Significant Events

More than a hundred Hawai’i businesses and students joined international participants in EWC’s Changing Foci women’s leadership seminar in July to discuss and celebrate women’s entrepreneurship at a special workshop held in partnership with UH Manoa’s Stiller College of Business and other partners. The program featured interactive sessions and open space discussions on such topics as bringing local products to larger markets, funding startups and building a personal brand.

62,000+ international alumni and 48 alumni chapters worldwide.

Twenty participants in an EWC-administered leadership program for Southeast Asian university students, and recent graduates, met with President Obama at the White House in June as part of the State Department’s Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative. During a wide-ranging “town hall” Q&A session, Obama told the group that “Southwest Asia helped shape who I am and how I see the world. And as president, I’ve made it a pillar of my foreign policy to make sure that the United States is more deeply engaged in the Asia Pacific region... because your region is critical to our shared future.”

U.S. Ambassador to India Richard Verma spoke at EWC in September, in advance of a visit to the U.S. by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Verma said the relationship between the two nations has reached “a new level” and he “praised to become a 21st century alliance, based in Asia, working towards the goal of global prosperity.”

More than 115 graduate students gathered at EWC in February to present their research at the Center’s annual International Graduate Student Conference. Planned and organized by EWC students, the interdisciplinary gathering is one of the largest of its kind worldwide. Cybersecurity expert Dr. Mothiro Tsuchiya delivered the conference's keynote address.

Program Notes

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration awarded more than $4 million for a new phase of the EWC-led Pacific Regional Integrated Science and Assessment program. A collaboration between the Center and several University of Hawai’i, federal and community entities, the Pacific RISA program is designed to help island and coastal communities learn about and cope with the effects of climate change, including the water quality testing project in American Samoa pictured here. PacificRISA.org

Accomplished international journalists from a dozen countries traveled to China, the Philippines and Singapore in May on the Jefferson Fellowships exchange to study territorial conflicts, resources issues, environmental concerns and more in the South China Sea. Pictured: Jim Gomez of the Associated Press in the Philippines questions a Chinese naval officer about the two countries’ conflicting claims over islands in the region. EastWestCenter.org/Jefferson

At an Expert Group Meeting at UN headquarters, EWC researchers shared findings on how different countries are trying to address low birthrates. The presentation coincided with the publication of Low and Lower Fertility: Variation Across Developing Countries, edited by EWC researchers Ronald Findell and Minja Kim Choe, which explores how various institutions, histories and cultures influence fertility in a diverse range of countries in Asia, Europe and North America. EastWestCenter.org/24v

In September, the East-West Center in Washington collaborated with the U.S.-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins to host a “Myanmar in a Regional Context” conference examining the policies of different Asian Pacific regional powers toward Myanmar and their effects on the emerging nation’s internal policies. Speakers included then-U.S. ambassador to Myanmar Doniek Mitchell.

Policymakers and experts gathered in Honolulu in early October for the 6th annual Australian American Leadership Dialogue co-sponsored by EWC. The private diplomatic initiative brings together leaders from government, enterprise, media, education and more to review such issues as security, energy, and climate.

600 mentions in news reports by 530 media outlets in 2015.

EWC’s human rights, international justice and governance initiatives continued their capacity-building work in Southeast Asia, including development of the Jakarta-based Human Rights Resource Centre, advancing judicial reform in Timor Leste, collaborating with the UN on a workshop in Myanmar on cross-border governance, and helping Indonesia’s courts strengthen anti-corruption law. Pictured: The Asian International Justice Initiative’s annual Summer Institute in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights met in Bali to focus on issues of human trafficking.

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More than 340 educators attended the annual national conference of the Asian Studies Development Program held in the heartland entertainment mecca of Branson, Missouri. Since its inception in 1991, more than 1,600 educators from the U.S. and Asia have participated in the collaborative EWC and University of Hawaii’s program aimed at enhancing undergraduate-level teaching about Asia at colleges and universities.

FY 2015 EWC Student Fellows (by region)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Asia</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>42.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>111.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>65.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

469 student fellows from 53 countries and territories participated in EWC undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate training and scholarship programs in FY 2015.

31,000 social media followers.

20% East Asia
22% Southeast Asia
25% United States
17% Pacific
12% South Asia
8% Other

Economic and Political Security Network

ECON and the ECON Program editorialized in the Economist magazine's China edition on the country's rapid growth and increasing military spending.

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