LETTER FROM EWCA PRESIDENT AMANDA ELLIS

Aloha Fellow Alumni,

EWC’s 60th anniversary year celebrations are well underway! We kicked off the year with an Alumni partnership event on [renewable energy](#) and continued with a #galswithLEI event on [women entrepreneurs with sustainable business models](#).
The Student Exchange, an EWC Education Program event series, is focusing on regeneration this semester. The Exchange recently hosted a great sustainability event with Australian guest speaker, Jennifer Nielsen of ekko.world, to share eco-lessons. We are working up to our 60th celebration theme which is so current, especially with the terrible fires in Australia. I’m just back from the World Economic Forum in Davos where I presented on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and participants ranked climate change-related risks the top five concerns.

As you know from earlier newsletters I was thrilled to help facilitate a generous donation from our wonderful EWCA Bangkok Chapter when they visited with Sustainability business leaders in August last year. I am now delighted to announce we will be making that money available to alumni who may need support to participate in the 60th anniversary conference here in Honolulu 30 June-2 July. The travel grant criteria and application form can be found online.

Our thoughts are with East-West Center alumni in China as they contend with the outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We urge all alumni, especially in Japan and Korea, to keep vigilant and heed the recommendations of public health officials as COVID-19 spreads outside of China.
Finally, end of year graduation and Ho'opuka was especially meaningful as my lovely host daughter Hayley “passed through” to alumni status.

Warmest Aloha,

Amanda

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### 2020 EWC/EWCA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN HONOLULU – PARTICIPANT LIST, ONE-DAY AND OTHER REGISTRATION OPTIONS, TRAVEL GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE

Curious to see who’s coming to the conference? Click on [Participant Listing](#) to see the names of those who have registered for the conference. Check the [Conference website](#) periodically for updated information.

If you are unable to attend the entire 3-day conference or would like to invite a guest to a particular meal event (welcome reception, awards luncheon, or aloha

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**Exchange** –

deadline: March 2, 2020

- **Philippines Foresight Workshop Series** –
deadline: March 6, 2020

- **Changing Faces Women’s Leadership Seminar**
deadline: March 12, 2020

- **Senior Journalists Seminar**
deadline: March 12, 2020

- **The U.S.-Philippines Alliance Fellowship**
deadline: March 20, 2020

**Registration is open!**

EWC/EWCA 60th Anniversary International
banquet), alternate one-day registration and individual meal event registration are now available.

As mentioned in Amanda Ellis’ letter above, limited financial assistance to participate in the 60th anniversary conference is now available to alumni from one of the following:

- Arts Program
- Professional Development Program – Asian Studies Development Program (ASDP), Seminars – Changing Faces (Women Entrepreneurs), Journalism Program (NOT including International Media Conference and Regional Journalist Dialogues), New Generation Seminar; Leadership Program – Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP), YSEALI/SUSI-Institute for Natural Resource Managers, Pacific Islands Leadership Program (PILP), North Pacific Women's Action Program, Impact XL
- Education Program – Graduate Degree Fellow, Affiliate, USSP, USTL, ADB, etc.
- Research Program – Pacific RISA Program, Environment, Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP), Population and Health
- East-West Center in Washington

Ten (10) travel grants of $600 each will be awarded. See the travel grant criteria and application form for more information. Deadline to apply is Monday, March 16, 2020.

The second edition of EWC Memories includes 18 new alumni profiles. See what friends and colleagues have to say about their East-West Center experience! If you haven’t already done so, submit your favorite EWC memory. The collection is continually being updated.

And don’t forget . . .

- Register online – $350 EWC Alumni Member registration fee until June 22, 2020.
- Check out 60 Years / 60 Facts for a series of 60 weekly items celebrating EWC’s 60th year.

EAST-WEST CENTER AGAIN RANKED 4TH AMONG GOVERNMENT-AFFILIATED THINK TANKS WORLDWIDE
The 2019 Global Go To Think Tank Index produced by the Think Tanks and Civil Society Program (TTCSP) at the University of Pennsylvania has again ranked the East-West Center #4 for best government-affiliated think tanks! See the full report.

EWC ALUMNI NAMED OBAMA FOUNDATION ASIA PACIFIC FELLOWS

200 emerging leaders from 33 nations and territories across the Asia-Pacific region met in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in December 2019 to kick off the Obama Foundation Leaders: Asia-Pacific Program, a one-year leadership development and community engagement program. Congratulations to the East-West Center alumni who were selected to participate in the five-day gathering of plenary sessions, intensive skill-building workshops, leadership development training, and a community service project – EWC student alumni: Julian Aguon (JD

**REFOCUSED PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (PIDP) LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE**

The East-West Center is rolling out a major update of the Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) with the launch of the program's new website at [PIDP.EastWestCenter.org](http://PIDP.EastWestCenter.org). Recent user surveys and strategy dialogues with Pacific Islands leaders and stakeholders have refocused priorities and new projects are being developed. In collaboration with a variety of research and programmatic activities throughout the Center, PIDP will focus on leadership training and capacity development, regional economic and policy analysis, use-inspired research on climate change impacts and mitigation, women's empowerment, journalism and professional exchange tours. PIDP is broadening relationships with governments and partner organizations in the Pacific and seeking to engage the Center's extensive alumni network in the region.
The East-West Center in Washington (EWCW) held a conference in Bangkok, Thailand, in partnership with the U.S. Department of State that convened stakeholders from across the Indo-Pacific region to share best practices and lessons learned on the cooperative development and management of transboundary rivers. The conference convened government officials, river basin experts from across the globe, and representatives of leading regional and international organizations, including those with expertise and investment in governance of the Mekong River flowing through mainland Southeast Asia.

EWCW, in partnership with the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines, is accepting applications for the U.S.-Philippines Alliance Fellowship from Filipino scholars and analysts who wish to conduct an analysis along the following themes: national security, international relations, and international trade and investment in the Indo-Pacific. Applicants must be nationals of the Philippines and eligible to receive a fellowship stipend and should be pursuing a Master’s degree, PhD, or already have a graduate degree. To facilitate this research and allow participants to engage with the resources and experts of the U.S. policy community in Washington, D.C., the fellowships will finance residencies for two fellows for a period of 2-3 months at EWCW. Applications are open until March 20, 2020.

EWC HOSTS REPORTING TOUR FOR THAI JOURNALISTS
The 2019 Indo-Pacific Regional Reporting Tour sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Thailand brought nine Thai journalists to Honolulu for a reporting tour on pertinent regional security issues involving the United States, Thailand, and other regional countries. The program consisted of multiple sessions dedicated to free discussion of major security issues of direct interest to both Thailand and the United States and the various national approaches to it.

EAST-WEST CENTER PARTICIPANT ASSOCIATION

The East-West Center Participant Association (EWCPA) is a platform for students to get involved with the community in different ways. It represents the student body by listening to concerns and advocating for needs and serves as a liaison between the student body and EWC staff. The Board plans social, educational, and community service events with a goal of relationship building and cross-cultural sharing. Under the leadership of president Kripa Bhagat, participants shared interdisciplinary research with graduate students from more than 25 countries at the International Graduate Student Conference on February 13-15, 2020 and are looking forward to an Intercultural Potluck in March, East-West Fest on April 5, and the Hoʻopuka (or “passing through”) on May 7. Tian Wang serves as the Alumni and Friends representative and is a liaison to the EWCA Executive Board and the EWCA Hawai’i Chapter.
Rochelle Almeida (ASDP 2004), 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.

Tsolmontuya (Tsom) Altankhundaga (Education, MPA 2017-2019) has been selected to attend the expert level meeting on Women, Peace and Security Agenda in Northeast Asia 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. 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.
Tiger’s Milk: In Search of Education and Empowerment in the Schools of West Bengal by Swati Bhattacharjee (Jefferson Fellowship 2006; International Media Conference 2016, 2018; South Asia Journalists Dialogue 2016, 2018) was recently published in Bengali by Pratikshan in Kolkata. Why are schools failing our children? This book is a collection of her articles as Swati Bhattacharjee visited schools in rural West Bengal, talking to teachers and parents, sitting in classes with the children and eating mid-day meals with them, to understand how schools function, why some teachers are more successful, and when children learn better.

Burning Money: The Material Spirit of the Chinese Lifeworld by the late C. Fred Blake (Communication, 1979; Culture & Communication, 1986), first published in 2011 by UH Press, has been translated into Chinese (simplified Chinese characters) by Jiangsu People’s Publishing House, a top academic publisher in China. This translation has received cross-disciplinary attention and inspired widespread academic discussion. It is recognized as one of the top-ranked books in several lists of academic works and has been acknowledged by some Chinese and Taiwanese anthropologists as a must-read on fold customs and religions.


The Films of Kore-eda Hirokazu: An Elemental Cinema by Linda Ehrlich (Culture & Communication, PhD 1984-1989) appears in Palgrave Macmillan’s East Asian Popular Culture series. Published in 2019, it is available as an ebook and in hardcover.
Ethan Epstein (Asia Pacific Journalism, Senior Journalists Seminar 2019) has been named *The Washington Times* editorial editor. He will work alongside Opinion Editor Charles Hurt in producing the Commentary section, which has been a forum for conservative ideas and a champion of conservative values for nearly four decades. Mr. Epstein has written extensively about business and economics issues, and was lead editor for a top business planning company, where he crafted plans for private enterprises seeking funding and strategic direction. A frequent commentator and analyst for media outlets such as Fox News, CNN and National Public Radio, he was an associate editor for *The Weekly Standard* and a freelance writer for a number of top national publications before joining *The Times* in November 2018. He has put his knowledge of Mandarin Chinese and Korean to good use with a special reporting focus on China and Asian affairs. He has reported from China, Taiwan, Japan, India and other Asian countries.

John Gilbert (Environment & Policy, 1979, 1980-1982, 1983, 1984; Environment, 1994) has published a memoir on his life and career in New Zealand and his overseas work and life experiences - *Every Day a Picnic in the Bush*. Two of the chapters cover the year that he spent with his wife and children in Honolulu at the East-West Center.

Soon to be published is *The Other Side of the Divide: A Journey into the Heart of Pakistan* by Sameer Arshad Khatlani (Senior Journalists Seminar 2015, South Asia Journalists Dialogue 2016, 2018; International Media Conference 2016, 2018), a journalist with the *Hindustan Times*. Based on vignettes, anecdotes, and historical accounts, Christophe Jaffrelot of King’s India Institute writes that “this book is more than a travelogue across the India-Pakistan border. It offers a comprehensive portrait of Pakistan, including the role of the army and religion.”
Baigali Ochkhuu (Changing Faces Women’s Leadership Seminar 2017), second from left in the photo above, has been appointed as one of the Vice Presidents of the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Kalpana Sankar (Changing Faces Women's Leadership Seminar 2009; Professional Development, 2017), second from the left in the photo above, is the managing trustee of Hand in Hand India. She was in Bahrain in February along with other previous winners of the Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Global Award for Women's Empowerment from the Kingdom of Bahrain to meet with Her Royal Highness, UN Women representatives, and members of the international award committee. She was the recipient of the independent champions category of the award in March 2019 for her contribution to women's empowerment in Afghanistan, South Africa, Brazil, and Cambodia since 2004. Through Hand in Hand India, she has empowered close to 4 million women with digital and financial inclusion. The specific project that received recognition was digital and financial literacy for women at Madhya Pradesh that broke traditional gender stereotypes by introducing women to digital transactions, instilling financial independence, and encouraging decision making. 28,571 women and 1,164 men in 13 districts in Madhya Pradesh were provided access to savings, credit and financial inclusion, enabling them to access various livelihood options based on their geographic area. In addition, the women were empowered as entrepreneurs when they received skill training so they could avail themselves of services from banking channels to support enterprise creation.
**Wall Street Journal** bestseller and **New York Times** Editors’ Choice *Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia*, by Christina Thompson (Open Grants, 1991-1992), is the winner of the 2019 NSW Premier’s General History Award, was shortlisted for and received a certificate of merit for the Maritime Media Awards, and was a finalist for Victorian Premier’s Awards and Queensland Literary Awards.

**IN MEMORIAM**

Rosita Gallega Galang (Institute for Student Interchange, MA 1966-1968) passed away on January 6, 2020 at her home in San Francisco, USA. She obtained her Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language at the University of Hawai‘i as an EWC grantee then completed a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the Ateneo de Manila University–Philippine Normal College Consortium on an Asia Foundation scholarship. She was immediately hired by the University of San Francisco (USF), taught for 30 years, and retired with the distinction of Emeritus Professor. Dr. Galang received numerous awards in education and served in leadership roles in various professional organizations including multiple terms as president of the National Association for Asian Pacific American Education (NAAPAE) and the California Association for Asian-Pacific Bilingual Education (CAFABE). She published many books and articles on the education of Filipinos and other language minority students in the Philippines and the United States. At the EWC, Rosita was well known for her academic achievements and attended the 1960s Alumni Reunion and the 50th Anniversary Conference. Her family and EWC alumni friends will miss her laughter, intellect, kindness, leadership, and service and will recognize and remember her by placing her name on the Alumni Wall of Honor.
Datuk Saleh Ghazali (Open Grants, BA 1968-1971) passed away in Kuala Lumpur on January 6, 2020. He served many years in the EWCA Kuala Lumpur Chapter as treasurer and also as president. In 1972, he began his career in the Fishery Development Authority of Malaysia as an economist and became a lecturer at the Universiti Institut Teknologi Mara in 1973. He was also a marketing executive in the Tourist Development Corporation of Malaysia, an assistant director in the Urban Development Authority, Malaysia, and assistant general manager in the investment department of the Armed Forces Provident Fund. He retired in November 1999 as Executive Director / Chief Executive Officer after 18 years at Bank Industri Malaysia Berhad (now known as Bank Perusahaan Kecil & Sederhana Malaysia Berhad). Most recently, he served on the Board of Directors of Fibon Group.

Dr. Rajendra Pachauri (Resource Systems 1981, 1982, 1983, 1987) passed away on February 13, 2020 at the age of 79. He chaired the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change from 2002 to 2015. In 2007, the UN panel and former vice president Al Gore were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize "for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about manmade climate change."

Siegfried Ramler (CTAPS 1995-1998), long-time Board member of the Friends of the East-West Center, passed away on January 19, 2020 at the age of 95. He was chairman of the language department, teaching French and German language and literature at Punahou School, the largest independent school in the United States. He was appointed Director of Instruction and founded Punahou's Wo International Center. As adjunct senior fellow in the Education Program at the East-West Center, he participated in Center initiatives dealing with challenges in educational structure and content in the Asia Pacific region.

Sig Ramler was an interrogator and simultaneous interpreter at the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials, where he helped pioneer simultaneous translation techniques. Invited by the City of Vienna and by a federation of interpreters and translators in Germany, he travelled to Europe for the 65th anniversary of the Nuremburg Trials and shared highlights and impressions at speaking engagements at various academic and community venues in Austria and Germany.

He was founder and past president of the Alliance Francaise of Hawai'i, past president of the Japan-American Society of Hawai'i, past president of the Hawai'i
branch of the American Association of the United Nations, and founding member and Vice Chair of the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation.

CHAPTER NEWS

EWCA Faisalabad Chapter

On 22 November 2019, the Faisalabad Chapter and Islamabad Lion Club arranged a tour to Multan, Uch Sharif, and Cholistan Desert and Bahawalpur City. Multan is mainly a city of saints who spread Islam and is also very famous for delicious “Multani Sohan Hawas”, a sweet dish. The group then went to “Uch Sharif”, a city of saints having about a thousand old graves with gigantic structures on them, some now under UNESCO care. The Drawar Fort situated in Cholistan Desert near the Indian Border is worth seeing. Its date of construction is not well known, but history shows that it was built on the river bank for water supply. The surrounding population mostly belongs to the Hindu religion and some Muslims. Bahawalpur City was the Capital of Bahawalpur state before the partition of India in 1947 when it was under British Rule. During partition the Ruler (The Raja of Bahawalpur state) opted to affiliate with Pakistan.

The Faisalabad Chapter has established an affiliation with the Islamabad City Lion Club, whose mission is very similar to EWC. Manual and financial assistance from the Lions Club will enhance chapter community activities. The two clubs jointly held a medical camp for the poor community. Individuals from surrounding areas were screened by medical doctors for TB, sugar, and hepatitis, and x rays were also taken. An astonishingly large crowd turned out for medical treatment. Free medicines were given to all, paid for by the Faisalabad Chapter and Lion Club members.

EWCA Mumbai Chapter

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.

EWCA Pan-Pacific Chapter

The Pan-Pacific Chapter founding group had their first virtual meeting following the formal recognition of the group in July. Chapter President ‘Ofena Manuel-Barbarich, who is based in New Zealand, and members from Samoa, Fiji, and Saipan, 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. Email panpacificewc@gmail.com for any other queries including joining the Chapter.

Year-End Gatherings

Several Chapters gathered to celebrate the holiday season. The EWCA APLP Chapter held its latest Pau Hana in early November.

The EWCA Kansai Chapter held a board meeting at Kyoto Sangyo University (pictured above) to plan Chapter activities and their upcoming general meeting in spring 2020.

The EWCA Brisbane Chapter held its last meeting of 2019 in November at the home of Iraphne Childs and Ralph Carlisle, attended by 6 Brisbane-based members pictured above. The Chapter membership is made up of Brisbane-based members and Interstate members who live in Australia outside of Brisbane—currently Melbourne, Sydney, and Canberra. The Brisbane-based members offer hospitality to Interstate members when they are in town. Reciprocally, during a visit in early November to Canberra, Iraphne and Ralph were delighted to catch
up and have dinner at the home of Martina McGinn and husband Petro.

With representation from each decade from the ‘60s to the 2000s, the EWCA New York Chapter met in mid-December at The Best Sichuan Restaurant (actual name). Ramy Inocencio, former leader of the New York Chapter and currently Asia correspondent for CBS News, was the guest speaker. He discussed his coverage of the protests in Hong Kong, the outlook for Hong Kong, coverage of the volcano eruption in New Zealand, and other issues.

Warmest Aloha for the holiday season from the EWCA Seoul Chapter, wishing everyone a happy and merry winter holidays as well as another great new year! The Chapter held its usual 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. The 60th birthday of EWC means a lot and it is a great cause to celebrate!

The EWCA Singapore Chapter held a simple congratulatory tea for Siva Gopal Thiyalan who successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at the University of Wellington in New Zealand. He will be sharing his research at the next Chapter gather in January.

Aloha and Mele Kalikimaka from the EWCA Southern California Chapter (pictured above) as they held their holiday party in mid-December. The group welcomed newcomers Lily Lee Chen, former member of the EWC Board of Governors and Mayor Emeritus of the City of Monterey Park; Clare, an ethnomusicology professor from Malaysia on sabbatical at UCLA; Simi Singh, a librarian; and Cheryl Tsuyuki, her husband Nate Sovatha, and their baby.

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