Demand for East-West Center services drove a year of opportunity in 2013, with the establishment of many new activities. Leadership is often perceived as the scarcest of resources for the Asia Pacific region’s developing countries. In response, the Center’s educational programs are increasingly aligned around leadership training, with three new programs added this year.

With support from both Chinese and American philanthropists, the Center deepened its collaboration with the China Philanthropy Research Institute, holding the first China-U.S. Philanthropy Summit in Hawai‘i in the early days of 2014. The summit resulted in a number of concrete collaborations in such areas as environmental protection and established the East-West Philanthropy Forum as a regular event.

Amid dramatic changes in Burma, the Center built upon its long engagement there to ramp up activities, including a visit to EWC by Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi; a first-time visit to Burma by the Jefferson Fellows journalists’ exchange program and a strategic scenario-building workshop run by the Asia Pacific Leadership Program in Yangon.

The Center’s Washington-based Asia Matters project continued to grow, including a new edition of the main Asia Matters for America publication and the launch of updated Korea Matters for America data on bilateral trade, immigration and more. The Center also conducted a U.S. study tour for North Korean-born journalists, and coordinated environmental leadership programs for youth from Southeast Asia and the Pacific islands.

EWC researchers continued important work on climate change — including a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill — as well as trade policy, land use, human rights and other vital issues.

We are very grateful to our many stakeholders for their continued engagement and support. As the Asia Pacific region increasingly becomes the axis of global leadership, the East-West Center is proud to contribute to a collaborative future.
The first cohort of the Pacific Islands Leadership Program with Taiwan (above) included the first woman to serve as Nauru’s police chief, Palau’s former deputy UN representative and the chief of protocol for Tuvalu among the 20 young leaders.

The MARA-EWC Leadership Transition Programme (top left) brought participants from the Malaysian government’s Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Council of Trust for Indigenous People) for hands-on exercises in organizational rejuvenation, succession planning and other leadership skills (lower left).

Under the auspices of the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies, the interdisciplinary ProSPER.Net Leadership Program (opposite, lower right) included select young academics and professionals who focus on sustainability issues.

Part of a partnership between the U.S., Australia and New Zealand, the Pacific Islands Women in Leadership Program (below) is designed to foster a vibrant network of women leaders who can effect positive regional change on gender issues.

EWC Expands Leadership Focus

In 2013 the Center expanded its growing focus on leadership development with the establishment of several new programs, including the Pacific Islands Leadership Program with Taiwan, a partnership that brought young professionals from 10 Pacific island nations to Honolulu and Taipei to learn applied leadership skills; risk, futures and personal action planning; social entrepreneurship and more. Other new leadership programs focused on Pacific islands women, Malaysian public employees and young academics and professionals focusing on sustainability.
Significant Events

This year, the Jefferson Fellowships journalists’ exchange program visited Burma for the first time in the program’s 46-year history. Illustrating how rapidly the previously closed country has transformed in recent years, the fellowship brought 16 distinguished journalists from 10 Asia Pacific nations on a study tour to meet with officials, business and community leaders, scholars, and fellow journalists like U Win Tin (above right), a well-known democracy advocate who spent many years as a political prisoner.

Two former U.S. ambassadors and noted China experts, Stapleton Roy (above) and Chas Freeman, spoke at EWC on challenges facing the U.S.-China relationship. “No task is going to be more important than trying to arrest the current drift in U.S.-China relations toward strategic rivalry,” Roy said. “If leaders in both countries fail to deal with this issue, there is a strong possibility that tensions will rise and undermine the benign climate that has been so important over the past 30 years.”

In the Field

Since 1988, the New Generation Seminar has brought together young elected officials, administrators, NGO leaders, journalists and other rising regional leaders for dialogues and study tours to help internationalize their perspectives. This year’s group of 14 participants from 11 countries explored social and economic transformation in Asia Pacific, with visits to EWC, Beijing and Seoul, where they visited the South Korean National Assembly (above left).

In another notable first, EWC also coordinated a study tour of the U.S. for North-Korean-born journalists who now work in South Korea.
A total of around 1,800 people attended an extensive array of performances, seminars and classes at the second biennial Asia Pacific Dance Festival (below), a collaboration between the EWC Arts Program and the University of Hawai‘i’s Outreach College and Theatre and Dance Department. Performers included traditional and contemporary troupes from Korea, Taiwan, New Zealand and Hawai‘i. [outreach.hawaii.edu/community/asiapacific](outreach.hawaii.edu/community/asiapacific)

Other public outreach included a schedule of more than 180 events and seminars throughout the year, including extensive educational outreach to schools in Hawai‘i. [EastWestCenter.org/events](EastWestCenter.org/events)

The Asian International Justice Initiative’s continuing projects to monitor war crimes tribunals in Bangladesh and Cambodia included a weekly TV program credited with being one of the main ways that Cambodians get information about the Khmer Rouge Tribunal. [EastWestCenter.org/aiji](EastWestCenter.org/aiji)

In Yangon, staff and participants of the Asia Pacific Leadership Program led the Myanmar Futures Exchange conference, bringing together 200 innovative thinkers from diverse sectors to develop and share economic development scenarios. [MFE2013.org](MFE2013.org)

In April, Dino Patti Djalal, Indonesia’s Ambassador to the U.S. and a best-selling author on leadership strategies, spoke on his country’s dramatic democratic transition, growing prosperity and expanding role in Asia’s increasing geopolitical influence. [EastWestCenter.org/3Xp](EastWestCenter.org/3Xp)

EWC environment researchers Melissa Finucane and Victoria Keener gave a briefing on Capitol Hill in September on the recent Center-led Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment, which will be included in the federal government’s national assessment. Sen. Brian Schatz, who co-hosted the briefing, said that “In Hawai‘i and throughout the Pacific, climate change is not an abstract concept – it is already having very real consequences.” [PacificRISA.org/projects/pirca](PacificRISA.org/projects/pirca)
Education, Research, Workshops

The AsiaPacificEd Program expanded its roster of externally funded high-school level educational exchanges, including two cohorts from the U.S. State Department’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (left). Fifty high school students and ten educators from all of the ASEAN nations visited schools and communities in Hawai’i, San Francisco and the Washington, D.C., area to learn about civic engagement through the lens of “green and sustainable schools and communities.”

SEAYLP-Exchange.org

EWC participants, in collaboration with several Okinawan civic groups, presented a “talk story” conference (below) on U.S. military bases in Okinawa, featuring diverse perspectives from the Japanese and Okinawan prefectural governments, U.S. military, scholars and community members.

uts3.wordpress.com

Among a wide range of research activities, EWC hosted a Pacific Basin Consortium conference on environmental health risks to indigenous populations, and EWC Senior Nonresident Fellows Peter Petri and Michael Plummer continued their influential work on the Trans-Pacific Partnership and other Asia Pacific free-trade negotiations.

EastWestCenter.org/research

East-West Center in Washington held a briefing on Capitol Hill to launch the latest edition of the Korea Matters for America/ America Matters for Korea booklet, produced in partnership with the Asian Institute for Policy Studies in Seoul. Speakers included members of Congress from both sides of the aisle, as well as South Korean Ambassador to the U.S. Ahn Ho-young (above).

EastWestCenter.org/3IE

FY 2013 EWC Student Fellows
(by region)

- Southeast Asia 131 | 28%
- East Asia 117 | 25%
- United States 78 | 17%
- South Asia 46 | 10%
- Pacific 57 | 12%
- Other 40 | 8%

469 student fellows from 58 countries and territories participated in EWC undergraduate and graduate training and scholarship programs in FY 2013.
3,235 participants from 84 countries and territories, including students, visiting fellows, professional associates and interns

978 institutional partnerships in 57 countries and 35 U.S. states

62,000+ alumni and 48 alumni chapters worldwide

92% of alumni survey respondents said their EWC experience positively changed their views

18,000+ people reached through seminars, public events and arts outreach

650 mentions in news reports by 460 media outlets worldwide

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Professor of Asian Studies (Retired)
University of Hawai‘i
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Financial Review

For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, the East-West Center had total assets of $41,450,689, total liabilities of $3,339,380 and total net assets of $38,111,309. Net assets comprised unrestricted net assets of $27,546,771, temporarily restricted net assets of $5,778,550 and permanently restricted net assets of $4,785,988. 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 online supplement to this report contains additional information. Download a pdf file of the supplement at: EastWestCenter.org/3Ne

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.

EastWestCenter.org

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