

ASDP Alumni Chapter Meeting
ASDP National Conference, Branson, MO
Friday, March 20, 2015, 5:00 p.m.
MINUTES

1. Opening Remarks, Jessica Sheetz-Nguyen, President, Presiding

Jessica thanked Missouri State University for their hospitality throughout the conference; the ARCAS Team, for their hard work and organization in bringing the conference to fruition; and the MSU staff, who made us feel so welcome. Warm applause was given to each group.

2. Alumni Chapter Mission

For those new to the group, Jessica noted that the ASDP Alumni Chapter exists to support the work of the Asian Studies Development Program, supporting institutes, workshops, and seminars. Jessica encouraged the membership to apply for upcoming programs. With concerns about the federal budget, Jessica suggested that members consider a letter-writing campaign, noting the importance of ASDP programs to their work. Jessica is thinking of writing a letter to President Obama.

3. Public Service Announcements

- 501c3 Status: Jessica's announcement that our chapter has been granted 501c3 status as a not-for-profit organization was met with applause.
- Save the dates for our 2016 conference, March 17-19, in Washington, DC; "save the date" cards were passed out. We will be celebrating the 25th year of the ASDP project.
- Good news, no By-Law changes this year!
- Up-coming Elections: a call will go out soon on the listserv for nominations for a Member At Large position and the Secretary position. Jessica congratulated Roberta Adams on her 5th and final year of service as Secretary, expressed personal words of gratitude for her work and support, and presented her with a gift in recognition.

4. Report from Peter Hershock, EWC

- Peter explained the role of ARCAS, the Association of Regional Centers, whose member schools make a commitment to furthering undergraduate studies and serving as resources for institutions in their regions.
- Unlike other EWC Alumni Chapters, the ASDP Alumni Chapter is not geographic, but is composed of all those who took part in summer institutes and other programs.
- As a private, non-profit, federally supported institution, the East West Center is affected by the budget crises and vagaries of Congress in the U.S. In the past, Hawai'i Senator Dan Inouye, as Chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, took our budgets and bumped them up, once from \$15 to \$21 million, once from \$10 to \$15 million. Currently the line item in Congress is for \$10 million; last year it was \$16.7, so this would be a huge cut for us and we hope it gets bumped up to \$16 million.
- The hiring freeze continues at the East West Center the last five years; with Betty Buck's retirement, we went from two and half administrators to just Peter.

- Summer Programs: In spite of reduced staff, our activity level has been at its highest, but this summer we have only two programs, a more realistic level. One is the NEH Institute, “Buddhist Asia: Traditions, Transmissions, and Transformations;” the second is a new model for the Infusing Institute. Instead of three weeks/three countries, we will spend two weeks on only one country, “Infusing Chinese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum.” For Summer 2016, we are looking at an NEH on Confucianism in East Asia, which will be structured like this summer’s Buddhist Asia institute, viewing complex social, political, and economic forces, and including the Chinese diaspora.
- The Title VI project of the last three years for language/area studies has developed collaboration among selected community colleges and universities, with 72 faculty from six institutions involved. The model has been very productive, with twelve faculty from each campus travelling to Hawai’i each summer, and then presenting workshops on their campuses. The pairing of community colleges and universities in curriculum development allows the CC students to transfer to the universities and receive full transfer credit for their work, and helps universities to build enrollments in global programs.
- The Confucian Institute, sponsored by the Chinese Ministry of Education, or Hanban, is set to provide funding for two fall one-day conferences. The CI expressed a desire to reach out to schools outside the major cities and most well-know universities, so we are planning one in Oklahoma and one in Rhode Island.
- Peter encouraged everyone to attend the conference next year in Washington, D.C.

5. Member Dues/Miscellaneous

- Every year we raise the question of whether we should request individual members to provide dues in the amount of \$10 annually to support ASDP programs. One problem with this is how to collect these dues. Dona Cady suggested a link on the web site. Betty Buck noted that money can be donated on the EWC web site, but if you want it to go to ASDP, this must be clearly stated, otherwise it goes into the general fund.
- Questions were raised about how the money would be used. In addition to providing some support for the annual conferences, suggestions included small travel grants for students or junior faculty; awards for student papers; speaker honoraria; emergencies.
- The Call for Papers for the next conference will include a call for a student poster session (undergrad/graduate students).
- Jessica will plan to send out a memo to the membership announcing our 501c3 status, asking for dues, and requesting feedback as to how the membership may want to spend this money.

6. 2016 Conference, March 17-19, Washington, D.C.

Dona Cady announced that they were able to negotiate a rate of \$159 per night for the conference hotel, The Fairfax at Embassy Row, which is centrally located near the White House, on a subway stop, and elegant. It has beautiful conference space with a historic ballroom, and we’ve negotiated for lower day and overnight parking prices. The reception will be in the Jockey Club, with a lovely curved bar. Breakout rooms are easy to get to and the hotel rooms are nice: please book at the hotel! We will plan for a Thursday afternoon visit to museums. The Call for Papers will be earlier than usual, to allow faculty to apply to their institutions for travel funds earlier.

7. ASDP Newsletter

Rachana Sachev noted that she would be sending out the request for submissions for the next newsletter soon. She welcomes book reviews, news of institutions, member news, reports on cultural trips, etc. This newsletter should go out the end of April or early May.

8. Questions

- Pam Herron asked if conference papers and PowerPoints could be posted on the ASDP web site. As it is now, people email papers back and forth to one another. Peter said it may be possible, but the EWC does not want to archive materials. He asked Pam to put this in writing to him in an email and he will talk with Audrey Minei and others to see what might be possible. The EWC just redesigned the web site, so people should check this out and let him know of any glitches.
- Jessica suggested that members email any of the Board members with their questions.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta E. Adams
Secretary
ASDP Alumni Chapter