LETTER FROM EWCA PRESIDENT AMANDA ELLIS

Aloha Mai Kakou

What a pleasure to meet alumni in New Zealand, Thailand, Bhutan, and Hong Kong over the past two months! Thank you all for making time to share EWC connections, memories and your suggestions for the 60th Anniversary Alumni Conference here in Honolulu from June 30-July 2, 2020.

One immediate outcome in the lead up to the celebration in 2020 is an online portal where you can share your fondest EWC memories and experiences, what you are doing now, and even upload a special EWC photo that captures a memory. Share your story with us and we may feature it online.

As part of our alumni revitalization strategy, Center staff are meeting with alumni as they deliver programs in the region. I was personally delighted to reconnect across generations in New Zealand with former EWC Board of Governors member Kara Puketapu and his grandson, Kara Dentice, who is a 2015-2016 APLP alumnus and an Obama Foundation Asia Pacific Leader. They generously hosted AsiaPacific Ed lead Namji Steinemann, former EWC Education advisor Maya Soetoro-Ng, Zelda Keller (APLP 2015-2016), and me at the Waiwhetu marae in Lower Hutt, New Zealand which was the site of last year’s Partnerships for Youth school exchange.

This newsletter features the Center’s secondary educational programs, along with alumna and UH Professor Linda Furuto illustrating the importance of culture to learning via ethno-mathematics. The annual Changing Faces women’s entrepreneurial leadership seminar is coming up in July. Read about Changing Faces alumni making stellar progress in the ALUMNI NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS section of this newsletter!

Warmest Aloha,
Amanda
Established in 2002, the Changing Faces Women’s Leadership Seminar focuses on the important role that innovation and entrepreneurship play in contributing to economic growth, job creation, and strengthening communities. This year, the Center will welcome its 15th Changing Faces cohort from July 7-20, 2019 for a 12-day professional training, dialogue, and travel program. Participants will expand their knowledge of entrepreneurship, economic growth, leadership, and community building through carefully selected field visits and meetings with experts, practitioners, business owners, and policymakers in Hawai’i. To date, 185 women from 34 countries have participated in the Changing Faces Seminar and many have become tremendously successful. Read about recent achievements of Changing Faces alumni below.

The East-West Center is also excited to present the 5th Annual #galswithLEI Forum on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, a publicly ticketed forum attended by over 200 women. #galswithLEI is not your typical event; rather, information sharing is purposeful, collaborative, and dynamic – a keynote panel and six interactive workshops focused on leadership, entrepreneurship, and inspiration followed by an attendee driven open space forum and a networking reception featuring local female chefs. Please share this with your colleagues and networks.
ASIA PACIFIC-FOCUSED GLOBAL LEARNING AND EXCHANGE FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

AsiaPacificEd Program for Schools provides Asia Pacific-focused global learning and exchange opportunities for secondary school teachers and students from across the United States and in the Asia Pacific region, offering a rich array of activities, including study tours that engage participants in real-world learning and hands-on exploration of global trends and issues and their impacts in local contexts (upcoming program in Thailand in July 2019); and youth leadership forums that bring together multi-country participants in different locales (2019 program convening in Honolulu during July-August) to immerse them in local cultures, histories, landscapes, and experiences – and equip them with competencies to channel their learning into positive action for their communities. Online learning platforms, including the Youth Voices website AsiaPacificEd developed in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and others, supply high quality curriculum modules, lesson plans, and tool kits (available in Chinese, English, French, and Spanish); as well as facilitate multi-country virtual classroom exchanges. These programs promote improved teaching and learning about Asia and the Pacific region in US schools, help schools prepare students for the world of tomorrow, and create meaningful exchange opportunities between American teachers and their counterparts in the Asia Pacific region as well as between students.

EWC HONORS WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH / INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

In honor of Women’s History month and International Women’s Day, members of the East-West Center came together for a screening of Rise of the Wahine: Champions of Title IX, winner of the Hawai’i International Film Festival Audience Award for Best Documentary. The event was hosted by the newly formed EWCPA international women’s group and co-sponsored by the East-West Center Association, Education Program, Leadership Program and #galswithLEI. Community members came together to watch the inspiring documentary which follows the struggles and triumphs of the Rainbow Wahine in the years following the passage of Title IX. After the screening, audience members were invited to share in a discussion of the film with director Dean Kaneshiro, former congresswoman Patricia Saiki (EWC/EWCA International
Conference 2008; former EWC Board of Governors member), and PhD student Emalee Nelson. Moderated by #galswithLEI Liz Dorn, the discussion brought a diverse group of EWC community members together to reflect on the histories of those who have fought tirelessly for gender equality and the future steps we may take to continue their work and commitment to justice.

ALUMNI NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Saliza Abdullah (Changing Faces 2010), CEO of BG Capital Holdings in Malaysia, received the KLSWCO Women of Excellence 2019 Award on March 26, 2019.

Amy Agbayani’s (Inst for Student Exchange, PhD 1964-1969) was one of the immigrant stories featured in TRANSCENDIENTS: Immigrant Stories of Place, a community-driven traveling art exhibition by Terasaki Exhibitions. The contemporary pop-up exhibit at Thomas Square showcased the unique immigrant communities and immigration history of Honolulu through technology-based storytelling, contemporary portraiture and immersive experiences. Current East-West Center students also performed the original songs from their Na Hoku Hanohano Awards finalist album, Finding Home, at the opening of the exhibition.

workshop to design a course of action that addresses pressing issues and opportunities, and meaningfully contributes to positive change in the region.

Sarosh Bana’s (Jefferson Fellowship 1990) article “Pakistan can’t afford a war with India – unless China comes to its aid” appeared in The Independent on February 27, 2019.

Umar Cheema (International Media Conference 2014; South Asia Journalists Dialogue 2014), investigative correspondent with The News, Islamabad, was recently interviewed by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) on how he became a journalist, why journalism matters, what kinds of challenges Pakistan media is facing and when should journalists stop bothering trolls.

Viola Cheng (Changing Faces 2017) was recognized by Forbes’ 30 Under 30 Asia 2018 list, and joining her on the recently released 2019 list are Wen Shin Chia (SUSI 2013), Sorawit Paiboonrattanakorn (YSEALI Impact XL 2018), and Florence van Dyke (Changing Faces 2018)! The list highlights young entrepreneurs who have made their mark on their respective industries, featuring 300 young innovators across 10 categories who are re-inventing their industries and driving change across the region. Viola Cheng, founder of Good Food Enterprise – uses technology to manage chain restaurants and staff; specifically focused on employing the financially or socially disadvantaged, solving food waste, and encouraging environment sustainability. She is also behind the Good Share app, which helps shops and restaurants share what soon-to-be outdated food they have to donate. Wen Shin Chia is the founder of Green Yards, an eco-products company that makes soaps and candles from recycled cooking oil. Sorawit Paiboonrattanakorn is the founder and CEO of Saturday School, which employs teachers and trains volunteers to ensure vulnerable and marginalized children stay in school and gain the necessary life skills to equip them for the future, reaching over
3,000 children in poor areas in Bangkok. Florence van Dyke, CEO of Chia Sisters, a healthy energy drink brand that produces bottled juices with hydrated chia seeds, has expanded its product line to include coconut water and fresh pressed juices, and is currently developing a hemp-based protein smoothie. Florence adheres to three non-negotiable values – nutrition, innovation, and sustainability. The solar-powered juice company is a living wage accredited employer.


Ben Fairfield (Education, MA 2010-2012; International Graduate Student Conference 2013) has received a 2019-20 Fulbright US Scholar grant. His project is to research Karen music, identity, and representation at the Karen Ecomuseum in Mae Sot, Thailand. He plans to be in Thailand from May-August 2020. Ben is currently affiliate faculty with the Music Department, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and on the staff of the University of Hawai‘i Press. His recent publications include “Ethnic and Village Unity: Symbolized or Enacted: Lahu Music-Dance and Ethnic Participation in Ban Musoe, Thailand” (Asian Music 49:2:71-105, 2018) and the English translation Forbidden Songs of the Pgaz
k'Nyau of the Thai publication by Chi Suwichan Phattanaphraiwan, which appeared in *Ethnomusicology Translations* (SEM) in 2018. Congratulations and best wishes to Ben!

**Dr. Linda Furuto** (APLP 2006-2007), professor of mathematics education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, has pioneered ethnomathematics, “the integration of Indigenous wisdom and 21st-century learning by real-world problem-solving of mathematics that is relevant, contextualized, and sustainable” in Hawai‘i – drawing upon culture, history, traditions, and sociocultural roots to design culturally relevant mathematics curriculum. Ethnomathematics combines Dr. Furuto’s two passions – mathematics and traditional wayfinder sailing. She first sailed to Micronesia and Japan on the traditional voyaging canoe Hōkūle‘a in 2007 with the Education Hui and, more recently, she sailed on several legs of Hokule‘a’s three-year long Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage as education specialist and apprentice navigator. Under the direction of Dr. Furuto, the first ethnomathematics graduate certificate was offered by the College of Education, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa in 2018, and the program has recently been approved by the Hawaiʻi Teacher Standards Board.

**Tin Ma Ma Htet** (SUSI 2010), aka “Tess,” has founded Santi-saya (*santi* means “peaceful” and *saya* means “shade” in the Pali language), a library and community center in Mandalay, Myanmar. The library provides a peaceful place for children to come and learn without worries or anxiety. There are about 70 students enrolled in English classes, offered free of charge. Local volunteers donate their time to further the children’s education. In the SUSI program in 2010, Tess received the first donation for her library from Lance Boyd – a carton of books on environmental education. Along with the library, Tess has also started the Sayarma Foundation, which provides technical support to schools. This year, she has raised funds to help two schools in a remote area. Tess resigned from her full time job to focus on Sayarma Foundation and works as a freelance consultant to pay for her travel expenses and other costs, and writes about teaching and education. Tess is thankful for all the support she has received and is very grateful to have gone through the SUSI program.
Balinese Keris: Metal, Masculinity, Magic, written and photographed by Garrett Kam (Culture & Communication, MA 1985-1987) with an introduction by David J. Stuart-Fox is the first book that focuses exclusively on the history, significance, and ritual use of keris (daggers) in Bali. It is richly illustrated with field photographs and examples of blades, grips, and sheaths. Balinese Keris is available from Ethnographic Art Books.

Babyloania was selected as one of several businesses to receive the first-ever grant given by the Indonesian Government (the Creative Economy Agency) to the private sector, in the amount of approx. US$20,000. Cofounder Zhafira Loebis (Changing Faces 2016) writes, “I will be forever grateful to the Changing Faces Seminar for all the inspiration, and for making us create an action plan that helped us greatly in launching our rental marketplace. We continue to be the
largest rental company in Indonesia, and have created a community with other rental companies.” Pictured here with President Joko Widodo of Indonesia, she now counts the Vice President’s daughter among her clients.

Michelle Magalong (New Generation Seminar 2016) will be heading for the University of Maryland in College Park (UMD) this July. She has been selected as the first Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow at the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, an honor rarely awarded in non-STEM departments or programs at UMD. Her research—*Telling All American Stories: A Movement of Diversity, Inclusion, and Relevancy in Historic Preservation*—has the ultimate goals of increasing the number of nominations and listings on the National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks and raising the degree of scholarship on these kinds of historic preservation efforts. “I look forward to working with and learning from the faculty and students on how we can advance the fields of historic preservation, urban planning and public policy to be more reflective and relevant to telling all our stories through the power of place,” says Magalong.

The EWC Leadership Program team recently ran a 4-day peace-leadership program on Hawai‘i’s Big Island for six Asian Development Bank graduate students. LorMona Meredith (APLP 2011) co-designed and delivered the program. The group of graduate students from Mongolia, Myanmar, Solomons, Kyrgyzstan, and Nepal, explored the role of leaders in building peace and restoring and strengthening human-‘aina (land) relationships in the service of peace. The group met with *ki‘ai loko i‘a* (fishpond guardians), land managers and restorers, and traditional navigators, and then applied those experiences and insights to their own current and near-future professional and personal roles. LorMona brought experience from her work with Conservation International’s Center for Oceans, and the Polynesian Voyaging Society. The EWC Leadership Program looks forward to more such collaborations with alumni.
Congratulations to The News Literacy Project on receiving a $5 million grant from the Knight Foundation. The project, founded by Alan Miller (Communication, MA 1976-1978), a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, is a national education nonprofit offering nonpartisan, independent programs that teach middle and high school students how to know what to believe in the digital age.

Dr. Linda Miller (Summer Institute 1991), retired social studies teacher who often appeared in costume, was presented with the 2019 National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) Woman in American History award on March 16, 2019. She is the first historical interpreter of the life of Helen J. Stewart, founding mother of Las Vegas, and also wrote a book, Early Las Vegas. In 2016 the Fairfax City Museum put up an exhibit showcasing her 30-year teaching career. Also in 2016, Dr. Miller coordinated a 75th Anniversary Pearl Harbor Tribute Trip for three USS Nevada veterans and then wrote a book about the trip. In 2017 she coordinated and funded a distinguished lecture for Dr. Sergei Khrushchev at the National Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas.


Nuraizah Shamsul Baharin (Changing Faces 2018), Managing Director of Madcat World, received a Women Icons Malaysia 2019 Award on March 28, 2019. The Women Icons Malaysia Summit & Awards is a regional platform of Singapore’s Business Excellence & Research Group that celebrates and honors the accomplishments and contributions of women who have excelled in different spheres of life. The Women Icons have distinguished themselves as prominent citizens and displayed a strong resolve and capability to perform well.
in any field of endeavor. These women are role models for future generations and help to change society’s mindset.

“How to Handle Sanctions Relief With North Korea: When Donald Trump meets Kim Jong Un in Vietnam should he give North Korea what it wants – sanctions relief?” published in The Diplomat on February 25, 2019, was written by Troy Stangarone (USAPC 2008; Research 2019), while he was a POSCO visiting fellow at the East-West Center.

**Heera Vasandani** (Changing Faces 2018), CEO of SKV Group in Indonesia, was recently named one of the 99 Most Inspiring Women in Indonesia. GlobeAsia’s inaugural list of Indonesia’s 99 Most Inspiring Women lauds the achievements and stories of the inspirational women that shape Indonesia, but more importantly, highlights the inspirational impact of these women on the Indonesian psyche.

Changing Faces was instrumental in connecting 2016 participant, **Brianne West**, to various PR opportunities in New Zealand that enabled her to scale Ethique, her solid, beauty product microbusiness to a multimillion dollar SME with products sold worldwide via Amazon.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Sir Russell H. Betts**, PhD (Inst for Student Interchange, MA 1962-1964) passed away on March 3, 2019 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, at the age of 79. While working for RAND in Vietnam in 1966-67, he authored an early report on the grievous effects of chemical defoliants, which later helped Vietnam veterans claim compensation for the effects of Agent Orange. Betts dedicated his early career to international development in
Indonesia, working for over a decade for The Asia Foundation in both their Jakarta and San Francisco offices. He later served as the director of the World Wide Fund for Nature Indonesia Program. In 1996, Sir Russell H. Betts was knighted by Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands into the Order of the Golden Ark for his dedicated conservation work in Indonesia.

Flora Cameron Crichton, former member of the EWC Board of Governors, passed away in San Antonio, Texas on March 2, 2019 at the age of 94. She considered Honolulu a second home, and for more than five decades spent time in Hawai‘i with friends and family.

Florence Wat Lum, secretary in the Environment and Policy Institute in the late 1970s, passed away on January 25, 2019 at the age of 96.

Asrizal Luthfi (Education, MURP 2014-2016) passed away in early March in Aceh. EWC scholarship program coordinator Kim Small writes, “It is with a very heavy heart that my condolences go out to his wife and children, as well as to the larger Aceh community which has lost a talented son who had selflessly committed his life to improving theirs.”
Joseph Patrick O'Reilly (Environment & Policy, 1980, 1982) passed away on February 23, 2019. He was an Associate Professor in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; he worked as a CTAHR researcher, Fulbright Scholar, adjunct East-West Center Researcher, and USAID consultant, specializing in research methodology - how to design and carry out research projects that would provide valid and reliable data. Joe conducted research in 41 countries over 20 years and received numerous teaching awards including the UH Regent's Medal for Excellence in Teaching and the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Teaching Award of Merit. After he retired in 2001, Joe found a new teaching opportunity at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology at Coconut Island where he led community tours of the historical sites and current research of the island and helped to develop hands on displays for their Community Education Program.

CHAPTER NEWS

EWCA Asian Studies Development Program (ASDP) Chapter

The Asian Studies Development Program’s 25th National Conference Wellbeing in Asian Traditions of Thought and Practice on March 7-9 in Nashville, Tennessee was a resounding success! The conference hosted by regional center Belmont University began with a day tour of the Shōmu-en, Japanese Garden at Cheekwood, the Hindu Cultural Center and Sri Ganeha Temple, and the Chua Tinh Tam Buddhist Temple, followed by an evening reception and welcoming performance The Way of the Qin with musicians from the Center for Chinese Music and Culture at Middle Tennessee State University.

Conference attendees shared scholarship with each other on panels and workshops ranging from wellness, art, gender, history, identity, literature, pedagogy, and philosophy. View the conference program as well as conference pictures and video on the ASDP Alumni Association website.
EWCA Jakarta Chapter

On February 10, Dr. Satu Limaye, Vice President and Director of EWC in Washington visited Jakarta. The alumni group welcomed him with a High Tea afternoon at the Mandarin Hotel. In an hour and a half of fruitful discussion, Dr. Limaye was briefed on Jakarta’s recent political situation and he updated the group on the latest Washington and overall USA political atmosphere.

EWCA Kuala Lumpur Chapter

Chapter leaders were invited to a meeting of EWC Leadership Program Malaysian alumni with officials from the EWC on Saturday, 23rd March 2019 at Shangrila Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. Dr. Khanif, Dr. Gan and Datuk Saleh turned up to meet the alumni. The chapter hopes that all these new alumni will engage with the chapter and participate in future activities to help to promote the goals of EWC.
EWCA Mumbai Chapter

The EWCA Mumbai Chapter had an insightful visit to the 215-year-old Asiatic Society State Central Library. It was an amazing experience, as the library’s president, Mr. Sharad Kale, Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai and a Chapter member, showed members around the underground vaults and crypts that are off-limits to the usual visitor and where the painstaking and elaborate task of digitizing the Library’s 50,000 manuscripts and over 100,000 journals is being undertaken. The Town Hall which houses the Asiatic Society of Mumbai is a heritage building, located deep in the city’s historic Fort area, shaped by colonial geography, architecture, and sculpture. Built on the Bombay Green, it has an axial orientation and a west-facing view; a magnificent city vista spreads out in front from the top steps of the main entrance stairway.

EWCA Vientiane Chapter

After the successful planting of multicolored rainbow shower trees from Hawai’i in a public park in Vientiane, the capital of Laos, the chapter extended the project to Luangprabang province two years ago. As expected, these trees produced their beautiful multicolored flowers, just as they do in Vientiane. Now, in their local language, the Laotians call the rainbow shower trees the Hawaii Dock Koon.
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