



ALUMNI E-NEWS - SEPTEMBER 2014

Strengthening the EWC Community

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EWCA TO HONOR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AT OKINAWA CONFERENCE



The East-West Center Association has announced that 2014 Distinguished Alumni **Hiroimitsu Miyagi** and **Puonngpun** and **Thanh-Lo Sananikone** will be honored at a special luncheon during the Center's upcoming [international alumni conference](#) in Okinawa Sept. 17-19, along with Outstanding Volunteers **Sumi Makey**, **Bob Nakasone** and **Larry Smith**, and Outstanding Alumni Chapter **Lahore, Pakistan**. ...[more](#)...

Among the latest conference news:

- A detailed [schedule](#) of the conference sessions is now available online.
- More than 300 people have registered for the conference so far. Click to see a [list](#) of who's coming.
- As part of the conference opening ceremony, EWC President Charles E. Morrison will be awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the University of the Ryukyus. President Morrison will also deliver the conference keynote address.

EAST-WEST CENTER WELCOMES 128 NEW STUDENT FELLOWS



Last month, EWC welcomed 128 new student fellows from more than 41 countries and territories. For the first time in the Center's history, students from Oceania comprise the largest percentage of incoming EWC student participants, thanks to the establishment of the Pacific Islands Leadership Program and several other new programs geared toward Pacific Islanders. Students also hail from the U.S., most countries in Asia, and as far away as Italy and Zambia. ...[more](#)...

KERRY REAFFIRMS 'AMBITIOUS AGENDA' OF U.S. ENGAGEMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



Outlining what he termed the United States' "ambitious agenda" of long-term engagement in Asia and the Pacific, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said yesterday in a policy [speech](#) at the East-West Center in Honolulu that complex challenges such as climate change and maritime territorial disputes can be transformed into opportunities for such advances as clean energy development and regional cooperation. ...[more](#)...

CONNECT WITH EWC AND FELLOW ALUMNI VIA LINKEDIN



If you're a user of the popular professional networking site LinkedIn, there are now several exciting ways you can use the service to connect with the Center and fellow EWC alumni around the world.

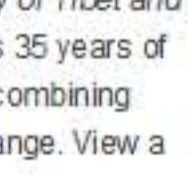
- New! — you can now add the East-West Center as a "school" affiliation in the Education section of your LinkedIn profile. The EWC logo will then appear there, more clearly identifying you as an EWC participant or alum, and you will be able to access the Students & Alumni tool on the newly created [EWC higher education page](#) - a terrific way to find and connect with other EWC alumni in your profession, geographical area and more.
- You can join the private [EWC Alumni and Community Group](#) for a more personal connection. Once your alumni status is verified and you're accepted to the group, you can share messages and start discussions with other alumni, including job openings, professional achievements, EWCA chapter information and lots more.
- You can follow the [EWC company page](#) to see the latest Center news and announcement postings in your LinkedIn newsfeed.

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2015 GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AT EWC

The application period is now open for graduate study and scholarship opportunities at EWC. Applications for most programs are due by Nov. 3 for admission in the Spring 2015 semester. Click [here](#) for more information, and please share this announcement with any friends and colleagues who may be interested.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

A few years ago, EWC alumnus and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **Alan C. Miller** (CI 1976-78) left the *Los Angeles Times* to establish the [News Literacy Project](#), an innovative national program through which educators and seasoned journalists help teach middle- and high-school students how to evaluate the reliability of news and information in the digital age. [Click here](#) to listen to Alan and others discussing digital news literacy on NPR's Diane Rehms Show.



In his new photography book, *Land of Pure Vision: The Sacred Geography of Tibet and the Himalaya*, EWC alumnus **David Zurick** (RSI 1982-86) draws from his 35 years of experience as a geographer, photographer and explorer of the Himalaya, combining scholarship and art to capture divine landscapes undergoing profound change. View a [video trailer](#) about the book.

Australian alum **Stephen Bochner** (ISI 1963-65) and his wife Sandra have written a book on canal travel in the UK, titled *Slow Boating in Britain*, which reflects their life-long love affair with all things nautical, as well as being shaped by their day jobs as social science academics. To purchase a copy of the book, or for more information, email Stephen at s.bochner@unsw.edu.au.



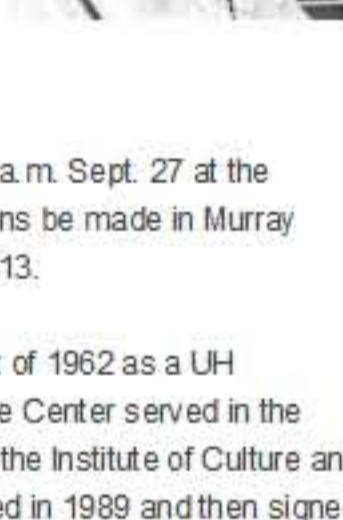
2003 media program alumna **Heidi Chang**'s National Public Radio story on Hawaii jazz legend Gabe Baltazar has been honored with the top audio award in the First Annual Freelancers Journalism Contest sponsored by the Pacific Media Workers Guild. You can hear "If It Swings: An Asian-American Jazz man's Pioneering Career" [here](#).

Northern California EWCA Chapter Leader **Barbara Bornet Stumph** (ISI 1965-66) has been studying Chinese ink painting and calligraphy for more than four decades. Read a recent [reflection](#) she wrote after viewing a Chinese contemporary art exhibition at the Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall in San Francisco.

IN MEMORIAM

The East-West Center community is saddened by the recent passing of the Center's first leader, **Murray Turnbull**, and longtime arts and exhibits coordinator **Jeanette "Benji" Bennington**.

"Murray Turnbull was the father of the concept of bringing the young people of the Asia Pacific region together, and the East-West Center was established because of him," said EWC President Charles E. Morrison. "And Benji was an incredible, invaluable resource during her decades of service at the Center. She embodied the EWC spirit, and her legacy remains with us all."



Art professor Murray Turnbull was acting dean of the UH Manoa College of Arts and Sciences when he first proposed the idea of an international education center in 1959, which led to the establishment of the EWC. He served as the Center's first interim director and then acting chancellor from 1959 to early 1962.

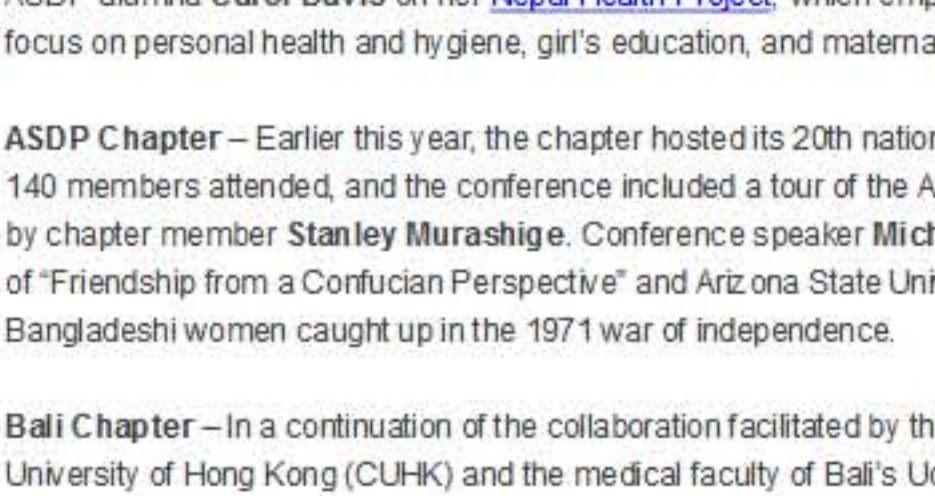
Turnbull passed away on Aug. 22 at the age of 95. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Sept. 27 at the UH-Manoa Art Department Auditorium. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Murray Turnbull's name to: Friends of the Library of Hawaii, 690 Pohukaina St., Honolulu, HI 96813.



Benji Bennington joined the Center's Housing Office in August of 1962 as a UH master's degree student, and during her four decades with the Center served in the Public Affairs and Alumni offices and as Exhibits Specialist in the Institute of Culture and Communications and the Office of External Affairs. She retired in 1989 and then signed on as communications to the Arts Program. In 2004 she retired again with the unofficial title of "East-West Center Historian."

Bennington passed away on Aug. 30 in Minnesota, where she had been living near family. A memorial service is planned at EWC on Oct. 18 at 4 p.m., with a simultaneous "world wide wake." Visit a [memorial website](#) for her to read or post remembrances and photos.

EWCA CHAPTERS



Southern California Chapter — In mid-July, 32 chapter members and guests gathered for a presentation by ASDP alumna **Carol Davis** on her [Nepal Health Project](#), which employs street theater and school workshops to focus on personal health and hygiene, girl's education, and maternal mortality in rural Nepal.

ASDP Chapter — Earlier this year, the chapter hosted its 20th national conference in Houston, Texas. More than 140 members attended, and the conference included a tour of the Asia Center in Houston. The theme of the conference was "Friendship from a Confucian Perspective" and Arizona State University's **Yasmin Saikia** shared stories of Bangladeshi women caught up in the 1971 war of independence.

Bali Chapter — In a continuation of the collaboration facilitated by the chapter last year between the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) and the medical faculty of Bali's Udayana University, four students and a professor from CUHK visited Bali in June to study public health at the island's community health centers. The overall goal of this collaboration is to build mutual understanding on public health practices across cultures. Bali chapter president **Anak Agung Gde Muninjaya** will visit CUHK en route to the Okinawa alumni conference to explore expanding the relationship to include joint research and staff exchanges.

Faisalabad Chapter — As a community outreach activity, chapter leader **Muhammad Ibrahim** has initiated a free Farmers Advisory Service in high-elevation areas. Topics shared with the farmers include best practices on what to plant, how to plant, fertilizer to use and efficient use of limited irrigation water.

Nepal Chapter — In recent months, chapter members participated in three special events: a Fulbright talk presented by **Maneesha Madduri** of Stanford University on "Feasibility of Grid-Connected Solar Photovoltaic System in Kathmandu"; a celebration of the Annual Fulbright Day hosted by U.S. Ambassador **Peter Bodde**; and a talk on "Agricultural Research, Teaching and Outreach in Nepal."

Okinawa Chapter — Chapter Leader **Keiko Yamazato** writes that the chapter is "excited to welcome attendees from every corner of the world" at the upcoming EWC/EWCA International Conference Sept. 17-19. Positive local outcomes of the conference have already included a better appreciation by area officials of the important contributions of EWC alumni to Okinawan society and an outpouring of support from other EWCA members in Japan.

Singapore Chapter — This spring, 10 children from the My World Preschool enjoyed an experiential nature journey to several botanical gardens in a community service project sponsored by chapter alumna **Thai Gek Ching**. The goal of this project was to generate awareness of the green environment in an urban city space.

Tokyo Chapter — In June, chapter members enjoyed the stage production of director **Yoko Sakai**'s Japanese version of *The Odd Couple*. Sakai joined the group for dinner afterwards along with UH Alumni Association of Japan President **Timothy Ondo** and Vice President **Chie Hashimoto** (APLP 2006).

EWC AND EWCA ONLINE NETWORKS

The East-West Center and the EWCA maintain four main online networks to keep Alumni, Associates and Friends of the East-West Center communicating with each other. Join our Online Networks at:

[Facebook](#)
[EWC Alumni and Community Facebook Page](#)

[LinkedIn](#)
[EWCA Alumni and Community LinkedIn Group](#)

[East-West Center Community](#)
[East-West Center Community](#)

[Twitter](#)
[EWC Twitter Account](#)

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