

East-West Center

Alumni news

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A NOTE FROM EWCA PRESIDENT DR. NED SHULTZ



Aloha Kakou,

After nearly 58 years of producing outstanding results, the East-West Center remains a dynamic, global institution. For those of you in the far distant corners of Asia and the Pacific, all you need do is

return to Mānoa to sense the excitement for and commitment to the Center and its goals. Our own student alum and new EWC President Richard Vulysteke is bringing new energy and vision to the Center as it embraces the challenges of the 21st century. In the pages that follow, you'll read recent highlights from the

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About Us

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

Center from our students, staff, and alumni. In early December, the Center held its fall Ho'opuka (passing through a window), recognizing our most recent graduates and their successes. The accomplishments of each individual reflect well on what the Center has and will continue to achieve in scholarship, research, and professional development. How can we not be excited by our distinguished past and our global vision for the future?

Happy Holidays,

Ned

JANUARY DEADLINES FOR NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Deadline for Nominations for EWC/EWCA Alumni Awards – Deadline January 15, 2018

The EWC/EWCA honors its Alumni, Chapters and Volunteers with the **Distinguished Alumni, Outstanding Volunteer, Outstanding Chapter, and 21st Century Outstanding Service Awards**. They will be presented at the upcoming EWC/EWCA International Conference in Seoul, South Korea, in August 2018. Nominations are now being accepted for these awards. Please be sure to submit your nominations by **January 15, 2018** to the EWC Associations Office at alumni@eastwestcenter.org. More information about the awards and criteria can be found at [EWCA Honors and Awards](#).

Applications for Asia Studies Fellowships – Deadline January 2, 2018

Applications are due by Jan. 2nd for EWC in Washington's [Asia Studies Fellowship](#), which finances DC residencies of at least three months for scholars and analysts who wish to undertake research and writing on topics of relevance to contemporary US-Asia policy.

FIJI ALUMNI WELCOMES RICHARD VUYLSTEKE

Fiji alumni gathered for dinner with EWC President

Richard Vuylsteke in Suva in early November. Over dinner at Café 30, alumni from the [Pacific Islands Leadership Program \(with Taiwan\)](#) and [other EWC programs](#) talked about their experiences at the East-West Center and beyond.



Back row (left to right): Lavenia Naivalurua (PILP G5), Andra Whiteside (PILP G5), Akisi Bolabola (PILP G1), Rosie Catherine (PILP G3), Amini Delaisainiai (PILP G3), Taito Damuni (PILP G3), and Sefanaia Tudonu (PILP G2)

Front row (left to right): Gerry, Mamta Chand (PILP G4), Richard, Agatha Furivai (Women in Leadership G2), and Rineesha Mahadeo (PILP G5)

ASIA PACIFIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (APLP) ALUMNI PLAN NEW INITIATIVE



In late July, 15 Asia Pacific Leadership Program alumni met in Bangkok to renew ties to the program, refresh their knowledge of leadership concepts and launch a new initiative. The participants from varied nations, professions and age groups represented eight different APLP cohorts.

The gathering, called Alumni One, helped to develop new cross-cohort links and renew practical application of APLP teachings, and explored how new fiscal opportunities might be developed for EWC. An Alumni

Two meeting is being planned. APLP alumni who want to get involved should contact Scott MacLeod (MacLeodS@EastWestCenter.org) or Saw Thinn (thinns@eastwestcenter.org).

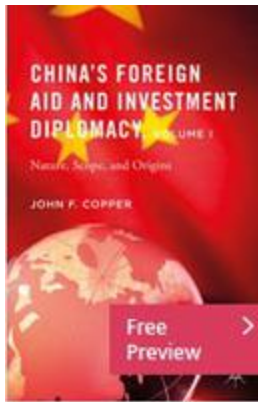
HUMANS OF EAST-WEST CENTER



View stories and photos by and from East-West Center students on the [Humans of East-West Center](#) Facebook page. Inspired by Humans of New York, it is updated biweekly.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Ambika P. Adhikari (Open Grants 1978-80) is currently working at City of Tempe, Arizona as Principal Planner, heading the City's long range planning efforts. Until the end of 2016, Ambika worked as a portfolio and program manager at the Office of Knowledge Enterprise Development at Arizona State University (ASU) implementing USAID-funded clean energy programs in 16 countries. Ambika is also a Sr. Sustainability Scientist (a honorary position) at the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability at ASU.



John F. Copper (Institute for Student Interchange, MA, 1962-64) and EWC Board of Governors 1983-89, published a three volume book on [China's Foreign Aid and Investment Diplomacy](#).

John Diaz, alumnus from the Pakistan-US Journalists Exchange in 2012, wrote an article in the San Francisco Chronicle titled [America's Fraught Alliance with Pakistan](#), inspired by an EWC program he participated in five years ago.

Margaret J. King, PhD (Culture Learning 1972, 1976-77, Communication Institute 1973-76), Director of Cultural Studies & Analysis in Philadelphia, has been honored as author of one of the Ten Best articles published by the Journal of Popular Culture over its 50-year history. King's [Disneyland and Walt Disney World: Traditional Values in Futuristic Form](#) helped to inspire the first generation of Experience Design for public spaces worldwide, and focused intellectual attention on theme parks as artworks and design sources. The JPC 50th Anniversary issue will be published in December.



2012 Jefferson Fellow, **Audrey Jiajia Li**, is the 2017 International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF) Elizabeth Neuffer Fellow. Audrey Jiajia Li is a freelance columnist and independent filmmaker based in Guangzhou, China. Li has built an online audience for her critical, social justice-oriented commentary. She is prominent on social media with more than

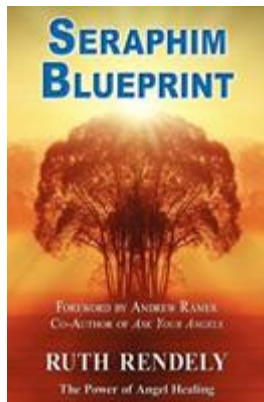
720,000 followers on weibo, China's Twitter-like micro-blogging platform.



A Lifetime Achievement Award has been conferred on **Dr. Santiago Obien** (Inst. for Student Interchange 1961-68), a member of the Philippines

EWCA chapter, by the Asia Pacific Weed Science Society (APWSS) during its 50th anniversary conference held at Kyoto Research Park in September and attended by 450 delegates from 25 countries. APWSS was organized in Honolulu and Kauai after the conclusion of the EWC-UH sponsored Asia Pacific Weed Control Technical Interchange Conference on 12-22 June 1967.

University of Hawai'i at Hilo senior **Josefina Pereira** (Education Program 2014-17), who hails from Timor-Leste, applied for and was selected to represent her homeland as a Youth Delegate at the 14th Annual International Human Rights Summit held in August at the United Nations headquarters in New York. Pereira is majoring in administration of justice. In 2014, she was awarded a four-year bachelor degree scholarship by the United States Timor-Leste Scholarship Program (USTL) which is funded by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by the East-West Center. [Read more...](#)



Ruth Rendely (Inst. for Student Interchange 1965-68) authored two books in four languages. One is titled [Seraphim Blueprint: The Power of Angel Healing](#).



Former EWC artist-in-residence (1989) **Reihana Robinson** (pictured here with grandson Ngahere Wafer) is out with a new book that “explodes the carefully cultivated

myth of New Zealand as the ‘Clean and Green’ paradise of the South Pacific,” she says. In [The Killing Nation: New Zealand's State-Sponsored Addiction to Poison 1080](#), Robinson chronicles the fight by environmentalists, animal welfare advocates, and members of the scientific community against the use of poison as an environmental “control.”

New Zealand’s Royal Society has recognized EWC alumna **Ngahuia Te Awekotuku** for her outstanding service to humanities, for “blazing a path for indigenous culture, heritage and feminist scholarship,” according to the *New Zealand Herald*. She was a participant in the Culture Learning Institute and other programs between 1975 and 1983. According to the Herald, she has served as Waikato Museum’s Curator of Ethnology, lectured at Auckland and held professorships at Victoria and Waikato Universities; presently as Waikato's Professor of Maori Research and Development.

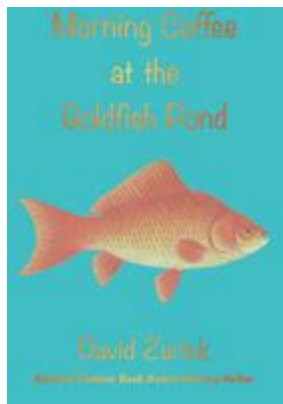


Teacher, artist, and museum educator **Margo Vitarelli** (Open Grants 1980-82) followed her father, William, to the EWC (he was a senior specialist in 1969-70, after

moving his family from Palau to Honolulu). Last year Margo’s son Keobel (“KB”) Sakuma, visited the Center for the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders, traveling with his boss, Tommy Remengesau, President of the Republic of Palau. Margo now proudly reports that KB has received the IUCN’s 2017 *Kenton Miller Award for Innovation in Protected Area Management*, representing the team who developed and established the Palau

National Marine Sanctuary Act, which created the world's sixth largest Marine Protected Area (MPA) under the leadership of President Remengasau.

In July, **Angela F.L. Wong** (Open Grants, MEd, 1982-84) was recognized as one of 50 distinguished alumni by the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Department of Learning Design and Technology. Celebrating its 50th anniversary, the department honored those who have contributed to the field through professional excellence, inspirational leadership, or innovative service benefiting their communities.



David Zurick (Resource Systems Institute, PhD, 1982-86) authored a new book *Morning Coffee at the Goldfish Pond: Seeing a World in the Garden*. (Shanti Arts Publishing, October 2017).

IN MEMORIAM

C. Fred Blake (Communication Institute 1979, Culture and Communication 1986) passed away in April. He made significant contributions to the East-West Center. He mentored and hosted many students from the U.S., China, Taiwan, and Vietnam among other places. He received a Certificate of Appreciation in the spring of 2016 from the East-West Center in recognition of "his valuable contributions to the East-West Center Associate Mentoring Program." Where does quote start?

Willie Chan (Institute for Student Interchange, MA, 1964-66), long-time manager for Jackie Chan and other Hong Kong entertainers, died at 76. [Read more...](#)

Professor **Robert C. Kiste** of the University of Hawai'i and an adjunct fellow in the EWC Pacific Islands Development Program passed away in early December in Honolulu at the age of 81. His UH colleague Terence Wesley-Smith reports Kiste "was largely responsible for building Pacific Islands Studies on the UH campus into what it is today. He was widely recognized for his scholarship on the Pacific Islands, with a special focus

on the impact of nuclear testing on the people of Bikini Atoll, and well known and liked throughout the region. Bob was a friend and mentor to many of us and will be sorely missed.”

Former Director of the Communications Institute **Jack Lyle** has passed, his wife Cheryl reports, noting that it was “a very short illness and he was where he loved to be,” in New Hampshire. Cheryl is hoping the EWC network can help her connect with Vera Hong, who is living with her daughter Ceseli.

Harold Joseph "Harry" Wray, age 86 of Duluth, passed away on August 21, 2017. Dr. Wray was born in Spalding, NE and was a retired college professor. He was a participant in EWC’s Teacher Interchange Program (TIP) 1962-63 and was on award from 1966-67 to work on his PhD.

CHAPTER NEWS

Dr. Satu Limaye, the Director of East-West Center in Washington, visited the Tokyo, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur Chapters while on travel in September and October.



Singapore Chapter leader, Dr. Alice Seok-Hoon Seng (pictured here) and members of the Chapter attended the Asean Studies Centre Seminar where Dr. Limaye gave a presentation titled “The United States and Southeast Asia Under the Trump Administration.”



In Tokyo, he joined six chapter board members for dinner and filled them in on the DC Office's substantive congressionally focused work.



Satu with members of the Kuala Lumpur Chapter

Philippines Chapter - In October, the Philippines Chapter, in partnership with the Office of the Governor of Ilocos Norte, Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU), US Embassy Consular Section and Philippine American Educational Foundation, organized a conference at the MMSU and the Provincial Capitol of Ilocos Norte with a theme, "The Fil-Am Ties that Bind: Business and Investment Opportunities Amidst the Changing Climate."

Discussions focused on how to improve the business climate to encourage investments by Filipino migrants, especially Ilocanos, both in the Philippines and in the United States.



Ilocos Norte Governor Imee Marcos and Provincial Board Member Nonong Marcos with EWCAA Philippines Chapter Members and Guest Speakers

Seoul Chapter – EWCA President Ned Shultz and EWC Alumni Coordinator Noreen Tanouye met with the Seoul Chapter Planning Committee to work on the program and logistics for the conference. Registration and submission for abstracts are now open! [More information about the conference](#)



Southern California Chapter - The chapter conducted a campaign to raise funds for the EWCA Alumni Endowment Fund, asking members to reflect on” the benefits they received at the East-West Center and make a small gesture of goodwill to pay back.” Over \$1,000 was raised. In October, more than 25 chapter participants gathered at the home of Gary and Bach Mai Larsen. Chapter Treasurer Jay Brara had just returned from another world-exploring adventure, this time to the Galapagos Islands and Machu Picchu. Dr. Mona Khanna had just returned from Puerto Rico where she assisted with medical care after the hurricane. Retired Kaiser surgeon Dr. Dennis Richmond came with his son Dr. Michael Richmond, on leave from his post at the US Embassy in Mongolia. Terry Ansur shared her travel blog, [Strangers in the Living Room](#).



Tokyo Chapter – Alumni members from 1963-65 and 64-66 held a gathering on August 30th.

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