

Quarterly Reports from EWCA Alumni Chapters (2nd Quarter 2019)

East-West Center Association

Chapter Development Committee, Quarterly Reports

2019 2nd Quarter Chapter Reports (April to June)

Editor: Dr. Jessica A. Sheetz-Nguyen

Vice President for Chapter Development

Thank you to the **21** Chapters who submitted their second-quarter reports for 2019. Chapter submissions help us and others to know about your activities and your continued patronage for EWCA/EWC outreach. The following Chapters and representatives responded this quarter.

These include:

1) APLP (Melissa Pawneshing); 2) ASDP (Dona M. Cady); 3) Brisbane, Australia (Iraphne Childs); 4) Chennai (S. Rajamani); 5) Dhaka, Bangladesh (Abu Ekramul Ahsan); 6) Faisalabad, Pakistan (Muhammad Ibrahim); 7) Hawai'i (Carl Hefner); 8) Hong Kong (Mark Sheldon); 9) Islamabad, Pakistan (Arjumand Faisal); 10) Jakarta, Indonesia (Irid Agoes); 11) Kansai, Japan (Fumiteru Nitta); 12) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Dr. Gan Siowck Lee); 13) Mumbai, India (Sarosh Bana); 14) New York (Bill Armbruster); 15) Northern California (Barbara Bornet Stumph); 16) Palestine (Amjad Dwikat); 17) Seoul, Republic of Korea (Eunyoung Cho); 18) Singapore (Alice Seok Hoon Seng); 19) Southern California, USA (Claire Langham); 20) Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (Tsolmontuya (Tsom) Altankhundaga); 21) Vientiane, Laos (Chanthavong Saingnath)

ASIA PACIFIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (APLP) CHAPTER

President: Melissa Pawneshing

APLP Alumni Board held several monthly meetings via Skype and its members are holding elections and nominations for the new board. The board is scheduled to reconvene in July 2019.

[Contact the Asia Pacific Leadership Program \(APLP\) Chapter](#)

ASIAN STUDIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ASDP) CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Dona M. Cady

The Asian Studies Development Program's 27th National Conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia at the JW Marriott Atlanta Buckhead on 5-7 March 2020. The theme [Understanding Asia, Asian Understandings: Perspectives Past and Present](#) invites reflection on the effects of perspective on cultural interactions and how unshared assumptions often frame historical, artistic, literary, philosophical, and social scientific accounts of those interactions.

The ASDP National Conference intends to spur a broader conversation among participants – teachers, learners, scholars, and administrators – who aim to achieve a better understanding of

how Asian studies as an academic field continues to evolve across interdependent spheres of investigation and analysis.

We encourage both scholarly and pedagogical approaches in examining the diversity of Asian cultures and societies, as well as the diversity of perspectives on Asia, especially those that adopt interdisciplinary lenses, and including Asian encounters with such global phenomena as colonialism, imperialism, militarism, industrialization, and revolution.

Of particular interest are presentations that investigate how:

- new scholarship sheds distinctive light on familiar aspects of the Asian cultural, historical, and social canons
- Asian narratives addressing art, music, culture, philosophy, and the social sciences gain depth when re-positioned within interdisciplinary perspectives
- Asian perspectives shed new and perhaps critical light on cultural, historical, and social canons with other-than-Asian origins

Please consider submitting a 250-word limit abstract by 15 November 2019.

[Contact the Asian Studies Development Program \(ASDP\) Chapter](#)

BRISBANE CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Iraphne Childs

No activity to be reported in this period.

[Contact the Brisbane Chapter](#)

CHENNAI CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Sonna Belliappa Pemanda

Report submitted by S. Rajamani

EWCA Chennai Chapter actively participated in many major programs during the period ending June 2019 in co-operation with many other organizations.

- Chennai Chapter is a vibrant chapter, organized many programmes for the past 19 years in co-operation with many organizations including U.S. Consulate - Chennai, British Scholars Associations, Universities, Rotary Club, Institutions, United Nations, etc.
- Chennai Chapter has celebrated the East West Center Day during the visit of Ms. Christina Monroe, Senior Manager, Leadership Program on 15th May 2019.
- During the get together meeting President – P.M. Belliappa, Vice President – Mr. P. Subramaniam, Secretary – Dr. S. Rajamani, Prog. Co-ordinator - Dr. Vasanthi Ranganathan and Chennai Chapter Members Dr. Roopa Nagarajan & Mrs. Shreya Nagarajn Singh discussed the plan of activities of the Center.

- EWCA Chennai Chapter extending support for organizing Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP) scheduled during 16th to 26th August at Chennai, India in cooperation with Ms. Christina Monroe, Senior Manager, Leadership Program.
- The formulation of the leadership program schedule was done during the meeting with Ms. Christina Monroe, Mrs. Shreya Nagarajan Singh with our President, Secretary and members of EWCA Chennai Chapter.
- Activities such as establishing contacts with Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, U.S. Consulate General, Govt. of Tamil Nadu have been initiated by Ms. Christina Monroe in cooperation with Chennai Chapter.
- The venue and the activity schedule is finalized, invitation and participation arrangements are in final stage to launch the program in August 2019.



L-R: Vasanthi Ranganathan, Christina Monroe, Roopa Nagarajan, S. Rajamani, P.M. Belliappa, P. Subramaniam, Shreya Nagarajan Singh

The other events scheduled during 2019 are:

- Organizing the students who are selected for the visit of NASA into U.S. Consulate, Chennai as a celebration and get together before going to NASA during 2019.
- A vocational training program for training Trainers to address 50,000 students during the whole year by our program coordinator Dr. Vasanthi Ranganathan.
- A developmental program for our hospital staff.

Acknowledgement

Thanks for the contribution and support of EWCA Chennai Chapter members, EWCA Mumbai Chapter members, EWC/EWCA, Hawai'i, U.S. Consulate in Chennai, Rotary Club and other organizations.

[Contact the Chennai Chapter](#)

DHAKA CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Abu Ekramul Ahsan

The Dhaka Chapter could not hold formal chapter meetings during the past quarter because of various preoccupations and as some members including the Chapter Leader were indisposed with illness. The Chapter Leader, Dr. Abu Ekramul Ahsan had prolonged heart treatment during this period soon after returning back from the Seoul International Conference and Chapter Leaders Workshop in August 2018 and had to undertake different procedures namely Coronary Angiogram (CAG) and Angioplasty to treat his blocked blood flow in the major arteries. This situation interrupted required communication among the chapter members and chapter activities.

The Chapter is planning to undertake small projects with particular attention to the poor section of the community namely, supporting poor students with financial assistance in the form of book allowances.

Now that the Chapter Leader has been recovering and recuperating, an attempt will be made to reactivate the chapter with meetings and initiate community development projects. The next chapter meeting will be held soon, but the date of the meeting is yet to be decided.

[Contact the Dhaka Chapter](#)

FAISALABAD CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Muhammad Ibrahim

On June 5 alumni met at brunch meeting and 2020 conference was under discussion. Fairly large numbers of alumni and non-alumni are expected to participate but for Pakistani visa issue might be the hinderence.

This chapter has associated with Lions club of Islamabad and about 30 people are going to visit Northern Areas of Pakistan on 1 July, 2019.

[Contact the Faisalabad Chapter](#)

HAWAI'I CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Carl Hefner

Through funds raised at this year's annual dinner at the Pacific Club, the Hawai'i Chapter has underwritten five of the ten EWCA Summer Travel Grants awarded to current EWC students in 2019. The EWCA provided the other five. These travel grants help defray the costs of presenting papers at professional conferences, conducting summer field research, participating in internships, and attending summer programs/institutes.



L-R: Carl Hefner (EWCA Hawai'i Chapter president), Leeseul Park, Hayley Cannizzo, Ger Thao, Ting-Ting Hsu, Yu-Chieh Wu, Amanda Ellis (EWCA president)
Missing from photo: Aidai Almaz Kyzy, Dolly Autufuga, Emily Ricker, Tian "Stephanie" Sang, Mattias van Ommen

The EWCA Hawai'i Chapter, in cooperation with the EWC Education Program, will be hosting their annual picnic at Kapi'olani Park on August 24 for all incoming EWC students. As the fitting culmination of the new student orientation, our annual picnic is open to all alumni and aims to help incoming EWC students become familiar with the history and culture of Hawai'i in a beautiful setting while socializing and networking with alumni.

[Contact the Hawaii Chapter](#)

HONG KONG CHAPTER

Alumni Liaison: Mark Sheldon

There is nothing to report from the Hong Kong alumni coordinator this quarter. We are all looking forward to more details, hotel options, program elements etc. for the Summer 2020 60th Anniversary Conference, in time.

[Contact the Hong Kong Chapter](#)

ISLAMABAD CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Arjumand Faisel

1. Celebration of the National Award to our VP:

Mr. Syed Abu Ahmad Akif, vice president of the Islamabad Chapter, received the prestigious national "*Sitara-e Imtiaz*" (Star of Distinction) award from the President of Pakistan on Pakistan Day (23 March). This was presented for his outstanding and meritorious services to the Government of Pakistan as a civil servant. He retired last year as Federal Cabinet Secretary and is currently working as a member of the Prime Minister's Inspection Commission.

Mr. Akif desired that instead of giving him a party, the Chapter should celebrate the award with community service. Hence, the Chapter, in collaboration with Pakistan Youth Catalyst (PYC),

installed a water cooler with filter at a Madressah in a village more than 200 kms away from Islamabad. Over 300 boys and girls from age 3 to 10 years study Quran at this facility and the Imam actively promotes health related activities with local staff of the clinic managed by PYC.



On the way back, EWCA-IC members had lunch with the PYC staff at a riverside restaurant.

2. Action for Control of Leishmaniasis

PYC staff brought to the attention of EWCA-IC that Leishmaniasis is spreading in their area. Dr. Arjumand Faisel, president of EWCA-IC, spoke about this issue with the Advisor on Health to the Prime Minister of Pakistan. He immediately took action and invited a WHO team to deal with the problem.

3. Financial support to those in need

The Chapter raised and provided cash support to the following needy people:

- a. Rs. 100,000 to a 50+ year old woman for dialysis
- b. Rs. 50,000 to an ailing 80 year old man for his treatment and managing daily expenses
- c. Rs. 50,000 to a man for setting up a shop to start a business
- d. Rs. 15,000 to pay off loan taken for the delivery

4. Support to education

Funds were raised and Rs. 550,000 was provided to House of Light School that provides quality education to 325 underprivileged children. This amount will sponsor the education of 22 children for a year.

5. Members dinner

Some members met on 28 June to have a dinner at a restaurant to plan future programs.



[Contact the Islamabad Chapter](#)

JAKARTA CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Amin Abdullah

Report submitted by Irid Agoes

On June 5th Indonesian Muslims celebrated the Eid Fitr after a whole month of fasting. During that time, committee meetings are held for the joyful annual Halal Bihalal planned for July 6th. Below is the announcement of the Aloha community gathering coordinated by EWCA Jakarta:

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

HALAL BIHALAL

KALEA BINA ASIA PASIFIK EWC Association
University of Hawaii (UH) & Friends Komunitas Hawaii
EWC Programs & Conferences Participants

Dear sahabat ALOHA!
Dengan semangat silaturahmi, persaudaraan serta mengenang nostalgia berdiaspora selama berada di Hawaii, UH ataupun East West Center Programs dan Conferences, maka kami mengundang Bapak/Ibu/Saudara/i agar bersedia hadir pada acara Halal bi Halal Keluarga Besar/Alumni/Diaspora.

Saturday, July 6 2019 | 10 AM
Institute Advancement of Science Technology and Humanity (IASTH)
3rd Floor, UI Salemba Campus
Jalan Salemba Raya 4,
Jakarta 10430

Charity Donation  Voluntary Admission 
Family Friendly  Food & Drink Potluck 

Please RSVP
Ibu Hanny - 08129471286
Ibu Irid - 0816791266
Ibu Nasti - 0818770420
Bpk. Amin - 081242266958

[Contact the Jakarta Chapter](#)

KANSAI CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Fumiteru Nitta

Kansai Chapter, Japan has had the following activities during the 2nd quarter:

1. Board Meeting at 11:00 on Saturday, the 22nd, June.

Held at Okayama University of Science, and attended by 5 members (Anderson, Furuhashi, Mita, Nitta, Tanii).

Agendas:

- a. Confirmed the seminar to be held at Okayama University of Science.
- b. Approved the transportation fees of 17,340 yen to be paid to Shintaro Taniguchi who is a speaker at the seminar.
- c. Confirmed the agendas for the general meeting of the Kansai Chapter.

Reports:

- a. Membership withdrawal of Paul Close: He withdrew his membership as he had thought that he was a board member when we had invited him to the board meeting at his request last December. It was a misunderstanding on his part. We had not discussed and approved of his board membership, nor did he request to be a board membership.
- b. EWC/EACA International Conference, June 30-July 2, 2020.

2. General Meeting at 15:00 on Saturday, the 22nd, June.

Held at Okayama University of Science, and attended by 5 members (Anderson, Furuhashi, Mita, Nitta, Tanii) and Taniguchi as an observer.

Agendas:

- a. Membership fee payment methods:
 - 1) Post Office Bank ATM
 - 2) Post Office banking teller
 - 3) Other banks by ATM
- b. Activities for 2019-2020: To be held on Saturday on one of the following dates: 11/30, 12/7, or 12/14.

Reports:

- a. Transportation fee of 17,340 yen to be paid to Shintaro Taniguchi.
- b. Financial Report of 2-18-2019:
Income 279,188 yen; Interest 2 yen; Expenses 17,340 yen; Balance 261,850 yen

Two Presentations at the Seminar:

- a. Going along with the Globalizing World: From Experiences of Palau, a Small Country in the Pacific Ocean by Takashi Mita

b. Studying and Life in America: East-West-Center and the International Exchanges by Shintaro Taniguchi

Overall, the presentations were good. Had lots of discussions on the first presentation about Palau regarding its environmental and nature preservation!

3. Seminar Presentations: Held at 13:00 on Saturday, the 22nd, June.

a. Going along with the Globalizing World: From Experiences of Palau, a Small Country in the Pacific Ocean by Takashi Mita, vice-president of Kansai Chapter, and professor at Kyoto Sangyo University.

Abstract:

Palau is a small island country on the Pacific having the 25th anniversary of its independence in 2019. Occupied by Japan and other major countries, Palau has been experiencing trials of global warming and impacts of foreign tourism. On the other hand, the country has become the focus of public attention as Palau is at the forefront in the areas of preserving its environment and national resources.

b. Studying and Life in America: East-West-Center and International Exchanges by Shintaro Taniguchi former EWC participant.

Abstract:

East-West-Center is an institute for education and research set in Honolulu, USA. Every year EWC accepts many foreign students from Asia and Pacific regions providing scholarship to University of Hawaii students and opportunities for international understanding and collaboration. You may have a chance to participate in the EWC program!



L: After the general meeting at the seminar classroom.

R: At the Museum of Dinosaur Research.

Both at Okayama University of Science, Okayama City

[Contact the Kansai Chapter](#)

KUALA LUMPUR CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Mohamad Khanif Yusop
Report submitted by Siowck Lee Gan

No activity to be reported in this period.

[Contact the Kuala Lumpur Chapter](#)

MUMBAI CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Sarosh Bana

No activity to be reported in this period.

[Contact the Mumbai Chapter](#)

NEW YORK CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Bill Armbruster

Bill Armbruster and Ramy Inocencio had brunch with Richard Turbin, chairman of the EWC Board of Governors, and his wife, Rae Chu, in New York on April 7.

Ramy left New York in May to take up his new post as CBS News correspondent in Beijing. His work thus far includes several reports from Hong Kong on the demonstrations against the proposed extradition law there, as well as the suppression of any commemorations in China on the 30th anniversary of the Tienanmen massacre in Beijing.

We expect to have a dinner meeting in early fall. We're also looking forward to the alumni reunion and conference in Honolulu.

[Contact the New York Chapter](#)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Chapter President: Barbara Bornet Stumph

The Northern California has a couple of new members, but has not had a meeting. Chapter President Barbara Bornet Stumph says in touch by email with a number of alumni.

[Contact the Northern California Chapter](#)

PALESTINE CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Amjad Dwikat

Updates:

1. Partnership with the educational institute (Founders institute-Palestine) and a local startup accelerator (UMAKE). Partnership includes cooperation in executing future activities and projects related to EWCA and EWC.
2. Won a fund of \$2,500 to execute the first phase of a program for capacity building for young people from marginalized communities to improve their soft skills and prepare them for the market. We targeted 15 fresh grads from the city of Nablus. Training will start on July 5th and end by August 15th, 2019.

Challenges:

We mainly face difficulties in fund raising to carry out big events and activities and we are looking to be part of the EWC Labs fund this round.

Future perspectives:

1. For the next quarter, we are planning to execute the project; Middle East innovation challenge program.
2. Also applying to get a fund for a lab that highlights the technology of Agriculture in the city

[Contact the Palestine Chapter](#)

SEOUL CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Won Nyon Kim

Report submitted by Eunyong Cho

Warmest Aloha. With revitalized solidarity, members in Seoul Chapter are beginning to plan for the big Conference in Hawaii. In May, Seoul Chapter leader Kim Won Nyon, organized a get-together and discussed ways to encourage commitment for the cause of EWC.

[Contact the Seoul Chapter](#)

SINGAPORE CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Alice Seok-Hoon Seng

On April 4, the Chapter organized a lunch fellowship in our favorite food court in Orchard Road to welcome two "lost" alumni friends who had been in Singapore for some time -- Alex Tan and Tilak Doshi. It was a very warm friendship get together and the senior members who turned up were very happy to meet them.

On April 30, the Chapter supported a book launch by two senior alumni from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in the National University of Singapore. A most important research

publication, *Ageing in Asia*, was well received in academic circles. The proud authors are Dr. Yap Mui Teng and Dr. Phua Kai Hong (EWC grantees from the '80s and '90s).

On June 1, the Chapter congratulated Siva Gopal Thaiyalan, who has completed his Ph.D. program in Wellington, New Zealand, and returned to Singapore to start a new position at the Singapore University of Social Science (SUSS). We will have a celebration in July. Siva loves doing community service work and the Chapter looks forward to supporting his activities.



[Contact the Singapore Chapter](#)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Chapter President: Claire Langham

The Southern California Chapter is planning its next gathering on August 3, 2019, at the home of Gary and Bach-Mai Larsen in Lakewood, CA. Arrangements are being made for a guest speaker.

[Contact the Southern California Chapter](#)

ULAANBAATAR CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Tsoimontuya (Tsom) Altankhundaga

The EWCA Ulaanbaatar Chapter held its very first official event on July 1, 2019 for the Youth Rotaract in Mongolia to promote the Education Program of EWC. The event was organized with the Rotaract Information Center in Ulaanbaatar to introduce the East-West Center fellowships and scholarships at UH Mānoa for Masters and Ph.D. programs. Chapter Leader Tsoimontuya (Tsom) and 2018 Chapter Leader Amarjargal (Amaraa) held the event for 17 Rotaractors in Mongolia.



[Contact the Ulaanbaatar Chapter](#)

VIENTIANE CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Chanthavong Saignasith

No activity to be reported in this period.

[Contact the Vientiane Chapter](#)