

East-West Center

# Alumni news



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## LETTER FROM EWCA PRESIDENT AMANDA ELLIS



I am delighted to be your new EWCA President and credit the Center for my international career at the OECD, World Bank, as Deputy Secretary in the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador to the United Nations. It is always uplifting to reconnect with fellow alumni and hear your perspectives on how we can continue to support EWC's transformational work.

What a wonderful EWCA conference in South Korea! A huge thank you to the Seoul chapter for excellent organization and hosting, setting the scene for deepening friendships, fellowship, and scholarship. For the first time in 18 years, the Asia Pacific Leadership Program launched at an alumni conference, giving the new cohort of 25 fellows from 20 countries across the region a great opportunity to begin collaboration and networking with the EWC 'ohana.

It was especially enlightening to learn from EWCA chapter best practices and to see the range of activities we can learn from—more soon! Please start planning to attend the 60th anniversary here in Honolulu in July 2020 (date to be determined). It will be a great opportunity for all EWC alumni to come together to celebrate 60 years of contribution to the Center's mission and the outcomes that are making such a positive difference in our region.

The Center welcomed a talented and enthusiastic new group of graduate students and affiliates in early August. They were followed by the latest cohort of Pacific Island leadership participants, sponsored by Taiwan. A new Smart Cities program brought together thought leaders from across the region to help guide the upcoming Regional Urban Leaders Exchange. It is great to see the Center continuing to innovate and provide opportunities for meaningful mutual learning. The wide range of experience, interest, and expertise across the breadth of Center programming is always impressive. But it is the deep commitment to come together, across national and academic boundaries, to address the big issues our region is facing that is most

**Oct. 2018**

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inspiring. The transformative experience we all had at the Center is alive and well!

Warmest Aloha,  
Amanda

*Amanda Ellis (Open Grants, PhD Political Science 1986-1989) is an adjunct senior fellow in the EWC Professional Development Program and executive director for Hawaii and Asia Pacific, Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability at Arizona State University.*

## 2018 EWC/EWCA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SEOUL

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Nearly 350 scholars, officials, educators, and business leaders from 30 countries gathered in Seoul, Korea, August 23-25, 2018 for three days packed with 7 plenary sessions, 24 concurrent panels, poster sessions, and incredible food! Conference attendees also had the opportunity to explore Korean culture – calligraphy, traditional costume, and tea ceremony – and take a half-day tour of Seoul.

Excerpts from addresses given during the Opening Ceremony are available - [The Start of Peace and Prosperity on the Korean Peninsula](#) and [Korea's Economic Challenges in the 4th Industrial Revolution](#). With multiple sessions occurring simultaneously, you may have missed a session or panel. Take this opportunity to view [videos](#) and [photos](#) from the conference. Alumni are already looking forward to coming back to Honolulu for the next international conference in 2020.

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### About Us

The East-West Center promotes

## **EWCA SUMMER TRAVEL GRANTS**

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Each year, the East-West Center Association (EWCA) and EWCA Hawaii Chapter offer summer travel grants to current students. The grants are used for presenting conference papers, taking part in internships, conducting field research, or studying in summer institutes. This year, summer travel grants were awarded to Michael DeAngelis, Tanya Harrison, Soksamphoas Im, Layla Kilolu, Eunsun Lee, Morsaline Mojid, Robert Moore, Yen-Zhi Peng, Dewi Setiani, and Shreya Yadav. Read about their summer projects on the [EWCA blog](#).



## **EWC INTERNATIONAL MEDIA CONFERENCE IN SINGAPORE**

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In June, about 350 media professionals from more than 30 countries gathered in Singapore at the EWC 2018 International Media Conference, a professional networking meeting where American, Asian, and Pacific Island journalists discussed key issues in the region and common challenges and trends in the media. Asking “What Is News Now?”, panels addressed how identity shapes stories, fake news, news on Facebook, investigative journalism, free press in Southeast Asia, America’s new Indo Pacific policy, a US-China trade war, AI, technology, and honored journalists of courage and impact. [View videos and read more](#) on these and other topics.

better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue.

[Short video](#)

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## ALUMNI NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Current and past EWC Participants Association officers **James Patrick Alonzo** (Education, MPA 2016-2018), **Takumi Aoki** (Education, MA 2017-2018), and **Shintaro Taniguchi** (Education, PhD 2014-2018) embarked on a Japan leadership development field trip during the summer. They participated in a seminar and networking event sponsored by the EWCA Kansai Chapter (see Chapter News below) and, in Tokyo, visited the EWCA Tokyo Chapter and also met with EWC alumni **Mitsuko Suzuki** (Education, MA 2016-2018), **Eriko Oga** (Education, PhD 2014-2018), **Misato Matsuda** (APLP G15, 2015), and **Joyce Wong** (APLP G17, 2017). On their travels, they enjoyed meeting with new and old alumni of EWC.



Taniguchi went on to Brunei Darussalam to meet with EWC alumnus **Chester Keasberry**, (Education, PhD 2012-2017); current student **Saiful Marali** (Education, PhD 2015-2018), Hjh Siti Rafidzah HJ Sulaiman of the University of Brunei Darussalam, and **Mila Haziman Hj Lazim** of the Ministry of Education. It was the second time in Brunei for Taniguchi, who reports that on earlier visits he conducted Judo

seminars and met with local practitioners with the help of our EWC alumni.

**Sarosh Bana** (Culture & Communication, Jefferson Fellowship 1990, 1992) authored an opinion piece in the Washington Times (07/11/18) called "[Murder through WhatsApp](#)" decrying the "growing incidence" of assaults in India that are recorded and then distributed on social media and the lack of condemnation from government leaders.

Film scholar **Linda Ehrlich** (Culture & Communication, PhD 1984-1989; Education 1995) recorded a commentary track that accompanies the new re-issue of the Japanese film *Maborosi* by director Kore-eda Hirokazu, produced by Milestone Film and Video.

EWCA president **Amanda Ellis** (Open Grants, PhD Political Science 1986-1989) facilitated a noon-time seminar by Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in Switzerland, on the role parliaments can play in "Transforming the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into everyday reality." SG Chungong was in Hawai'i to learn more about the state commitment, tracked in the Aloha + Challenge on-line dashboard. He noted in his address (in the EWC/Wrigley Institute Joint Sustainability Lecture Series) that the systemic nature of the SDGs make inter-disciplinary institutions like the East-West Center even more relevant.





Taiko master **Kenny Endo** (Open Grants, MA 1990-1992), superstar Tsugaru-shamisen player Hiromitsu Agatsuma, and pioneering dancer and taiko drummer Chieko Kojima performed the world premiere of "Pacific Crossing," which they created together (along with local guest artists Noel Okimoto and Anju Madoka) as a tribute to the *Gannenmomo*, the first Japanese immigrants to arrive in Hawai'i. The ensemble and guest stars earned repeated ovations. Pacific Crossings was presented by the Honolulu Museum of Art, supported by the Japan Foundation, and co-sponsored by the East-West Center Arts Program. 150TH

Gannenmono tributes run through November at the museum.



Future alumnus **Todd Farley** (Education, MFA 2017-2019) has won the Winifred Ward Scholarship, for graduate students in the field of child drama. The \$10,000 award recognizes accomplishments that include studying with Marcel Marceau in Paris, touring in 40 nations, performing with choirs and symphonies, and writing on theater. His "mimeistry" curriculum has been taught in high schools and universities around the world. He is currently at the University of Hawai'i focusing on Hawaiian and Asian theatre.



**Iwao Hayakawa** (CLI 1977) authored and published a book titled, "Jimmy's Traveling Album." It highlights oversea adventures and includes valuable tips that may not be known to the general public. The book was created in hopes that it will assist people who are willing to travel abroad and is packed with many photos. It can be found on [Amazon.co.jp](https://www.amazon.co.jp).



**Mary Johnson** (Communication, MA 1976) has a new book out that gives visitors to Maryland's celebrated "Eastern Shore" a local's view of the boardwalk, the duck museums, the wild ponies at Assateague Island, and more. *A Long Weekend at Maryland Shore* is available through [MoreBooks!](#)

Mayor **Tetsuji Matsumoto** of Urasoe City, Okinawa (APLP G10, 2010), 2nd from right, was among a contingent of mayors from Japan visiting the Center on August 6, 2018.



**Frank Quimby** (ISI, MA 1967-1969), pictured on the right, received the US Department of the Interior's highest honorary recognition—the Distinguished Service Award—for exceptional contributions to public service during his 45-year federal career. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, left, presented the award. Quimby's service included stints with the Peace Corps, US-administered Trust

Territory of the Pacific Islands, the US House of Representatives (as a press secretary), and the Interior Department, working in the Philippines, Micronesia, and Guam. Photo by Tami Heileman, DOI.



A 1998 EWC Distinguished Award winner **Abdul Rashid** (Resource Systems, PhD 1980-1984, 1983-1986) has won the prestigious 2017 [IPNI Science Award](#) offered by International Plant Nutrition Institute, USA in recognition of outstanding R&D achievements on efficient management of plant nutrients for enhancing crop yield potential. Dr. Rashid's innovative, problem-solving research has contributed significantly to crop

and soil management and sustainable crop production, not only in Pakistan and Asia but also worldwide. Currently Rashid is involved in R&D on biofortification of staple cereals with micronutrients to address "hidden hunger."



Internationally renowned journalist and foreign correspondent **Keith Richburg** (Culture & Communication, Journalist in Residence 1990-1991; East-West Seminars 2008, 2010), an alumnus of Center Media programs, was honored by his Michigan high school alma mater, University Liggett School, as the [2018 Distinguished Alumni Award](#) recipient.

Richburg, a Pulitzer Prize finalist for his 1992 coverage of Somalia, spent more than 20 years overseas for The Washington Post, where he served as bureau chief in Beijing, Hong Kong,

Jakarta, Nairobi and Manila. He also served as The Post's foreign editor from 2005-07. Based in Jakarta, he has recently taught at both Princeton and Harvard.



**Chise Suzuki** (APLP G16, 2016), a Shizuoka prefecture public officer, has led development of the Prefecture's flagship project, "Tea Museum, Shizuoka." The Shizuoka Prefecture government sent Ms. Suzuki to the APLP program, and continues to send a public officer each year through the

program, which Ms. Suzuki described as very helpful to her career.



The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) has appointed International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) deputy director general **Bruce Tolentino** (Resource Systems, PhD 1982-1986; International Relations 1992) to the seven-member Monetary Board. Tolentino earned a doctorate in Economics at the University of Hawaii through the East-West Center, and a master's degree in economics at Xavier University in the Philippines.



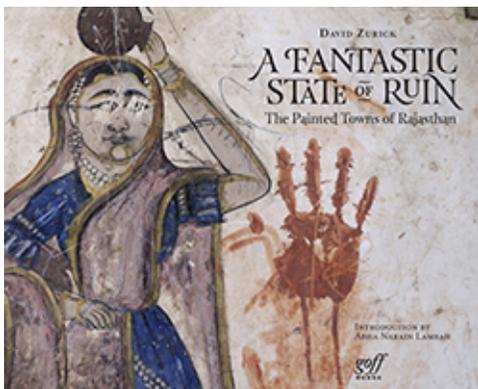
The National Geographic series “Planet or Plastic?” features bar alternatives to bottled beauty products, and notes that the company Ethique—founded by alum **Brianne West** (East-West Seminars, 2016)—“has a large following thanks to its ethically derived ingredients.” New Zealander West told her fellow participants in the Changing Faces of

Women’s Leadership program that her goal is to save the Earth from a million plastic bottles.



**Brett Wigdortz** (Education, MA 1995-1997) has been appointed chair of Britain’s National Citizen Service Trust by Queen Elizabeth. He began his work career at the East-West Center researching energy and economic development issues. He is co-founder and a trustee of Teach for All, a network of more than 45 Teach First partner programs that tackle education inequality in countries all over the world. He

was the vice chair of the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation Education Advisory Group and is a judge of the Varkey Foundation’s \$1 million Global Teacher Prize. He also helped found and is on the board of the Fair Education Alliance. He was awarded an OBE (Order of the British Empire) for Services to Education in 2013.



Fans of **David Zurick’s** (Resource Systems, PhD 1982-1986, 1986, 1987) photography and writing will want to check out his new book, *A Fantastic State of Ruin: the Painted Towns of Rajasthan* (India). Built by the prosperous merchants of rural Shekhawati during a time when trade caravans crossed the Thar Desert, the structures and their frescoes have slowly

deteriorated over time. Zurick’s photos capture the fascinating ruinous beauty of the painted towns, and, along the way, provide an intimate

look at life and landscape on the arid fringes of Rajasthan. See the [book trailer](#).

## IN MEMORIAM

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**Syed Shujaat Bukhari** (East-West Seminars, Senior Journalists Seminars 2009) was killed by an unnamed gunman on June 14, 2018 in Srinagar, India. He was editor of *Rising Kashmir*, a Srinagar-based newspaper and a former correspondent in Srinagar for *The Hindu* (1997-2012). Mr. Bukhari received several awards and honors in recognition of his work, including a prestigious Asian Centre for Journalism Fellowship at Ateneo de Manila University Philippines. He was a permanent

fellow at the World Press Institute (WPI) Saint Paul Minnesota and had traveled to a number of countries in connection with his professional work.



**Lucy Beale Eastham** (Summer Institute of Asian Studies, 1964) died in Washington, DC, on June 19, 2018 at the age of 101. She received a BA from George Washington University in 1937, an MA from University of Wisconsin in 1943, and an MS in Library Science from Catholic University of America in 1961. She was awarded a scholarship to the East-West Center in 1964. After retiring, she worked for 10 years as an indexer and editor for the publishers of Foreign Area Studies at American University.



**Patricia Lee Masters** (Population 1979; Culture & Communication, PhD 1990-1992; Associates Office 1997; Education 2002, 2007) passed away June 15, 2018. She retired in 2017 from her position as faculty member and administrator at the UH. Ordained as a Buddhist nun in India in 1998, Pat created a Buddhist Studies program in Kyoto, Japan, was associated with Buddhist programs in Sri Lanka

and Hawai'i, and taught in a Buddhist Studies Program in Bodh Gaya, India. She is the author of *Searching for Mary Foster: Nineteenth-Century Native Hawaiian Buddhist, Philanthropist, and Social Activist*. Pat received the 2017 EWCA Hawaii Chapter Outstanding Service Award in recognition of her outstanding service to the EWC, the EWCA, and to her local community, all of whose representatives were in abundant supply—along with a temple full of more colleagues and

friends and her children—lighting incense in her honor at her Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin service.



**James (Jim) Rush** (Education, 2001, 2008, 2009) “made his transition to a spirit life” on May 22, 2018, writes his wife Kaycie. He was professor and chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Philander Smith College, Arkansas, where he had been teaching full-time since 1976. His numerous awards over the years included, this February, the Living Legend Award from his students. A Methodist minister for 50 years, he was a Buddhist practitioner for 45. He joined Asian Studies Development Program institutes to China and Vietnam and was “passionate about ethics, social justice, compassionate action

and altruism.”

Former EWC staff member **Lyn Tong** passed away on August 23, 2018. She joined the Population Institute in late 1970 and was a huge part of the Poppies ‘ohana.

## CHAPTER NEWS

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### Islamabad Chapter



A group of 16 artists led by the curator of Gallery6 and EWCA Islamabad Chapter Leader, **Dr. Arjumand Faisal**, attended a retreat in Naran to produce artworks that would help create awareness on climate change issues. The purpose of the retreat was to development visual art work that can subsequently be used to create awareness about factors leading to climate change and its resultant negative impacts. The retreat was jointly sponsored by PTDC, Civil Society Coalition for Climate Change, Snow Leopard Foundation, Gallery6 and East-West Center Association, Islamabad Chapter. [Read more](#) about related activities.

## Kansai Chapter

A June visit to Doshisha University in Kansai by then-EWCPA President **James Patrick (JP) Alonzo** created opportunities for a stimulating panel on JP's master's thesis, *The Role of Culture in the Dismal Savings Rate of Filipinos* and a networking event with current EWC participants and alumni and several Doshisha students. **Dr. Yumiko Okamoto**, professor at Doshisha University, a former grantee of EWC and representative of Kansai Chapter, welcomed JP and fellow EWC participants **Shintaro Taniguchi** and **Takumi Aoki** to join the Doshisha students in a program aimed at familiarizing the students with EWC activities and encouraged them to become participants.



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East-West Center  
1601 East-West Road Honolulu, Hawai'i 96848 USA.  
Phone: 808.944.7111 | Fax: 808.944.7212  
Email: [alumni@eastwestcenter.org](mailto:alumni@eastwestcenter.org)

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