

East-West Center

# Alumni news



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## LETTER FROM EWCA PRESIDENT DR. NED SHULTZ



EWC President **Richard Vuylsteke** has assembled an exciting management team. What they all have in common is long experience in the region and with the Center. But they are all in positions new to them, which means the Center gets both their *experience* and their *fresh ideas*. Our new dean of Education is **Ann Hartman**, who has worked for many years in

international education in both the Peace Corps and as the head of EWC exchange programs for both media and women entrepreneurs. **Jefferson Fox** is the new director of the Research Program. He brings years of environmental work through collaborative networks to a job where in-region experience and partnerships are key. And **Allen Clark**, a geologist by training who also managed the Pacific Disaster Center for the EWC, is the director of Professional Development Programs. PDP brings together leadership training, seminars programs for media and social and economic entrepreneurs, and programs for educators in K-12 and colleges and university. You'll be able to meet the management team at the Alumni conference in Seoul in August.

A hui hou (until next time),

Ned

P.S. Alumni, let us hear from you! We'd like to know what you're up to and what you're excited about! Email your news, achievements, etc. to [alumni@eastwestcenter.org](mailto:alumni@eastwestcenter.org).

## March 2018

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[Alumni Conference 2018](#)

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## ALUMNI CONFERENCE IN SEOUL

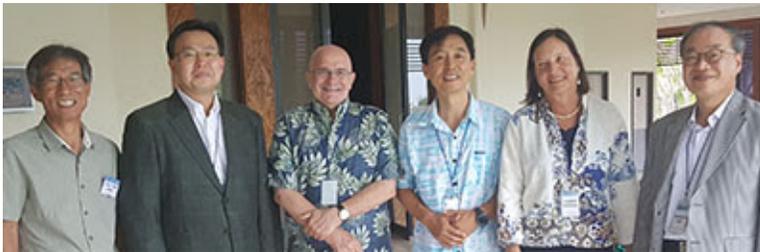
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Don't miss out! March 31st is the deadline for [abstract submissions](#) and to take advantage of the discounted [early registration rate](#) for the EWC/EWCA International Conference in Seoul, Korea, August 23-25, 2018. The registration rate increases on April 1st, so register today! For more information about the conference, [click here](#).

## COLLABORATING FOR BETTER OCEAN POLICY

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The need for effective ocean management and climate change policy for East Asia and the Pacific brought experts together at the Annual JVD/KIOST Conference, held last November in Fiji. The Jon Van Dyke Institute, which was founded to honor the late UH law professor and EWC researcher, and Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology, held the conference with other collaborators, including the EWC. *Pictured are (from the left): Director BANG, Jang Wan (KIOST); Prof. LEE, Seokwoo (Inha University); President Richard R. Vuylsteke (EWC); Amb. KIM Seong-In (Korea's Ambassador to Fiji); Atty. Sherry Broder (EWC and JVD/UH co-organizer); Prof. JON, JoonSoo (Sogang University).*

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### About Us

The East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue.

## APLP CHAPTER PRESIDENT VISITS EWC

[Short video](#)



**Melissa Pawneshing** (pictured on left), president of the Asia Pacific Leadership Program Alumni Chapter (APLP G10), visited the EWC in January. She, Alumni Coordinator Noreen Tanouye and Christina Monroe, new head of the Leadership Program, posted an impromptu Facebook Live greeting to APLP's Facebook group. They discussed how the APLP alumni can get involved with the Seoul Alumni conference. APLP intends to submit a panel proposal for the conference and has plans for an APLP gathering in Seoul. Keep an eye on Facebook for updates.

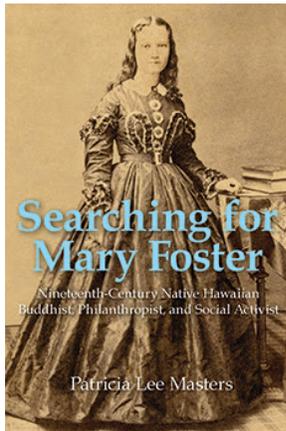
## TAIWAN PUPPETS THRILL CROWDS



Taipei-based Taiyuan Puppet Theatre Company and the EWC Arts Program reached over 1,300 people through traditional Taiwanese puppet theatre programs at schools, libraries, senior centers, and performance spaces on the islands of Oahu, Moloka'i and Hawai'i. Their visit was generously supported by a gift from EWC alumnus **Gary S.H. Lin** (ISI, MA 1965-1967).

## ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

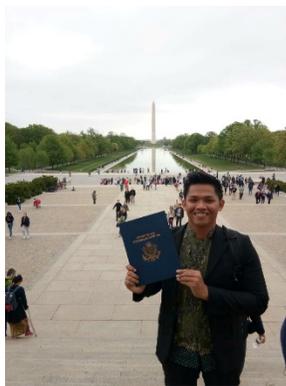
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The extraordinary life of the namesake of Honolulu's Foster Botanical Garden is revealed in a new book by **Patricia Lee Masters**, who is a scholar, Buddhist nun and educator, member of the UH faculty, and an alumna of EWC Culture and Communication Program (1990-1992). The book, *Searching for Mary Foster: Nineteenth-Century Native Hawaiian Buddhist, Philanthropist, and Social Activist* is available at the Foster Botanical Garden gift shop or contact [pua888@yahoo.com](mailto:pua888@yahoo.com).



**Deacon Ritterbush** (Open Grants, PhD 1979-1984) reports that she "conducts immigrant farmer surveys, and secures land and housing for forced-labor trafficked survivors from Asia" in her job on the Big Island. She writes as "Dr. Beachcomb" and runs conferences on beachcombing and coastal conservation issues ([www.drbeachcomb.com](http://www.drbeachcomb.com)). Deacon earned her PhD as an EWC grantee, then joined PIDP as a Research Associate.



Seeking to "encourage the younger generation to be future conservation leaders," **Dwi Riyan**, alum of the 2017 Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (#YSEALI), used his Alumni Initiative Grant to support a Conservation Boot Camp on "Human Orangutan Conflict Mitigation for Indonesian Youth."



**Kagna Mourng** (APLP G16) is a featured partnership development specialist with United Nations Volunteers in Cambodia, putting her MA in community development to good use.



**Garrett Kam** (Culture & Communication, MA 1985-1987) was artist-in-residence at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. While there, he participated in the elaborate ceremonies surrounding the cremation of the late King Bhumipol Adulyadej (Rama IX).



**Micah Pexa** (Education Program, MA 2003-2005, 2009-2011) reports he will hike the Appalachian Trail (2200 miles over 5-6 months) as a fundraiser for an organization in northern Thailand that brings at-risk young women to live in a safe house and pays for them to

go to school. Facebook: [Trekking Against Trafficking](#)



**Nan M. Sussman** (Culture Learning, 1977), professor of psychology, has received the President's Medal in recognition of outstanding service to the College of Staten Island, CUNY. She recently published *Return Migration and Identity: A Global Phenomenon, A Hong Kong Case* (University of Hong Kong Press). This fall, she will be the intercultural specialist for Semester at Sea for a round-the-world voyage. She appears here with her husband, Jerald Rosenbloom.



**Jack Jenkins** has joined the staff of Religion News Service in the role of national reporter, covering the Catholic beat and major religion stories. Earlier, he received his Master of Divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School with a focus on Christianity, Islam and the media. In 2016 he participated in the East-West Center's Senior Journalists Seminar, an immersive, multinational, 21-day study and writing program. Jenkins will be

based in Washington, DC. He tweets at [@jackmjenkins](#).



**Miriam Stark** (ASDP, 2001), professor of anthropology at UH and long-time collaborator with EWC colleagues in the Education and Research programs, will become director of UH's Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), the largest concentration of Southeast Asian specialists in the country, effective August 2018.



Last November, three EWC alumni from the 70s had an unforgettable reunion in Bangkok: **Dang Peansiri Ekniyom** (Culture Learning, PhD 1977-1981) from Thailand, **Bonnie Dong** (Culture Learning, 1977-1978) from Hong Kong, and Singapore Chapter leader, **Alice Seok Hoon Seng** (Culture Learning, PhD 1977-1981) met for the first time after more than 35 years! "We took one week just to catch up with each other," says Alice. They promised to meet again at the 2020 anniversary alumni conference in Honolulu and

will request to stay in Hale Mānoa on the 12th floor, where they first met.

## IN MEMORIAM

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**Ananthanarayanan Seshan** (ISI, MS 1962-1964) was the former leader of the Mumbai Chapter and an active member until his passing in January. He is pictured on the right with current Mumbai Chapter leader Sarosh Bana. “Seshan was the first person I asked to be placed on the EWC Wall of Honor,” said former EWCA president Dan Berman. [Additional gifts can be made in his name to the Wall of Honor](#)

Culturalist **Darmanto Jatman** died at the age of 76 in January. He was born in Jakarta, graduated from Gadjah Mada University, and continued his studies on basic humanities at EWC (Culture Learning, 1972-1973). Known also as a poet, Darmanto was professor emeritus at Diponegoro University (Undip) Semarang.

## CHAPTER NEWS

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**ASDP** - The Asian Studies Development Program held their annual conference on 1-3 March at the Georgetown Marriott. This year the conference honored the memory of Dr. Henry Rosemont, philosopher and translator of Confucian texts. For more information: [Understanding Asia: Past and Present](#).

**BRISBANE** - Continues to support two Nepalese students through their tertiary studies. Lasha Manandhar is now in her final year of nursing studies in Bangalore, India. They have sent a graduation gift of \$400 to her via the Nepal Australia Friendship Association.



**Sunu Rai** (above) completed her formal coursework in fashion design and manufacture in June 2017 and now has secured a job in clothing design in Kathmandu. The Brisbane chapter bought her a sewing machine. The chapter is eager to connect with affiliate members from other cities in Australia and invite them to join in Brisbane Chapter activities when in town.



**SINGAPORE** - Chapter members participated in a conservation program at a wildlife corridor in Malaysia. Dr. Kae Kawanishi from the Malaysian Conservation Alliance for Tigers (MYCAT) explained that MYCAT inspires people to value and protect the world's most iconic and critically endangered tigers and their habitat.



**TAIWAN** – EWCA Taiwan Chapter President **Frank Hung** (ISI, MA 1965-1967) organized a tour to Atyal Bulaobulao in the remote mountainous area of Yilan County. Ten EWC alumni and friends joined the tour to the village, which allows only 30 tourists per day. The village is an autonomous

commune, with subsistence work shared by all.

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