

Quarterly Reports from EWCA Alumni Chapters (4th Quarter 2019)

East-West Center Association

Chapter Development Committee, Quarterly Reports
2019 4th Quarter Chapter Reports (October to December)
Editor: Dr. Jessica A. Sheetz-Nguyen
Vice President for Chapter Development

Thank you to the **18** Chapters who submitted their third-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 (Blaine Baldwin); 2) ASDP (Dona M. Cady); 3) Brisbane, Australia (Iraphne Childs); 4) Dhaka, Bangladesh (Abu Ekramul Ahsan); 5) Faisalabad, Pakistan (Muhammad Ibrahim); 6) Hong Kong (Mark Sheldon); 7) Hyderabad, India (Nageswara Rao); 8) Jakarta, Indonesia (Irid Agoes); 9) Kansai, Japan (Fumiteru Nitta); 10) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Dr. Gan Siowck Lee); 11) Mumbai, India (Sarosh Bana); 12) New York (Bill Armbruster); 13) Pan-Pacific ('Ofeina Maneul-Barbarich); 14) Seoul, Republic of Korea (Eunyoung Cho); 15) Singapore (Alice Seok Hoon Seng); 16) Southern California, USA (Claire Langham); 17) Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (Tsolmontuya (Tsom) Altankhundaga); 18) Vientiane, Laos (Chanthavong Saignasith)

ASIA PACIFIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (APLP) CHAPTER

President: Blaine Baldwin

The 4th quarter of 2019 was an eventful one for our APLP organization. The APLP alumni board met twice during the quarter, our latest Pau Hana took place in the early part of November, we welcomed the members of the G19 cohort as new graduates on Dec. 5th, and Ariana Loehr from G19 joined the APLP Alumni Board representing G19. The board will have our next meeting in January when we hope to fill one or two of our last open board positions. Our 4th quarter issue of The Navigator will be sent out at the end of December and will highlight recent activities by a few of our alumni as well as some shared memories of past generations since this is the beginning of the 20th year of APLP!!! 2020 will see the earliest start to a generation when G20 meets for the first time on June 21st prior to the EWC conference. Hopefully our alumni will be well represented at the conference as well.

[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 Annual Conference will be held March 5-7, 2020 in Atlanta, Georgia, co-hosted by The University System of Georgia Asia Council and the

ASDP Alumni Chapter. The theme of the conference [*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, social and scientific accounts of those interactions.

Our Friday keynote Dr. Brian Woodall will speak on “Growing Democracy in Japan: The Role of Critical Junctures and Institutions in Driving Change” and on Saturday keynote Dr. Jenny Wang Medina will share perspectives on global Korea. Our Thursday [cultural excursion](#) will visit the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Hindu Temple, the largest outside India, and the famous Buford Highway Asian District.



Known for its multi-disciplinary approach and convivial dynamics, the ASDP National Conference also offers an opportunity for the 2,500 alumni membership and other interested faculty and students to extend professional networks and explore new possibilities for both personal and institutional collaboration. Learn more about ASDP through this [video](#) and join us in Atlanta!

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

BRISBANE CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Iraphne Childs

International

- **EWCA Board:** Karen Nunan continues as a member of the East West Center Alumni Board
- **EWCA/EWCA 60th Anniversary International Conference on June 30-July 2:** Iraphne has registered to attend and will be staying at Lincoln Hall for the week. She will also attend the Chapter Leaders' workshop on June 29th. Karen will also be attending the conference.
- Iraphne, Bishna and Edilyn are planning to present a paper at the conference on disaster management cooperation between Australia, Canada and Indonesia.

Queensland

- **Chapter meeting** – We held our final meeting for 2019 on 9th November at the home of Iraphne and Ralph in Brisbane. This was attended by 6 Brisbane-based members.



- **Continuation of Chapter** – The core group of Brisbane-based Chapter members have agreed to continue running the EWCA Brisbane/Australia Chapter until 2020. Karen Nunan’s term of membership on the EWCA Board will end in June 2021. Post-2020 the group will need to give serious consideration as to the continuation of the Chapter in the absence of willingness of any new, younger members who can commit to actively participate and organize the Chapter.
- **Australian Red Cross, Queensland** – Two Chapter members, Karen and Iraphne, continue as emergency volunteers based in Brisbane, ready to be deployed anywhere in Queensland if needed for disaster recovery assistance to local communities.
- **Interstate members** live outside of Brisbane in Australia and are asked to let us know when they are in town so we can offer hospitality. During a visit in early November to Canberra, Iraphne and Ralph were delighted to catch up and have dinner at the home of Martina and husband Petro.
- **Support the Center with financial contributions** – Chapter members are encouraged to make contributions to the Center individually.

Current membership list

Brisbane-based members

Bhishna Bajracharya
Edilyn Bajracharya
Patricia Byrne
Ralph Carlisle
Iraphne Childs
Janani Ganapathi
Stephen McCarthy
Karen Nunan
Peter Nunan
Marvin Starominski-Uehara
Aline Webb
Jeremy Webb

Interstate members

Bruce Allender	Melbourne
John Beruldsen	Melbourne
Emily Graham	Melbourne
Akbar Hessami	Melbourne
Geoff Hogbin	Sydney
Terry and Val Hull	Canberra
Martina McGinn	Canberra

[Contact the Brisbane Chapter](#)

DHAKA CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Abu Ekramul Ahsan

No activity to report this quarter.

[Contact the Dhaka Chapter](#)

FAISALABAD CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Muhammad Ibrahim

On 15 Dec. 2019, the Faisalabad Chapter affiliated with "Islamabad City Lion Club" to enhance chapter community activities. This was done to receive some manual and financial help from the Lions Club. Moreover, their mission is very similar to EWC.

Eight alumni attended a dinner meeting on September 3, 2019 to honor our very old alumnus, Dr. Abdu's Sattar, who did MS in Library Sciences during 1981 from UH. Dr. Sattar is now serving University of Kuwait in Middle East. It remind us of EWC old days and memories related. In fact, he shared with me the same dorm in Hale Manoa and we got our degrees on the same day from Dean of Student Affairs, Ms. Sumi Makey.

On 22 November 2019, the Alumni and Islamabad Lion Club arranged a tour to Multan, Uch Sharif and Cholistan Desert and Bahawalpur City. This was in fact my first time to visit these areas. Multan is mainly city of saints who spread Islam and also very famous for delicious "Multani Sohan Hawas" a sweet dish. We all enjoyed it by eating it. Then we went to "Uch Sharif", called a city of saints having about a thousand old graves with gigantic structure on these. Some of them are now under UNESCO care.

The Drawar Fort is situated in Cholistan Desert near Indian Border. It is just a worth to see. Its date of construction is not well known, but history shows that it was built on river bank for water supply. The surrounding population mostly belongs to the Hindu religion and some Muslims. Their living is mostly animals and wood cutting. Although the Fort is in bad condition, I will call it as the wonder of the world. It has palaces, jail, army barracks and several underground tunnels

built for escape during wars. It needs repairs very badly but it is neglected due its remoteness and desert location and lack of funds.

Bahawalpur city was the Capital of Bahawalpur state before the partition of India during 1947 when it was under British Rule. During partition the Ruler (The Raja of Bahawalpur state) opted to affiliate with Pakistan. The city has several palaces (the living places of Rajas and their families) which are worth seeing.

Community welfare project – The Faisalabad Chapter and Islamabad City Lion Club jointly held a medical camp for the poor community. The individuals from surrounding areas were screened by medical doctors for TB, Sugar, and Hepatitis, and X Rays were also done. I was astonished to see the crowd to come for medical treatment. Free medicines were given to all. The finances were contributed by Faisal Chapter and Lion Club members.

[Contact the Faisalabad Chapter](#)

HONG KONG CHAPTER

Alumni Liaison: Mark Sheldon

No activity to report this quarter.

[Contact the Hong Kong Chapter](#)

HYDERABAD (INDIA) CHAPTER

Alumni Liaison: Nageswara Rao

No activity to report this quarter.

[Contact the Hyderabad \(India\) Chapter](#)

JAKARTA CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Amin Abdullah

Report submitted by Irid Agoes

No activity to be reported in this period.

[Contact the Jakarta Chapter](#)

KANSAI CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Fumiteru Nitta

Kansai Chapter engaged in the following activities between October 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019.

Five board of members of Kansai Chapter had a board meeting at Kyoto Sangyo University on November 30, 2019. The agenda discussed included the following:

1. Financial report: have collected 48,000 yen from 16 chapter members.
2. Chapter leader/officials for the 2020 – 2021 as follows:
 - Chapter leader: Fumi Nitta
 - Secretariat: Megumi Hara
 - Subleader: Takashi Mita
3. Chapter activity planning still pending
4. Plans for the general meeting in spring 2020:
 - Date: July 11th
 - Board meeting
 - General meeting: introduction of new chapter officials, financial report, etc.
 - Social gathering: report by Leader Nitta on the EWC/EWCA International Conference 2020 followed by music presentation by Fumi Nitta and Seiko Furuhashi
 - Place: to be announced



[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

Aloha!

The Mumbai Chapter met at the main Rotary Club of Mumbai at the Taj Mahal Hotel Ballroom where Sarosh Bana delivered a talk on "Arming India - the Concerns of National Security". The talk outlined India's militarisation within the framework of its national security strategy and in relation to its threat perceptions.



[Contact the Mumbai Chapter](#)

NEW YORK CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Bill Armbruster

The New York Chapter had an alumni dinner Dec. 16 at The Best Sichuan restaurant (actual name). Our guest speaker was Ramy Inocencio, Asia correspondent for CBS News, as well as being the former leader of the Center's New York alumni chapter. Ramy discussed his coverage of the protests in Hong Kong, the outlook for Hong Kong, his coverage last week of the volcano eruption in New Zealand, and other issues. Special thanks to Jan Berris of the National Committee of US-China Relations for finding a new restaurant for us at the last minute after we discovered a few hours earlier that the restaurant we had booked for the dinner had closed. Sadly, some people who had planned to attend had made other plans between the time we sent word that the dinner was canceled and the subsequent message that the dinner was back on and thus were not able to attend. We were initially expecting about 20. Still, we managed to have 12 people in attendance, including some who were there in the '60s -- Gulbadan Habibi (Afghanistan) and Jameel Ahmad (Pakistan), two from the '70s -- Paoling Hwang (Taiwan) and

Bill Armbruster (US), one from the '80s - Vinh Cam (US, originally Vietnam); and two APLP alumni from the 2000s, Ramy Inocencio and Cristina Veran, both from the US.

In other news, Rochelle Almeida, one of our alumni from around 2005, and currently a professor of global cultures at NYU, published a travelogue/memoir this fall entitled "The Year the World Was Mine," recounting her adventures (and misadventures) traveling around Europe in 2008-9, a year when she was teaching at NYU London.

We look forward to our next gathering sometime next spring, hopefully with EWC President Richard Vuylsteke if he makes his way to New York, as well as Rochelle Almeida.

Happy holidays to all!

[Contact the New York Chapter](#)

PAN-PACIFIC CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Ofeina Manuel-Barbarich

The Pan-Pacific Chapter founding group had their first virtual meeting following the formal recognition of the group in July. Members from Samoa, Fiji, Saipan, and 'Ofeina who is based in Auckland, New Zealand, discussed the purpose of the chapter, member representation and the next steps for the Chapter.

The group has a closed Facebook group; if you wish to join, please search EWCA Pan-Pacific Chapter. Please email panpacificewc@gmail.com for any other queries including joining the chapter,

Chapter News: Two of the Pan-Pacific founding members announced as Obama Foundation Leaders. 'Ofeina Manuel-Barbarich, Tonga/NZ and Maria Ronna Luna Pastorizo-Sekiguchi of Fiji are part of 200 emerging leaders from 33 nations and territories across the Asia-Pacific region who will undergo a one year leadership development and community engagement program that seeks to inspire, empower, and connect emerging leaders from across the Asia-Pacific region.



[Contact the Pan-Pacific Chapter](#)

SEOUL CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Won Nyon Kim

Warmest Aloha for the holiday season! Wishing everyone a happy and merry winter holidays as well as another great new year! As usual, the Seoul Chapter had an end of the year get-together and shared sweet memories of EWC. The 2020 Honolulu Conference was by far the hottest talk of the meeting. For all of us the 60th birthday of EWC means a lot. It sure is a great cause to celebrate!

[Contact the Seoul Chapter](#)

SINGAPORE CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Alice Seok-Hoon Seng

Oct 16 – Chapter had a brief tea fellowship with Pushpa Thambipillai who was at the National University of Singapore on a writing engagement. She met fellow EWC grantee Siva Gopal Thaiyalan (APLP 2017) and Scott MacLeod for the first time. Scott, formerly from EWCHonolulu, is now working in Singapore.



Nov – Basskaran Nair (EWC 1977) returned to Kazakhstan to run more training programs for their civil servants in the government. Chapter wishes him well.

Oct to Dec – Cynthia Chang (EWC APLP 18-19) continues to serve as Program Head in the Center for Experiential Learning SUSS (Singapore University of Social Sciences). She is introducing the experiential learning design of the APLP.

Dec 21 – The chapter had a very simple congratulations tea for Siva who had defended his doctoral thesis successfully in New Zealand at the University of Wellington. He will be sharing his research with the chapter at our next gathering in January.



[Contact the Singapore Chapter](#)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

Chapter President: Claire Langham

Aloha & "Mele Kalikimaka" 🎄 Merry Christmas in Hawaiian.

It was a fun EWCA So CA Holiday Party on Dec. 14 2019. It was wonderful to have 24 of us gathered together. We missed those who could not be there. We're delighted with newcomers who were with us.

Thanks to Lance Kayashima - here's the photo from our EWCA So CA Holiday Party group photo – and thanks to Sue Gardiner who took the photo with Lance's special camera.



Special thanks to Lily Lee Chen, a former member of the EWC Board of Governors and Mayor Emeritus City of Monterey Park who volunteered her home for our next EWCA So CA Chapter gathering in 2020. Lily Lee Chen is between me - Claire, and Clare, a professor in Malaysia who is here on sabbatical at UCLA in ethnomusicology. Another newcomer is

Simi Singh, a librarian. Other new chapter participants include Cheryl Tsuyuki, her husband Nate Sovatha, and their baby in the photo above.

[Contact the Southern California Chapter](#)

ULAANBAATAR CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Tsolmontuya (Tsom) Altankhundaga

A ceremony to launch the chapter was hosted by EWC Changing Faces alumna Gandolgor Purevjav at her institution, the Ganabell Institute, on October 25, 2019. U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia, Michael S. Klecheski, attended the ceremony and offered his congratulations to the alumni for promoting better relations between the U.S. and Mongolia. The event was planned by Dulguun Enkhbold (Education, MPA 2009-2011), Erdenee Batzorig (APLP 2017-2018), Amaraa Batchuluun (Education, LLM 2017-2018), and Tsom Altankhundaga (Education, MPA 2017-2019), with Namuun Tsog who serves as executive leader organizing events.



Two EWCA Innovation Laboratories (EWC Labs) are working with the EWCA Ulaanbaatar Chapter. The EWC Labs applied for and received grants from the EWC Professional Development Program and must collaborate with the Chapter. [Quality Life Mongolia](#), founded by Uyanga Batzogs and Delger Batnyam, translates instructions for 20 popular board games into the Mongolian language, both on paper and in short video format. Mentorship Innovation Lab founded by Tsom Altankhundaga, Joyce Pui Shan Wong, and Amarjargal “Amaraa” Batchuluun, is a new program of the Women Entrepreneurs Mentors Club NGO founded by the board members of [Women’s Entrepreneurs Council](#) at the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It is one of the five main mentoring programs that replicate EWC leadership program curriculum and values aimed at strengthening micro and small businesses owned by women entrepreneurs in Mongolia, improving collaboration amongst women through a peer mentorship program, and actively promoting the newly established EWCA Ulaanbaatar Chapter to over 100 alumni across Mongolia.

We would like to highlight our Alumna 2004-2006 Ms.Enkhtsetseg Dagva for having been selected to participate in the [Obama Foundation Leaders Forum](#). She is in red in the photo with 3 other participants from Mongolia.



Tsom Altankhundaga has been selected to attend the expert level meeting on *Women, Peace and Security agenda in Northeast Asia*. The event is organized by the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), in close partnership with UN Women, UNDP and Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The discussion's main objective was to take stock in the run up to 2020, when the 25th anniversary of the [Fourth World Conference on Women](#) and adoption of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) (1995), and the 20th anniversary of the UNSCR 1325 (2000), are going to be marked globally. Conducting an expert level meeting in Northeast Asia will also contribute to the strengthening of the regional input into the global discussion. Sustaining peace agenda remains largely under-promoted in the region, and therefore, DPPA intends to build on its current engagement by enhancing prevention capacities, more robust awareness raising, and sensitization around concepts, such as WPS and YPS, conflict prevention, and mediation. Tsom was selected to represent Mongolia as a researcher in Policy and Domestic Violence in Mongolia and as a panelist, expressed the idea of the need for counseling as a tool of peaceful approach to reducing intimate-partner violence.



Another great milestone – Changing Faces Women’s Leadership Seminar Alumna 2017 Baigali Ochkhuu was just appointed as one of the Vice Presidents of the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



[Contact the Ulaanbaatar Chapter](#)

VIENTIANE CHAPTER

Chapter Leader: Chanthavong Saignasith

No activity to be reported in this period.

[Contact the Vientiane Chapter](#)