

ASDP Alumni Chapter Annual Meeting
Friday, March 25, 2011, 4:30-5:15 p.m.
Asian Studies Development Program 17th Annual National Conference
Omni Parker House Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts

MINUTES

1. Opening Remarks: Betty Buck

- ASDP is one of several alumni chapters under the umbrella of the East West Center Association. With about 3,000 alumni, we are the best and largest chapter and proud of our chapter. We were the first chapter not based on geographical region; there are several chapters in India, including one in Delhi; one in Tokyo, etc. Anyone who has been through an ASDP program is an alumnus/a.
- We are included in the larger EWC meetings held every few years; recently these have been in Tokyo, Hanoi, and Bali, with last summer's in Honolulu. The 2012 meeting will be in Beijing in the fall, hosted by Zhang Qi of Peking University Law School.
- The chapter has won two awards for Outstanding Chapter. David Jones has won the award for Outstanding Alumnus; Joe Overton for Outstanding Volunteer, and Ronnie Littlejohn for Outstanding Volunteer.

2. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members: Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen, President

- Many thanks to the outgoing officers: David Jones, President; Michele Marion, Secretary; Paul Dunscomb, Treasurer. A special thanks to Michele, who has been of enormous help in the transition. A round of applause to recognize the dedicated service of these officers.

3. Introduction of Officers

- **Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen**, University of Central Oklahoma, introduced herself as incoming president. Her first exposures to ASDP were at the Traditions of Dissent workshop and the Infusing Institute; when she had to introduce herself in 2002, she was shaking life a leaf. Then she went to Malaysia and Indonesia, an NEH Institute, and other workshops. ASDP programs have enriched her own teaching and scholarship; she is very appreciative of her appointment as President and very proud to serve.
- **Julien Farland** was a member at-large yesterday and today is Vice President. He teaches philosophy at Middlesex Community College (MA) and has been part of ASDP since the beginning. He's delighted to have the great turnout for this conference. He has seen changes in the association, but also continuity, and has a sense of going into the future with changes and links to the past.
- **Roberta E. Adams**, Secretary, is Assistant Dean of Humanities and Performing Arts and Professor of English at Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI. Her first ASDP program was a 1997 NEH Institute with Henry Rosemont and Roger Ames on Teaching the Confucian Classics in Translation. The next year she participated in the first Silk Road trip, and has also done the Korean summer field program. After many years at Fitchburg State College (MA), at RWU she has been able to help start an East Asian Studies minor and is happy to have RWU colleagues at this conference. ASDP has changed her life.

- **Joanna DelMonaco**, Treasurer, hails from Middlesex Community College (MA), where she teaches math across the curriculum and the math of art and architecture; she has a minor in Art History with a focus on Asian art. Her office is on the same floor as Julien's and Dona Cady's and Dona has involved her joint projects and in attending the conferences. She has been through the Infusion Institute on India and South Asia. She has developed global and history of math courses for the liberal arts program. Her credentials for the job of Treasurer include a good knowledge of Excel and the ability to add 2 + 2.
- **Carolyn Kadel**, At-Large Member, is Director of International Relations, Johnson County Community College. She has been interested in Asia since her undergraduate years. She completed the Infusion Institute in Hawaii in 1998 and has helped develop Asian Studies on her campus; her school will be presenting their work tomorrow at 10:30. She will be going off the board next year and is happy to serve.

4. Nominations for At-Large Member Position: Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen

- We are hereby accepting nominations and self-nominations for the At-Large Member position just vacated by Julien Farland; this is a two-year term. We are checking to see if we need to elect one or two new At-Large members, since the By-Laws state there is a 7-member board.
- We would like to have a slate of candidates within a few weeks and will send out an email for this election.
- Include a brief biographical statement with nominations; people nominating others should check with them first to make sure they are willing to serve.

5. Objectives for 2011-2012: Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen

- Proposed review of the By-Laws by the Executive Board and the larger community; these can be viewed on the EWCA Alumni Chapter pages on the website.
- Looking to create a Mission Statement in which we define ourselves, our interest, our objectives. This is different from the By-Laws.
- We will start the ball rolling to create a 501C3 account, for legal non-profit status; the By-Laws must be submitted with that request.
- Outreach to the community at large: David Jones is the Editor of *East West Connections*. Julien Farland is the editor of the *ASDP Alumni Newsletter*.

6. Chapter Newsletter: Julien Farland

- Julien sent out a call in March for images and narrative for the next issue; there are 5-6 submissions pending. The due date for the next issue is the day after taxes are due, April 19th.
- The newsletter usually comes out in early April and late October; we are up to the 9th edition. Past newsletters are available on the EWC website.
- Submissions can include any kind of ASDP or Asian Studies events at your campuses; there is always a spotlight on a regional center; information on publications (books, articles). We publish almost anything and everything and don't edit heavily.
- No excessive self-promotion or Julien may send it back to have you tone it down; normal self-promotion and institutional self-promotion is encouraged.

7. Endowment: Michele Marion

- With Betty Buck, we raise money from all of the Alumni Chapters. See the envelope in your packet; these were brought from Hawai'i by Betty Buck.
- In 2007, the EWC Association set a goal to establish a one million dollar fund by 2014; we have raised \$550,000 to date and need to balance out that goal.
- We're such a large chapter, we need to get alumni to donate. Michele suggests the Wal-Mart model: as teachers, we don't make a lot of money, but maybe someone could give \$25 a year for four years: this would be a significant contribution. Someone else might be able to contribute \$100 or more each year for the next four years; give what you can. As they say at PBS, "no donation is too small." If you can give \$10 a year, fine!
- Endowment funds are a base; the money stays in the account and the interest and dividends are distributed for student scholarships. EWC fellows receive scholarships for their program, but might not have money for anything else; an extra \$300-\$400 per year would mean a lot to them.

8. Discussion, questions, objectives for next year: Moderated by Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen

- Plans to develop the **ASDP Mission Statement**: Jessica can draft something and send it out to everyone as a jumping off point for comments and suggestions. People can completely pull it apart and she'll add, modify, etc.
- **Next ASDP meeting** will be in Seattle, March 29-April 2.
- **Expanding**: How do we get more of our younger colleagues involved in presenting at the conferences, participating in the summer programs, etc.? We realize the challenges and difficulties (families, funding, etc.) but it's important to keep expanding our cadre of people. Encourage your colleagues to participate.
- **Maintaining Contact**: When people retire, we lose track of their email addresses. Suggestions: a) that we publish in newsletter a call to encourage people ready to retire to forward their new contact information; b) that we offer people a permanent EWC Alumni email address; Betty Buck will look into this.
- **Scholarship monies**: these are for overseas students; schools that have partner institutions in Asia should let those students know. They get to meet in Hawai'i. The Hawai'i chapter gives travel scholarships for travel to conferences, for instance if a student at the EWC wants to attend a conference in Singapore, etc.
- There is an EWC **Graduate Student Conference** every year; the Alumni chapter could target mainland students to go to this conference in Honolulu. There are usually about 150 graduate students from 30-40 countries; this gives them an opportunity to present to other graduate students (Peter Hershock).
- **Low attendance** at this Alumni meeting; some people might not know they are alumni. We need to advertise the importance of this meeting to all alumni. One suggestion to have this as a breakfast meeting.
- **Japan Fund**: Praise for the Bridgewater SU and Middlesex CC students who made the paper cranes to raise money for the Japan earthquake/tsunami victims; have raised close to \$2000 so far. Julien will put the final amount in the next newsletter.
- **Contact**: George Brown noted that the ASDP list serve links everyone; Betty Buck responded that in the early years, we did not have a list serve, but anyone who has participated in the last 5-10 years should be on it and get all of the announcements (limited to straight text). Many emails bounce back to Sandi Osaki. Currently, Ken

Harris sends out the NYTimes highlights on Asia and Sandi Osaki sends out announcements about workshops, etc. Suggestions to start a Facebook page and to make sure there is a way on the EWC site to update your contact information.

- **Scholarships:** Peter Hershock clarified that some scholarships for master's and Ph.D. level fellows are restricted to people from Asia, but there is one open to U.S. students.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta E. Adams
Secretary