LETTER FROM EWCA PRESIDENT AMANDA ELLIS

Aloha fellow Alumni!

I hope you are all making arrangements to come to the 60th anniversary of the Center in HONOLULU next June 30-July 2, 2020 and don’t forget to submit your fondest East-West Center memories.

As part of our alumni revitalization strategy, the Leadership Program is launching grants for Impact Labs that encourage collaboration across the generations. That was a theme of our latest graduation ceremony at the Center.

It was an honor—and very moving!—to welcome our latest cohort of alumni as graduates participated in the Ho’opuka (literally "passing through") ceremony at the Imin Conference Center on 2 May. Hawai’i Chapter president Carl Hefner was present, too, pictured here with native Hawaiian graduate Joshua Lelemia Irvine (Ph.D. in Civil & Environmental Engineering, 2013-2019), who set the record for the newest member of an alumni chapter, just seconds after the graduation ceremony! Congratulations, Lelemia, and Mahalo nui loa for "passing through" to the next phase of your EWC engagement. It’s so fulfilling to be able to share the EWC experience with others, and the support provided by alumni and chapters is so appreciated.

EWCPA President Layla Kilolu (MURP in Urban & Regional Planning, 2017-2019) beautifully moderated the graduation ceremony. Select students who have exhibited leadership skills and dedicated service to the EWCPA community were invited to share their East-West Center experience. View excerpts of the speeches by Dewi Setiani (MEd in Educational Foundations, 2017-2019), Takumi Aoki (MA in Second Language Studies, 2017-2019), and Tsolmontuya “Tsom” June 2019

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Altankhundaga (MPA in Public Administration, 2017-2019). Layla shared an amazing commemorative video she created with the help of Shayne Hasegawa, which also recorded some of the fun from this year’s East-West Fest (International Fair in our day).

I was delighted to connect with the Washington, D.C. Chapter last month and look forward to being with our Tokyo alumni in the margins of the G2 next month, where I am excited to moderate a panel in the Diet. Please contact Dr. Yasuo Hoshino, Chapter Leader of the EWCA Tokyo Chapter, if you will be in Tokyo on June 28 and are available to join the Tokyo alumni.

Warmest Aloha,
Amanda

EWC WELCOMES NEW VICE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

The East-West Center welcomes Ambassador Karena Lyons as the Center’s new Vice President and Executive Director of Research. She joined the Center on May 29 and will participate in the overall strategic and administrative leadership of the Center, as well as head the EWC research division.
and cross-departmental Pacific Islands Initiative. Before joining the Center, Lyons was New Zealand’s Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau, residing in Hawai‘i where she was Consul General to the State of Hawai‘i and envoy to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

EWC BIDS ALOHA TO ARCHITECT I.M. PEI

Internationally famed architect I.M. Pei, designer of a number of the East-West Center's original buildings passed away on May 16, 2019, at the age of 102. Pei designed Jefferson Hall, Hale Mānoa, Hale Kuahine, Lincoln Hall, and Kennedy Theatre in the early 1960s. EWC's distinctive Jefferson Hall in particular—now the home of its Hawai‘i Imin International Conference Center— is considered a prime example of the "brutalist" design style of the day. The building is on the Hawai‘i state Registry of Historic Places and is nominated for the national historic registry.

COUNTERING DISINFORMATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND OCEANIA (CDSEAO)

The Center has received a two-year award from the U.S. Department of State to engage young leaders, journalists, and policy influencers to build information networks, reliable sources and practical strategies for identifying and responding to disinformation throughout Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. Planned activities in the Countering Disinformation in Southeast Asia and Oceania Program include Pacific Islands and Southeast Asia journalism tours, Pacific Islands-U.S. regional maritime security dialogue, foresight exchanges for young leaders in the Philippines, and capacity building with partners in the region.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2019 Pacific Islands Journalism Reporting Tour. Application deadline: June 20, 2019. Please share this opportunity with your colleagues.
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR EWC LABS

The East-West Center Leadership Program is pleased to announce that funding is available to establish an EWC Innovation Lab. Building on the 2018 successes of seven new EWC Labs in Beijing, Istanbul, Makassar, Dhaka, Singapore, Auckland, and Yangon, Leadership Program alumni are invited to apply for US$5000 plus a supportive network to Founders, to establish or expand EWC Innovation Laboratories (EWC Labs) within their organizations or specifically-defined communities. The EWC Lab will scale the impact of an existing initiative.

This next round of funding seeks explicitly to establish connections between EWCA Chapters and EWC Labs to build a robust region-wide network, operating through locally-based alumni tuned in to their context and ready to respond with place-based interventions. Aligning the wisdom and networks of the established EWCA Chapter members with the generative energy of more recent Leadership Program alumni will strengthen both. The most successful partnerships between EWC Labs and EWCA Chapters will be showcased at the 60th Anniversary Conference in Honolulu June 30-July 2, 2020.

View the map and links to all EWC Labs. Please share the application with your colleagues; the deadline is June 15, 2019.

PACIFIC ISLANDS TOURISM PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Pacific Islands Development Program hosted 15 participants in the Pacific Islands Tourism Professional Fellows Program from April 22 through June 1. The program, funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, brings early and mid-career tourism industry professionals from the Pacific Islands to Hawai‘i and Washington, D.C. twice a year for leadership development, capacity building, and networking opportunities. Representing nine different Pacific Island countries, participants in the Spring 2019 cohort have a wide range of professional interests including historic preservation, hotel and restaurant management, creative arts, marketing, retail, business support services, and tour company entrepreneurship. In Hawai‘i, they were exposed to our world-class tourism industry through classroom discussions and visits with industry leaders and field trips to cultural and historical sites. They also built their knowledge and networks by spending four-weeks in a customized work placement at an appropriate organization,
agency, or business. The program wrapped up with several days in Washington, D.C. attending the Professional Fellows Congress that brought together nearly 300 fellows from around the world. Upon completion, not only did participants in the program become EWC alumni but they joined a vast and vibrant global network of International Exchange Alumni who have participated in U.S. Department of State programs and can benefit from funding and training opportunities in the future.

ALUMNI NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The former member of the East-West Center Board of Governors and East-West Center Foundation Board of Directors George Ariyoshi (Open Grants, 1987-1988), was recently inducted into the Aloha Order of Merit. He was Hawai‘i’s longest-serving governor and the first Asian-American to be elected governor of a US state or territory. House Concurrent Resolution 232, supported by 38 representatives, reads in part, “George Ryoichi Ariyoshi embodies the Aloha Spirit, actively demonstrating the values of akahai, lōkahi, ‘olu’olu, ha‘aha’a, and ahonui in his deeds and interactions with local, national, and international leaders in cross-cultural friendships.” He has also “contributed significantly to international relations during his term on the East-West Center Foundation Board of Directors”. The Aloha Order of Merit honors people who have achieved national or international recognition in their
field, contributed to the attainment of statehood, devoted themselves
to the betterment of Hawai‘i, embodying the concept of the Aloha
Spirit, or provided extraordinary service or brought honor to the state.

Sarosh Bana’s (Jefferson Fellowship 1990) article, “Exploiting an idyll
—the U.S., Indian and Japanese efforts to counterbalance China in
Sri Lanka” was published on May 17, 2019, by The Foreign Policy
Centre (FPC), the London-based think tank founded in 1998 by the
British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook that specializes in foreign
policy.

Detroit Free Press investigative reporter
Matthew Dolan (Jefferson Fellowship 2003)
has been selected as one of 27 Nieman
Fellows to begin two semesters of study at
Harvard University in the fall, followed by a
public service reporting project and
participation in specialized journalism
education. At Harvard, he will study
automation and the future of transportation,
investigating how increasing technological
disruption in the nation’s auto industry
impacts local communities. The Abrams Nieman Fellowship for Local
Investigative Journalism is funded by the Abrams Foundation to
bolster deeply reported local and regional news stories in
underserved communities throughout the United States.

Kathy E. Ferguson (Cultural Studies, 1994),
a professor in the Political Science and
Women’s Studies Departments at the
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, received the
Robert W. Clopton Award for Distinguished
Community Service. She is an internationally
renowned scholar and political theorist in
language and power. In her 25 years at UH
Mānoa, Ferguson has taken her study of
language in a direction grounded in
community-based multi-sensory instruction,
in the service of dyslexia and literacy in
Hawai‘i. She served on the Hawai‘i International Dyslexia Association
Board of Directors for 17 years, researched and published A
Resource Guide for People in Hawai‘i in 2008, and significantly
revised and expanded it in 2018. The award recognizes a UH Mānoa
faculty member for playing a socially significant role by applying
intellectual leadership and academic expertise to the improvement of the community.

**Stu Glauberman** (Communication, MA 1976-1978), Bob Jones, **Ambassador Charles B. Salmon, Jr.** (Senior Policy Seminar 2006, 2008, 2009) – a novelist, a journalist, and a diplomat interpret the Secret War in Laos – appeared on a panel moderated by Media Program manager **Susan Kreifels** (Jefferson Fellowship 1985) at the 2019 Hawai‘i Book & Music Festival in early May. Stu Glauberman wrote about his time in Laos in *Hustle the East* under the pen name Mark Tawen. Ambassador Salmon is a former U.S. ambassador to Laos and is currently an adjunct senior fellow at the East-West Center.

**Ramy Inocencio, Jr.** (APLP 2009-2010; Asia-Pacific Journalism Fellow 2019) joined CBS News in April 2019 and is the Asia correspondent based in Beijing, contributing to all broadcasts and platforms. Before joining CBS News, he was a New York-based anchor and correspondent for “Bloomberg Daybreak: Asia”, anchored for Bloomberg Radio, and launched two daily podcasts on U.S.-Asia Pacific economic and financial ties. Inocencio is a past chapter leader of the EWCA New York Chapter.

The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa associate professor and chair of the Department of Political Science **Noelani Goodyear Kaʻōpua** (Research, 2018) and Honolulu Community College assistant professor **Mark Sung Alapaki Luke** (Education, MA 2001-2003) received the Regents’ Medal for Excellence in Teaching. This distinction is awarded by the University of Hawai‘i Board of
Regents as a tribute to faculty members who exhibit an extraordinary level of subject mastery and scholarship, teaching effectiveness and creativity, and personal values that benefit students.

Noelani Goodyear Kaʻōpua grounds her practices in the principles of cooperative learning, ongoing assessment of herself and her students, place-based and service-learning approaches, and being globally-connected and indigenous-serving. Her model for the Nā Koʻokoʻo program has led to transformational experiences for students, providing opportunities for them to study social sciences through Kanaka Maoli perspectives, seamlessly weaving visual and written elements, intersecting multiple disciplines, and merging academic scholarship with community labor. Goodyear-Kaʻōpua also received the Dr. Amefil "Amy" Agbayani Faculty Diversity Enhancement Award from the UH Mānoa Commission on Inclusion and Diversity, which recognizes a faculty member who has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to diversity. She is an active leader in bringing diverse communities to the university and infusing Native Hawaiian values.

Students speak about Mark Sung Alapaki Luke's "extraordinary aloha," "unwavering dedication to higher education," and "vast knowledge of the Hawaiian culture." Colleagues respect him for his commitment to the campus community, as demonstrated in his sustained efforts to perpetuate the Hawaiian culture and empower Native Hawaiian students. His leadership and advocacy have been critical to the success of projects aimed at indigenizing the campus, including the creation of the AA degree in Hawaiian studies, the expansion of the Hawaiian Center, construction of the campus hale and the building of the māla.

It was an enjoyable experience for EWC student Tanya Harrison and Layla Kilolu (Education, MURP 2017-2019) to represent the EWC students' Finding Home album at the Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards. Tanya (left) and Layla (right) are pictured here with their recording engineer, Dave Tuccione. The Hoku Awards recognize outstanding achievements in Hawaiian music and are Hawaii's equivalent of the Grammy Awards. Finding Home was a finalist for the Best Compilation Album.
Kelema Lee Moses (Education, 2010-2011; Research 2018) is one of 10 recipients of a 2019 Getty Foundation/American Council of Learned Societies Postdoctoral Fellowship in the History of Art. Moses is an assistant professor of art and art history at Occidental College. Her teaching and research combine historical perspectives with discussions about critical contemporary issues related to the built environment of the United States and the Indo-Pacific region. She will use the 12-month, $65,000 fellowship to pursue her research and work on her book about the design of the Hawai'i state capitol building, *Island Modernism/Island Urbanism: Encountering Statehood in Honolulu, Hawai'i*.

Students and faculty at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University have chosen journalist Maria Ressa (International Media Conference 2012, 2014, 2018) as the 2018 recipient of the Tully Award for Free Speech, awarded to journalists who “faced significant turmoil” in the year prior. She was harassed, indicted and arrested while covering Filipino President Rodrigo Duterte. Ressa has received several other awards, including the Golden Pen of Freedom Award from the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers, the Journalist of Courage and Impact Award from the East-West Center and the Knight International Journalism Award from the International Center for Journalists.

Former POSCO visiting fellow Mason Richey’s (Research, 2015-2016) article, “The Tragic Irony of Donald Trump’s Foreign Policy” was published on March 21, 2019, by The Foreign Policy Centre. Richey is currently an associate professor of international politics at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, South Korea.
Inside Out: 15 Years of Exhibitions at the East-West Center Gallery features a retrospective of exceptional textiles, sculptures, paintings, folk art, ritual items, videos, and photographs from diverse cultural traditions throughout the region, reflecting gallery curator Michael Schuster’s interdisciplinary approach to presenting visual aspects of the region’s cultures, customs, art, geography, and social issues as a learning experience. Over the last decade and a half, he has curated more than 50 exhibitions highlighting living traditions in the Indo-Pacific region. His most important guiding principle has been the East-West Center’s core mission of creating understanding between the peoples of Asia, the Pacific, and the United States. Inside Out illuminates the more profound significance of both the objects on display and the process of curation itself.

Anupy Singla (Education, MA 1993-1996) received her first slow cooker from her mother as a freshman in college and became interested in expanding her culinary repertoire while working on a graduate degree in Asian studies at the East-West Center. From growing up in the ’70s and ’80s in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, embarrassed to watch her mother take rice yellowed from turmeric to a potluck, to living in an international dorm and being exposed to other students exploring their culinary roots, “It made me embrace who I was,” she says. “You can really express yourself through food.” The second edition of her cookbook, The Indian Slow Cooker: 70 Healthy, Easy, Authentic Recipes, published in 2018, debunks all kinds of Indian food myths and is an education in the flavors, ingredients, and tools that bring Indian cooking to life. For Singla, this cookbook serves two purposes: it helps busy home cooks easily prepare wholesome meals, and it preserves Indian culture for her children, who were photographed helping their mom in the kitchen for the cookbook.
Patricia Steinhoff (Research, 2000) is the recipient of the Peter V. Garrod Distinguished Graduate Mentoring Award. She has taught at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa since 1968, serving as director of the Center for Japanese Studies, graduate chair and department chair in the Sociology Department. She has mentored numerous Ph.D. and MA students and has served as chair on the majority of the committees. Steinhoff was the university representative for many students in geography, anthropology, political science, history, Japanese language and literature, and philosophy. Established by the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Graduate Division in 2005, the award allows graduate students to nominate faculty for excellent mentoring, one of the foundations of outstanding graduate education.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have hired natural resource professional Tammy Summers (Education, MS 2009-2010) as the new refuge manager for the Guam National Wildlife Refuge and superintendent for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, which includes both the Mariana Trench and the Mariana Arc of Fire National Wildlife Refuges. She will provide leadership for the conservation management activities on both the Refuge and in the Monument, continuing to support essential partnerships in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Summers has spent over ten years in the Mariana Archipelago working as a National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration affiliate studying sea turtles and, most recently, as a natural resource marine specialist for Naval Facilities Marianas.

The East-West Center’s Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments Program (Pacific RISA) hosted a conversation on climate change and the Pacific Islands on May 10, 2019, with His Excellency Anote Tong (PIDP, 1986, 2007), former president of Kiribati.

Tomohiro Yara (Education, 2007-2008), a freelance journalist, was elected Okinawa Prefecture congressman to the House of Representatives, filling the seat in the Lower House vacated by Denny Tamaki to run in the Okinawa gubernatorial election last year. The main campaign issue was the relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Ginowan to the Henoko district of Nago. Yara, as does Tamaki, opposes the controversial relocation of the U.S. military base within Okinawa.

IN MEMORIAM

Joakim “Jojo” Peter (PIDP 1991-1992; Education & Training, MA 1993) passed away on April 8, 2019, at the age of 54. An educator, scholar, and community organizer known for his hard work and humility, he dedicated his life to advocating for the rights of immigrants and people with disabilities. He fought negative stereotypes about Micronesians and advocated for equal access to health care, co-founding numerous organizations to help the Micronesian community in Hawai’i and beyond, including We Are Oceania, COFA-CAN, and COFA-CLAN. He served on the Hawai’i Civil Rights Commission, becoming the first citizen of a COFA nation to serve on any Hawai’i state board or commission.
Gayle Sueda passed away on April 2, 2019, at the age of 62. Originally from the Big Island, Gayle was a secretary at the East-West Center for nearly 30 years, from 1984-2013. She was conscientious and dedicated to the researchers whose work she supported.

CHAPTER NEWS

EWCA Chennai Chapter

The EWCA Chennai Chapter has organized many programs over the past 19 years in cooperation with many organizations, including the U.S. Consulate - Chennai, British Scholars Associations, Universities, Rotary Club, institutions, and the United Nations. The Chapter recently celebrated East-West Center Day during the visit of Christina Monroe, senior manager, Leadership Program. They discussed the Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP) plan of activities and agreed to support the APLP launch August 16-26, 2019 in Chennai, India. Contacts with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, U.S. Consulate General, and Government of Tamil Nadu have been initiated in cooperation with the Chennai Chapter.

L-R: Vasanthi Ranganathan, Christina Monroe, Roopa Nagarajan, S. Rajamani, P.M. Belliappa, P. Subramaniyam, Shreya Nagarajan Singh
130 alumni and friends attended the EWCA Hawai'i Chapter's annual fundraiser dinner at the Pacific Club on April 28, 2019. The Chapter honored former dean and interim director of the Education Program, Mary Hammond, as the recipient of the EWCA Hawai'i Chapter Outstanding Service Award. During her tenure as dean and interim director of the Education Program, she participated in the expansion of the number of funding streams and pathways to the student programs, including international funding partnerships, competitive grants, as well as scholarships made possible by generous individuals and alumni chapters; with each new funding stream and scholarship came competitive application cycles to identify deserving students who would bring positive impact to their communities in the years ahead.

Photos: Greg Knudsen

Through funds raised at this year's annual dinner, 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.
EWCA Singapore Chapter

In early January, the EWCA Singapore Chapter held a small send-off party for Basskaran Nair (Communication, MA 1977-1979) before he left on a special teaching assignment to Astana Kazakhstan at the Nazabayev University Graduate School of Public Policy where he has been sharing his expertise with the university faculty and students for five months. Individual chapter members have been active. While on academic leave from his doctoral studies at Wellington, Siva Gobal Thaiyalan (APLP 2015-2016) gave a talk on Photovoice at the Singapore University of Social Science (SUSS). A critique of society and politics through photographs and dialogue, Photovoice is a process which can be applied in multiple contexts like harnessing technology to effect personal and social change (https://photovoice.org/). George Jacobs (Open Grants, Ph.D. 1987-1991) chaired a Biodiversity symposium at the Botanics Garden on January 19. Members from the chapter supported him by taking part in this community-based project. The aim was to inculcate awareness of Singapore’s rich Biodiversity. The Singapore Chapter senior alumni are encouraged to stay connected to the community through volunteerism, especially to the disadvantaged members of society.

On March 9, Singapore Chapter president, Alice SENG Seok Hoon (Culture Learning, Ph.D. 1977-1982) and YAP Mui Teng (Population, 1978, 1981, 1984-1987) lent their support to the community service volunteer project known as WINGS, a nonprofit institution empowering women to embrace aging with confidence. Volunteers serve and impact a growing number of older women by educating them to take charge of their health, become self-reliant and financially independent.
EWCA Washington, D.C. Chapter

Thank you to outgoing Chapter Leader Jacob Dowd. Dr. Pavlos Anastasiadis has assumed leadership of the EWCA Washington, D.C. Chapter. He attended the East-West Center Board of Governors reception, where he had the opportunity to meet many of the Board members including Mr. Richard Turbin, other EWCA alumni, and staff members of the EWC office in Washington, D.C. Two significant areas of focus during his tenure will be: (i) climate change and its socioeconomic impact on the Asia-Pacific region and (ii) the role of female scientists in the Asia-Pacific region. Chapter accounts for Twitter and Facebook are underway. A list of active Chapter members is being compiled with the help of Noreen Tanouye. A large number of alumni who are residing in the D.C./Maryland/Virginia region have reached out and expressed interest in participating in the Chapter’s activities.
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