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EAST-WEST CENTER ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Verner Bickley Interview Narrative

6-28-2010 interview in Honolulu, Hawaii

Please cite as: Verner Bickley, interview by Terese Leber, June 28, 2010, interview narrative, East-West Center Oral History Project Collection, East-West Center, Honolulu Hawaii.

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The **East-West Center Oral History Project** strives to capture the Center's first 50 years as seen through the eyes of staff, alumni, and supporters who have contributed to its growth.

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Verner Bickley

6-28-1-2010 interview in Honolulu, Hawaii

Personal Background

I was born in northwest England in 1926, a month or so before a major national strike took place. Fortunately for me, my mother was not on strike. My father was a pharmacist, I was educated at a grammar school -- called Altrincham Grammar School -- and I studied there until 1943, when the Second World War was still being waged.

World War II Years

When I was 17 years old, I applied to join the British Royal Navy through a special arrangement which operated at that time, called the "Y" Scheme. This was aimed at young people who were about to leave school and who were thought to have some officer potential. It involved being at a university for six months where you would take part in a first-year degree course and at the same time, parallel with it, you would follow a naval course. At the end of the six months, you would be posted to the Navy proper. But from the moment you signed on for the university course, you had actually joined the Navy.

My interview was successful and after that I was allowed to make a list of universities in my order of interest. So I put down Cambridge as Number 1, Oxford as Number 2, Edinburgh as Number 3, etc. At the bottom of the list, I put Cardiff which boasts a university in what is now the capitol of Wales. Being what it is, the Navy ignored everything that I wrote and sent me to Cardiff.

I had a very good time there for the six months, but, at the end of the course, I failed the navigation section of the naval examination. I was of course, very disappointed and apprehensive

about the future. I had passed everything else, except this one subject. So, in other words, to use the naval expression, I had “dipped.”

After a very short leave, I was sent to a training camp with the fancy name, “King Arthur”. It was situated on the outskirts of a town named Skegness, on the British East Coast. After six, rather miserable, weeks in Skegness, I was posted to another naval facility in Britain and then to a third facility. Finally, I ended up in a town named Devonport, in one of the three major naval establishments that dated from Napoleonic, even Pre-Napoleonic times (the other two were Chatham and Portsmouth). Devonport was even more uncomfortable than Skegness. Built to hold about 2,500 naval ratings and officers, it was, at that time, accommodating over 5,000 men and women. At night, you had to sleep in a hammock and make sure that you could set it up very early in the afternoon. If you didn’t, you would have nowhere to sleep at all, except the floor - very uncomfortable!

It was in Devonport that the Navy decided that I should be a “Writer”. So I took off my sailor’s uniform, put on a jacket and serge trousers and “hey presto”, I was a writer. Basically, being a writer meant clerical work; filling in and distributing forms - that sort of thing. I did that for about two months and then ... I decided that I really ought to do something about getting a commission. A couple of days later, I was going through some files and I noticed that they were offering the possibility (subject, of course, to examination and interviews) of becoming an officer in the Special Branch, to be particularly involved in cipher work.

So, with nothing to lose, I applied and, to cut a long story short, I was accepted. A few months later, I found myself in a country house in England and, after undergoing and passing a course, I was finally promoted to Midshipman. I couldn’t be a Sub Lieutenant because I wasn’t old enough. I had to wait until I was nineteen-and-a-half before promotion.

Passage to India, Ceylon

After a short leave to visit my parents, I was sent out to India, to Bombay (Mumbai) where I was attached to a barracks named “Braganza.” It was whilst I was in Bombay that I saw the Aga Khan weighed in diamonds. This was done in the middle of a football field. He sat on a set of huge scales to be weighed against about 274 industrial diamonds. The Aga Khan sat on one side of the scales and the diamonds were weighed on the other side. He kept one of the jewels and the rest went to charity.

At that time, there were independence movements afoot in India — still a British colony — and, when I was there, we had to cope with a mutiny and a serious riot. Many of Bombay’s citizens joined in the riots and the mutiny involved ratings and officers in the Royal Indian Navy (not the Royal Navy). One of the RIN ships trained its guns on the Taj Mahal Hotel -- recently in the news, as you know, because it was attacked by terrorists. In late 1945, a considerable number of Indian Naval personnel went on strike and these were joined by Trade Union members and others. In the end, the strike spread and became violent in Bombay. As a young Sub Lieutenant, I rushed around the city, carrying messages from one organisation to another, often skirting around groups of rioters.

All that finally came to an end and I was posted to Ceylon, now called Sri Lanka. Like India, this was still a British colonial possession. I spent a very interesting time there, in Colombo and in Trincomalee. In both Bombay, and Colombo, I continued to do cipher and other work.

The war came to an end just before I left for India. The atomic bombs had been dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Before I left Ceylon at the end of 1946, I applied for a transfer to what was then called the British Pacific Fleet. Hong Kong had been re-occupied by the British Admiral, Harcourt, for the

military and by Mr A.C. Gimson for the civilian government (as Acting Governor). To my disappointment, my request for a transfer was rejected and, instead, I was given my demobilization papers and returned by troopship to England.

Civilian Life

Back in “civvy street,” I did various odd jobs during the bitter winter of 1947 and then I went back to the university in October of that year. I took a History degree in ’49; a degree in English language and literature in 1950 and a Diploma in Education in 1951.

I applied for various jobs and was eventually called for interview at the London headquarters of the Colonial Service, (a government organization not connected with the British Foreign Office). Basically, the Colonial Service appointed people to work in the various British colonies that existed in those days. I applied for a specific country, Cyprus. It seemed to me to be a very good idea — sunshine, beaches and all that.

[At the interview in London], after I had answered several, quite searching, questions from the members of the Board, the chairman said, “We see that you have applied for Cyprus.” I said, “Yes.” “We don’t think that that would be suitable for a young man like you” (I was then 25) “not a great deal of opportunity — small place. Would you like us to consider you for Malaya?” Intrigued, I said “Yes.” After I had answered a few more questions, the interview was brought to an end with the usual *mantra*, “Thank you for coming. We will let you know.” Some two weeks later, I received a letter of appointment from the Colonial Office. I had been appointed to Malaya, not to Cyprus.

Posting to Malaya

At that time, Malaya was in the throes of an emergency — so called — actually it was a war. During the Second World War, Chinese Communist forces assisted the Allied forces in the

jungles of Malaya and elsewhere. After the Second World War was over, the Communist forces switched sides and began a campaign to take over Malaya from the Malays and the British.

Rubber planters and other civilians were shot and many people suffered.

When I arrived in Singapore, the so-called Emergency was in full swing. There was relatively little terrorist activity in the city, but there were other problems. In addition to strident calls for independence from Britain, there were active Communist cells in the Chinese-medium schools, and occasional riots, fomented by Communist sympathizers.

In those days, students were educated in English medium schools, Chinese medium schools and Malay medium schools. In the English medium schools, all races -- Malays, Chinese, Indians, Sinhalese, etc., were accommodated. The Chinese medium schools followed a different curriculum.

The University of Malaya in Singapore had a mixed racial student body, but there was no Chinese-medium university. So if you wanted to join the University of Malaya in Singapore, your English needed to be quite good. If you'd been to a school like Raffles Institution (where I taught for two-and-a-half years), then your English would be very good and if you applied to the university, you would probably be accepted. But if you were in a Chinese-medium school, you would probably have great difficulty because your command of English would not be acceptable.

Teaching in Singapore

Originally, I was posted to Penang, then a Straits Settlement (but now part of Malaysia).

However, just before I left Britain, I received word that my posting had been changed to

Singapore and that I would teach in Raffles Institution, without doubt the best school in

Singapore, if not in Southeast Asia. Lee Kuan Yew, the first Prime Minister of the Republic of

Singapore was a student at the school before my time there.

I spent eight years (1951-1959) in Singapore, first at Raffles Institution and then at the Teachers' Training College where I eventually became the head of the Department of English and Speech Training.

In 1959, I considered changing jobs because Singapore was about to become independent of Britain. I could actually have stayed on for another two or three years, but eventually I would have had to go. So I decided to anticipate that departure.

I applied for three jobs when I was on leave. My first application was to the BBC because I had had a lot of broadcasting experience in Singapore, including working for the BBC Far Eastern Station as a Continuity Announcer.

I also applied for two other jobs; one to be the head of an English Department at a College of Technology in Cardiff and the other with the British Council. I went for The British Council interview first and was fortunate to be offered a position as a "Cadet." Now I had to decide whether to return to Britain after two years away in the Navy and eight years away in Singapore, or go overseas again. It was a difficult decision to make. After considerable thought and heart-searching, I decided on the Council.

Joining the British Council

The British Council was formed in 1936 as a response to German propaganda which was then quite extensive. It was never part of the government but it was government-funded indirectly. It is still not a government organization. At present (2010) it is a corporation established by a decision of the monarch through a Royal Charter. Secondly it is a U.K. charity and, lastly, it is a Non-Departmental Public Body. At present, its current position, particularly overseas, is being re-considered. In many countries, it operates under the auspices of British missions, seen by many to be the cultural section of those missions.

After completing all the preliminaries in London, I took part in a short induction course and, a week later, was sent to Rangoon (in Burma). I was in Burma for two years, working at a Teachers' College and performing other duties in the Council office. In 1962, I organised a summer school in a place called Taunggyi, then capital of the Shan States. One morning, I came out of the bungalow I was staying in and was handed a telegram (in those days they had telegrams!), It said, "You have been posted to Jakarta as Professor of English at the University of Indonesia".

I lived in Indonesia (in Jakarta) for nearly four years during the presidency of Dr. Sukarno. I've referred to this in my autobiography entitled, *Footsteps Echo in the Memory*, published in February 2010.

Posting to Japan

[Editor's note: After his posting in Jakarta, Bickley returned with his wife and children to London.]

As for myself, I was given leave by the British Council to study for a Ph.D. at the University of London and that is what I did from 1964 to 1966. Following the award of the degree in 1966, I was sent by the Council to Japan and served there for four years as a British Council Officer, with the courtesy title of First Secretary in the British Embassy. It was in Japan that I first met Jack Brownell and a man named Floyd Cammack. I ran a TV program for Japan's premier broadcasting organization, the NHK, and I met Floyd because he headed a separate program for the same station, focusing on American English.

Life at EWC

Joining the Culture Institute. 1971

In 1970, I attended “Expo 70” in Osaka, charged by the NHK with interviewing a number of Japanese school girl helpers at the Expo. On my way back to Tokyo in the train, Dr. Cammack described the East-West Center and said that a new institute was being established and that they wanted to find someone to run it.

I took up the challenge and, after an exchange of correspondence, I was interviewed by Everett Kleinjans and Jack Brownell in Tokyo. They said, “You’d better come out for a visit and see what the place is like.” So a few months later, my wife and I visited Hawai‘i. Shortly after that visit, I received an offer from the Center which I accepted. Subject to tenure, this was to be a full professorship in English at the University of Hawai‘i, combined with a post at the Center entitled Coordinator of the Language Program. I was to be attached to an Institute named, at that time, the Culture Institute. I then resigned from the British Council and we flew to Hawai‘i in April 1971.

I had an interesting, if minor, part to play in the East-West Center’s birth since, on Sunday, 20 November 1960, I was privileged, as a British Council Officer, to participate in a planning meeting in Rangoon, together with five senior faculty members of the University of Hawai‘i (Dr. Baron Goto, Dr. Thomas Ige, Dr. John Stalker, Dr. William Wachter and Dr. Kenneth Lau). After that meeting in Burma, the only one of these gentlemen that I later met was Dr. Goto. For my first few months in Hawai‘i, I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Agnes Niyekawa-Howard, a social psychologist at the University of Hawai‘i, and under Dr. Minoru Shinoda, a historian of Japan and Vice Chancellor of the East-West Center from 1966 to 1970. Dr. Shinoda had a particular interest in pre-modern Japanese history.

Hazel Tatsuno was the senior secretary (really office manager) at the new Institute - a wonderful woman who was extremely helpful to me when I first arrived in Honolulu. Other sterling persons were Greg Trifonovitch and Larry Smith, both running training programs largely for Pacific Islanders.

There were also a number of Senior Fellows. Four of these, Dr. George Beckman, (a cultural historian), Dr. Herbert Passin (an anthropologist) and Dr. Niyekawa-Howard (a social psychologist) had backgrounds in Japan Studies. Dr. William Henthorn was an expert in Korean affairs. In 1970, after Dr. Beckman and Dr. Passin had departed, Dr. Niyekawa-Howard and Dr. Henthorn were joined in the Institute by seven Senior Fellows, including Dr. John Walsh, formerly Vice President for Development at Notre Dame University; Dr. Gregory Bateson, a British polymath, distinguished in the disciplines of social and clinical psychology and anthropology and the third husband of the anthropologist, Margaret Mead; Dr. Boonsanong Punyodyana, a Thai social psychologist, and Dr. Ronald Taft, an Australian social psychologist.

Intellectual Innovations

Director, Culture Learning Institute

After a number of months as a coordinator, together with Agnes, I wrote to President Kleinjans and said that I knew that he was looking for a Director of this new institute — I'd like to apply. He interviewed me and the result was that I was appointed in 1971. My fellow Directors were Dr. Paul Demeny (Population Institute), Dr. Nicholas Luykx (Food Institute), Dr. Lyle Webster (Communication Institute) and Dr. Hahn Bin Lee (Technology and Development Institute). After much discussion, I and my colleagues decided that we needed another name for the "Culture Institute" and eventually we came up with "Culture and Language Learning Institute," later shortened to "Culture Learning Institute." The name stuck.

There were a number of challenges. We were committed to a cross-disciplinary approach and to attempting to define and address significant international and national problems in collaboration with selected American, Asian and Pacific individuals and organisations. At that time, the best arrangement, from the Center's point of view, was one in which members of the academic staff (Research Associates) would work together with Senior Fellows and Fellows, research interns and graduate students on problems defined by persons and organizations in Hawai'i and in Asian and Pacific countries. Interestingly, the graduate students ("grantees") who were members of these teams and who were working towards master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Hawai'i, were studying in various disciplines whereas, in contrast, the work at the Center was carried out on a cross-disciplinary basis.

It was not an easy model to follow. For example, to get an anthropologist to work with a social psychologist is not simple, because they have different methods. They do things in a very different way. It was, therefore, a double or triple challenge and, of course, sometimes people still went on doing their own thing — understandably so — because if you're a social psychologist by training, you probably want to go on doing social psychology.

We did our best, however, to carry out the Center's mission, stated as "bringing together the United States and countries in Asia and the Pacific through education, training and research."

Like the other Center institutes, education was something that we offered (through cooperation with departments at the University of Hawai'i) to students from the U.S. and from Asian and Pacific countries, who received generous grants to work towards master's and doctoral degrees.

In the CLI, we provided training through the kinds of courses mentioned below and we built research into the job descriptions of every research associate, fellow and most students.

We fulfilled our training responsibilities by organizing short-term courses and we often ran these in cooperation with people from the University of Hawai'i. As examples, I can bring to mind a very good program in Ethnomusicology, run by an expert from the UH Music Department (Dr. Barbara Smith).

Then there was Museum Management - how to set up and maintain small museums on islands in the Pacific. We also organized courses (planned and run by Larry Smith) for administrators of English as a Second Language programs and for teachers of English as a Second or Foreign Language. Eventually the word "development" was substituted for the word, "training," the latter word implying the learning of *skills* that, in most cases, were already possessed by the course participants.

We took our research responsibilities seriously and, I believe, were able to advance some new ideas relating to the pragmatic and functional contexts in which different varieties of English are used; cross-cultural psychology; organizational behavior, intercultural education; cross-cultural training; the cultural dimensions of interdependence (for example, in ASEAN countries) and the impacts of transnational enterprises on societies and cultures.

Literature and Culture Program

One of the most controversial members of our research associate staff, a Tamil named Guy Amirthanayagam, (formerly the Salt Commissioner in Sri Lanka and Deputy Head of Mission for Sri Lanka in London) took over the leadership of our work on Literature and Culture from Dr. John Walsh. This aspect of the Institute's program flourished and offered new insights into the links between the two. Guy himself smoked heavily and certainly liked his drop of whisky. He appeared to those who did not know him to be indolent and somewhat vague. Yet he certainly knew how to organise a conference and he brought to the Center over several years some of the

world's leading writers. I cannot list them all but I remember that they included the beat poet, Alan Ginsberg, Malcolm Bradbury (knighted as "Sir" Malcolm in 2000), Janet Frame (Order of New Zealand), Tom Keneally (Booker Prize Winner, 1982), Keri Hume (Booker Prize, 1985), Vincent Eri (became Sir Vincent and Governor-General of Papua New Guinea), R.K. Narayan (Padma Vibhushan and A.C. Benson Medal), Kushwant Singh (Padma Vibhushan), Wole Soyinka (Nobel Literature Laureate 1986), and Albert Wendt (Companion of the Order of New Zealand).

Cultural Manifestations

We ran a regular, very successful "cultural manifestations" program featuring hula artists such as the late Mary Kawena Pukui and members of Britain's Royal Shakespeare Company. We also mounted cultural exhibitions of, for example, Malaysian *kris* and Javanese textiles.

This CLI program lasted for many years under the guidance of Richard Via. Shortly after Dick arrived in Honolulu on a one-year Fellowship, I realized that we occupied common ground. I believe in the value of using drama to teach English to non-native speakers and I had practised that approach in Singapore, Burma and Indonesia. To me, Dick seemed to be the ideal person to pass on the idea, not only to East-West Center graduate students, but also to the language learning and teaching community at large. I was supported in this opinion by my colleague, Larry Smith, and also by Dr. Mark Lester, the scholar who later became one of my two Assistant Directors (Gregory Trifonovitch was the other).

One result of this support was Dick's best-selling book, *English in Three Acts*, published by the UH Press. A second, equally gratifying, result was that I was able to engage Dick as a semi-permanent Educational Specialist and, in this capacity, I was able to ask him to organize a

regular program in the performing arts. This was named, for want of a better title at that time, “Cultural Manifestations.”

Dick’s book was not, of course, the first CLI book to be published. This was Barry Nurcombe’s book, *Children of the Disposessed* -- a plea for aboriginal children in Australia. Barry was a CLI Senior Fellow. “Children” was the first of a long list of CLI publications that came not only from the UH Press but also from other publishers. Quite a number are, unfortunately, now out-of-print.

Linguistics, Cross-Cultural Training

Did we make any difference? I think so. I believe in sustainability and I have no doubt that the CLI may take some credit for introducing new ideas that have blossomed and are still current. I think, for example, of a significant conference organized, largely, by Larry Smith in 1978.

Attended by some of the leading linguists of the day, it did much to further the idea that the English of non-native speakers should be treated in its own right and accepted on a footing of equality. Equally important, certainly, was the work done on cross-cultural training and cross-cultural psychology by Richard Brislin, a CLI research associate, now Shidler College Distinguished Professor at the Shidler College of Business, University of Hawai‘i.

Other Breakthrough CLI Programs

In addition to our regular research program, we provided some support for the first voyage of the canoe *Hōkūle‘a*, [1976] to Tahiti (proving Thor Heyerdahl to be wrong - his claim that canoes could only sail successfully from east to west was disproved).

A Culture Learning Institute graduate student (Tom Jackson) co-founded (with Jeanette Paulson) the highly successful Hawaii Film Festival [1981] and we were founder members of the Pacific Circle Consortium [1977], described as “an initiative in international cooperation between

educational research and development institutions in the Pacific.” This was a cooperative effort of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Japan; The Curriculum Development Center, Australia; the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada; the New Zealand Department of Education; the Northwest Regional Education Authority of Portland, Oregon; the Curriculum Research and Development Group of the University of Hawai‘i; and the East-West Center’s Culture Learning Institute. Truly a multi-national project. The Consortium is still in existence today (2010).

We [*CLI*] were constantly being assessed, first by our academic colleagues, secondly by the Board of Governors, thirdly, by an Advisory Panel, fourthly by the State Department and, fifthly, by the U.S. Congress. As one might expect, these five approached their tasks from different directions. Meanwhile we had our own advisors, for example, John and Ruth Useem, both highly respected scholars who combined both anthropology and sociology at Michigan State University. One idea that they introduced was that of the “Third Culture”, applying this to both children and adults. They used the term to refer to the impacts on individuals (particularly students) who move into cultures other than their own and to the patterns formed when groups of people from two or more societies form relationships. The Useem’s ideas certainly caught on and are still current today. There is, for example, a woman in Hong Kong who gives regular talks on “Third Culture Kids” and a book by David Pollock and Ruth E. Van Reken, entitled, *Third Culture Kids*, has recently become a (genuine) best-seller.

Institutional Transitions

Separation from UH, 1975

In 1975, as is well-known, the East-West Center broke part of its connection with the University of Hawai‘i. In 1975, the Center became an educational non-profit public corporation. It did,

however, maintain academic links with the University of Hawai‘i on a collegial basis so that selected student grantees, funded by the Center, could still study for master’s and doctorate degrees in University departments. But there was a price to be paid for the transition from a University of Hawai‘i entity to a public corporation. Several buildings, including the splendid, well-equipped Kennedy Theatre, were formally transferred to the University. Burns Hall is, of course, a handsome substitute.

CLI Staff

One of my program officers was an ex-Marine, named Van Buren -- a sturdy, lively character always known as “Van.” Van came to me one day and said, “We’ve got to move from Lincoln Hall.” I said, “Why have we got to move?” Van said, “A great space has become available - five buildings. We can get them to renovate them.” I looked at the buildings in question and agreed. We moved. The result was that now we had spacious offices, and, more important perhaps, space to mount cultural exhibitions, which we did on several occasions.

[Editor’s note: In the area between Hale Manoa dorm and the future Burns Hall, there were five to seven cottages that had served as UH faculty housing and a temporary building that had served as a model apartment for a condominium that had been transported from its original location. In 1973, after fresh carpeting and window air conditioners were installed, CLI moved into these buildings. Dr. Bickley occupied the model apartment which had enough space for the institute’s exhibits.]

Of course, when Burns Hall was completed [1977], we moved in there. Each research associate and program officer now had an office and we were all very well-served by our office manager Hazel Tatsuno and the secretarial staff.

I took to Hazel the first time I met her and again when she took me down to the docks to collect my heavy luggage. This had been shipped from Japan. There were two large wooden crates. A customs officer came up and looked at one of the crates. “You’ll have to open that,” he said. I said that that would be very difficult. “You’ll have to open it. I need to see inside. You can get a hammer and a chisel over there.”

Hazel looked at him, with one of her looks, and then addressed him with reasonable politeness. “Buddahead!” she said. “You can’t expect him (i.e. me) to do that.” He thought, looked at Hazel for a moment and then said, “Oh, all right. Let it go.” That was (and is) Hazel.

Ties That Last

It is very pleasing that the present President of the East-West Center is a former CLI fellow and also that Lyn Flanigan, my former Senior Program Officer, became a fine lawyer and a member of the Board of Governors. And, of course, Bill Feltz is still in Honolulu. I brought in Bill, basically, to start a small library collection and also because he is a good pianist! He has made an excellent contribution over the years that he has been associated with the Center in several different ways.

It is very pleasing to know that Charles Morrison now has the job [*as EWC President*]. He is a sincere person and a CLI alumnus who knows Washington as well as Hawai‘i.

Life After EWC

Opportunities in Hong Kong

I left the Center in 1981 and spent two years in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, as the head of Language Training for the national airline, Saudia. Then, towards the end of my second year, I was appointed to a post in the Hong Kong Government as the founding director of a new institute, the

Institute of Language in Education. I continued in that post until 1992 when I retired at the age of sixty-six to become the Hong Kong Representative for Trinity College, London.

After I left Hawai'i, I wrote a number of text books, which did extremely well. Unfortunately the royalties are beginning to diminish now, but they did very well indeed.

I then became the local representative for Trinity College of London, which offers examinations in spoken English and in the teaching of English. They have a large portfolio and work in about 54 countries.

So I did that with Trinity until two years ago, then finally gave it up. Meanwhile, my wife, Gillian, continued at the Baptist University of Hong Kong, having been a professor, first at the University of Lagos in Nigeria, then at the University of Hong Kong; then at the University of Auckland. She retired about three years ago.

I am now Chairman of the English-Speaking Union in Hong Kong and a part-time publisher (my wife is the main force behind our efforts). Since we're both fond of books, we started a publishing house named Proverse (Prose and Verse) and have published about 30 books so far, with four or five more coming out in November 2010. We have also launched a literary prize and, in the first year, received entries from eight different countries. Our Press is for unpublished manuscripts. So if a writer wins, they receive a small cash award of \$10,000 Hong Kong and we publish their work.

I have been able to visit Hawai'i only a few times since I left but have enjoyed each occasion, in particular, the EWC Alumni Conference held in 2007 and the 50th anniversary meeting in 2010. But I have spoken for far too long. I would like to be remembered not as a chatterbox but as someone who realized what the overall mission was and did his best to live up to it. I'm still doing my best.

END OF INTERVIEW