We were honored that President Obama and his family ushered in 2012 at the East-West Center on January 1, when they visited an exhibition on anthropological work his mother did in Indonesia as an EWC grantee in the 1970s. The President also visited the beautiful Japanese garden, where he told his children he had played as a youth.

During the year, the Center conducted an alumni conference in Beijing and an international media conference in Seoul; launched a new Brunei-U.S. initiative for English language training in ASEAN; led election-monitoring teams in Timor Leste and Papua New Guinea; published significant reports on the Trans-Pacific Partnership and climate change in the Pacific, joined then Secretary Hillary Clinton at a meeting for Pacific Island women leaders in Rarotonga, and helped host the Dalai Lama for a special discussion with Native Hawaiian leaders.

The Center also mourned the loss of former EWC President Everett Kleinjans and Senator Daniel K. Inouye, a tireless champion in Congress for the Center, public diplomacy and the Asia Pacific region.

In 2013, we will continue a vigorous schedule of activities even as the Center repositions its programs. We will launch new leadership programs for the Pacific islands, Malaysia and Burma, maintain a busy roster of journalist and teacher exchanges, and issue a new report on how India and the U.S. matter to each other, among many other activities focused on helping people from the Asia Pacific region and the United States better understand each other, the issues they face in common and how they can be addressed.

The Board of Governors and the staff of the East-West Center are committed to the Center’s future and its important mission. Our deepest thanks to all of you who are part of our journey. Mahalo.
The East-West Center and the East-West Center Alumni Association hosted an international conference of scholars, officials, educators, and business leaders in Beijing, September 1-3. Some 300 participants from 25 areas spanning Asia, the Pacific, and the U.S. gathered at Peking University to address issues ranging from education, economics, health, and the environment to international relations, including collaborative efforts to develop common solutions.

Panelists at the EWC/EWCA International Conference addressed issues facing the region including China’s role and the changing role of women.

2012 EWC International Conference Highlights

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U.S. Ambassador to China Gary Locke spoke of ways the U.S. and China are working together “to expand our cooperation and address global challenges,” in his keynote address.
Brunei-U.S. English Language Enrichment Project for ASEAN

Teacher-trainers, officials, and diplomats from nine Association of Southeast Asian Nations member countries attended a month-long intensive English-language education training workshop at the East-West Center under the new Brunei-U.S. English Language Enrichment Program for ASEAN. The five-year project to strengthen ASEAN’s integration and global engagement by raising the level of English language skills in ASEAN countries is funded by the government of Brunei and managed by EWC and Universiti Brunei Darussalam with guidance from the U.S. Department of State and Brunei’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
At the EWC International Media Conference in South Korea, Burmese journalists discussed the changing media landscape in the Southeast Asian nation, including the use of social media and how citizen journalists use the social network to publish their reports. Several hundred journalists and media experts from more than 100 news organizations in 25 countries gathered at Yonsei University in Seoul to hear how the new media is shaping journalism in Asia and the Pacific.

Journalists from Asia visited Florida, Ohio, and Washington, D.C. to gain perspectives on the American electoral system and the key issues in the presidential campaign as participants in the Center’s first U.S. Presidential Election Reporting Seminar. Immediately after the election, the journalists engaged in discussions with experts and policy analysts on how the election results might impact U.S. foreign policy around the world. Also, for the first time, the Center’s Pacific Islands Development Program hosted election officials and journalists from Pacific Islands to provide first-hand knowledge and experience of America’s electoral process.

Launch of Websites and Publications

An updated, interactive website at PacificRISA.org, produced by researchers at the East-West Center and other partner organizations, serves as a hub of media, publications, and tools on climate knowledge for Hawai‘i and the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands. Users can explore current data on climate change, including projections, modeling, disaster risk assessment, and analysis. 

FY 2012 EWC Student Fellows (by region)

- Southeast Asia 146 | 30%
- East Asia 135 | 27%
- United States 93 | 19%
- South Asia 55 | 11%
- Pacific 33 | 7%
- Other 30 | 6%

492 student fellows from 59 countries and territories participated in EWC undergraduate and graduate training and scholarship programs in FY 2012
Significant Events

Robert Blake, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, discussed recent developments in South Asia, including progress on India-Pakistan relations and the impact on the war in Afghanistan, at a public seminar at EWC. EastWestCenter.org/iar

Nirupama Rao, Ambassador of India to the U.S., spoke of the relationship between the two nations as an evolving multi-dimensional strategic partnership, in a speech at the Center. EastWestCenter.org/iaY


The Dalai Lama participated in a program with Native Hawaiian cultural leaders at the EWC's Hawai'i Imin International Conference Center. The private event was organized by Pillars of Peace Hawaii sponsored by the Hawaii Community Foundation through a lead grant from the Omidyar Ohana Fund. EastWestCenter.org/iag

In the Field

The fifth annual Summer Institute on Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, held in Singapore, focused on human rights and business, including recent findings on corporate responsibility in the Asia Pacific region. The workshop was conducted by the Asian International Justice Initiative, a collaborative project between the EWC and the U.C. Berkeley War Crimes Studies Center.

The EWC Pacific Islands Development Program, with support from the U.S. Department of State, organized two international delegations to observe national parliamentary elections in Timor-Leste and general elections in Papua New Guinea. Co-director of the EWC’s Pacific Islands Development Program Jerry Finin headed both EWC delegations.
Public Engagement

The East-West Center connects its resources and research with the local, national, and international community through news media and public information services; briefings for visiting officials; and public programs. In 2012, the EWC conducted numerous public seminars and events for audiences in Hawai‘i and Washington, D.C.

The East-West Center has enriched the Hawai‘i community for three decades through exhibitions, performances, lecture-demonstrations, and hands-on workshops that bridge tradition and innovation in Asia Pacific arts. In 2012, more than 20,000 students and community members statewide experienced the Center’s arts programs, including many youth from economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

East-West Center Worldwide
Institutional Partnerships and Alumni Chapters

The East-West Center has built a worldwide network of 60,000 alumni, with 48 alumni chapters, and an ever-expanding base of institutional partners. EastWestCenter.org/alumni
Financial Review

For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, the East-West Center had total assets of $40,809,088, total liabilities of $3,755,359 and total net assets of $37,053,729. Net assets comprised unrestricted net assets of $26,664,491, temporarily restricted net assets of $5,940,843 and permanently restricted net assets of $4,448,395. The EWC receives funding from the U.S. government to support operational expenses.

East-West Center Foundation

The East-West Center Foundation is a private nonprofit organization, established to broaden and diversify private support for the Center. Private contributions, grants, and sponsorship, supplemented by competed funding from governments of the Asia Pacific region and the United States are used to support EWC programs and student scholarships.

An on-line supplement to this report contains additional information on East-West Center participants and finances. To download the supplement, visit: EastWestCenter.org/iaM

East-West Center

For more than 50 years, the East-West Center has been promoting better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue. Established by the U.S. Congress in 1960, the Center serves as a resource for information and analysis on critical issues of common concern, bringing people together to exchange views, build expertise, and develop policy options.

Officially known as the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West, the Center is a U.S.-based independent, public, nonprofit institution for public diplomacy with international governance, staffing, students, and participants.

The Center’s 21-acre Honolulu campus, adjacent to the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, is located midway between Asia and the U.S. mainland and features research, residential, and international conference facilities. The Center’s Washington, D.C. office focuses on preparing the United States for an era of growing Asia Pacific prominence.

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