** also had some big news to share. William is now working as in-house counsel at China Minmetals Corporation. He mainly focuses on dispute resolution and litigation. The exciting news is that he might appear in front of the China Supreme Court next month defending his company in a civil case!

Wanting to learn more about this "leadership" thing they kept talking about in Hawai'i, **ANDREW DE CASTRO** took a break from his crime-fighting days in the Philippines and is presently in Fukuoka pursuing a Masters of Law (LLM) degree through Kyushu University's Young Leaders Program. He was recently married to G7 classmate

SAYAKA AZUMA, and the two recently held wedding ceremonies in both Japan and the Philippines.

Sayaka has been busy ever since she left Hawai'i. She participated in and facilitated workshops in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and Europe; changed her name (to Azuma-de Castro); and is now back in her hometown of Fukuoka, Japan, working for the United Nations-HABITAT, an organization tasked to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. She writes that she spends most of her time "cooking for a stranger who has constantly been hanging out in her apartment since March!"

After leaving APLP, **BATULZII MOLOMJAMTS** has been working at a Moscow-based investment bank. However, this April, he picked up a new job at Capitron Bank of Mongolia as the Deputy Head of the Treasury Department, where he runs the bank's investment division. At the same time, he has been working part-time as advisor to the Head of the Finance Division of the Ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, and is preparing himself for the political life.

BUDHI GOZALI is also no stranger to multi-tasking—or, in his case, literally having layer upon layer of projects. He is now working on 11 facilities/development projects, from an aqua-tonic sea salt spa to a 65-floor building in Indonesia. He is still a regular contributor to journals and periodicals in addition to being a full-time real estate broker. On top of it all, he is writing a book about how to fight for success and, at the request of *Esquire Indonesia's* edi-



Andrew de Castro (G7) and new wife Sayaka Azuma (G7) tell us how many times they had to get married this past summer: once in Fukuoka, Japan, and again in Manila, Philippines.

tor, is currently writing an article for their next issue.

Speaking of writing, **SIMRIT KAUR AMAR SINGH** has returned to her job as assistant editor of *The Star*, Malaysia's leading English language daily newspaper. She has recently transferred to the news section after almost 13 years at the education desk (hooray!). Simrit is also currently coordinating the "Mind Our English" column, which is aimed at helping readers of *The Star* improve their English. It appears three times a week in the lifestyle section.



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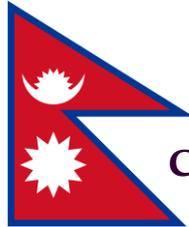
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SPOTLIGHT ON NEPAL

Cook Nepalese Food!

Dessert: *Kheer (Nepalese Rice Pudding)*

Kheer is a traditional Nepalese dessert, a creamy rice (or noodle) pudding made by boiling rice or broken wheat with milk and sugar, and flavored with cardamom, raisins, saffron, pistachios, or almonds. It is typically served during a meal but also consumed as a stand-alone dish.

Kheer can also be made with grains other than rice or wheat (barley *kheer* is a common variant in northern India and Pakistan).

Cooking time: 10 minutes

Serving size: several

Dish type: dessert

Kheer Ingredients:

- 1 cup rice
- 7-8 cups milk
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 5-6 tbsp brown sugar
- 1.5 tbsp cardamom
- 1/4 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup chopped pistachios
- 2 tbsp rose water
- 3 small packs Coffee Mate
- 2 tbsp honey

Optional Ingredients:

- 1/2 tsp Elachi powder
- 1/2 tsp saffron

Cooking directions:

In a medium pan, add rice, milk, and cardamom. Bring to boil while stirring frequently to prevent sticking. You can add Coffee Mate to the mixture to increase its thickness. After the rice softens and the mixture consistency starts to thicken, add raisins, almonds, pistachios, honey, and sugar as desired. Wait for five minutes, then add saffron and stir until the color becomes uniform. Put the pan aside until it reaches room temperature, then add the rose water. Serve either warm or chilled.

Optional directions:

Although the basic ingredients are milk and sugar, the recipe can be altered by replacing rice with vermicelli and semolina or by using Jaggery (coarse brown Indian sugar made from palm-sap) and honey instead of sugar. Different nuts can also be used in making *kheer*, but almonds tend to be the most popular.



Kheer—a traditional Nepalese dessert!

Speak Nepali!

Nepali is a language in the Indo-Aryan branch of the Indo-European language family. It is the *lingua franca* of Nepal and is also spoken in Bhutan, parts of India, and parts of Myanmar. Nepali is closely related to Hindi but is more conservative, borrowing fewer words from Persian and English and using more Sanskritic derivations. Some useful expressions for you to use:

Hello.
Namaste.

What's up?
Ke cha?

Thank you.
Dhanybhad.

What's your name?
Tapaiko naam ke ho?

My name is Bob.
Mero naam Bob ho.

I don't understand.
Maile bhujhina.