



Observer

Despite the historic and perhaps transformative nature of this year's presidential election in the United States, major changes in U.S. foreign policy in Asia, at least in the near term, are less likely, EWC President Charles E. Morrison predicted at a public program in early October.

"This is an election about change," said Morrison. "But I'm not sure, particularly in the early years, that there will be as much foreign policy change as some expect."

The consensus around basic foreign policy values and the pressure of dealing with the paramount issue of the economy — as well as

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Charles E. Morrison

New U.S. President Likely to Hold Steady Course on Asia

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Journalism on the Brink, the Impact on News Coverage in the U.S.

As U.S. newspapers wrestle with slumping circulation and advertising, its staffing and coverage are declining, undermining a fundamental premise of democracy, maintains veteran journalist and award-winning author Lou Cannon, the 2008 George Chaplin Fellow in Distinguished Journalism.

In a speech at the East-West Center in October, Cannon made the point that the decline of local coverage, Washington coverage — and, "even more worrisome," coverage of Congress — is not good for the nation and public interest.



Lou Cannon

He quoted Founding Father James Madison: "A popular government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but prologue to a farce or a tragedy, or perhaps both."

Cannon worked 26 years for *The*

Washington Post, including as White House correspondent, and is best-known as author of five Reagan biographies. His most recent book, "Reagan's Disciple: George W. Bush's Troubled Quest for a Presidential Legacy," was co-authored with his journalist son, Carl, and published earlier this year.

"Reporters are rarely at many local government meetings across the land, and state government fares even worse. News organizations are also reducing their Washington coverage," Cannon said. "Except for *The New York Times*, every newspaper bureau in Washington has shrunk in size in the last two years. Entire news organizations have consolidated or disappeared. We're approaching the point where a majority of members of Congress will have no reporter in America assigned to keep an eye on them."

Cannon also shared his concern for the paucity of economics coverage and the lack of context.

"Until the housing market imploded and the credit crunch arrived, economics stories held little media appeal," he said. "Most reporters and editors don't know much about economics and those who do may work for papers that don't. But even the big battalions of the press with good business staffs were absent without leave in the coverage."

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New U.S. President Likely to Hold Steady

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The East-West Center Observer

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the difficulties of getting congressional support — suggest whomever is elected president will hold a relatively steady course on the basics of U.S. foreign policy, Morrison said. “Policy is a consequence of old continuities and new circumstances,” he added.

The many issues of the “greater Middle East,” he said, will continue to crowd out attention to other regions, including much of Asia and the Pacific.

But while basic policies may largely remain in place, he noted, the “atmosphere” surrounding America’s place on the world stage may change substantially. “There will be one clear change: the atmosphere abroad will be more positive. Right now, the U.S. standing in the world is low. Either president would start with a honeymoon on the domestic side and excitement on the international side.”

One reason for such excitement, Morrison said, is that in foreign eyes, the U.S. presidential campaign had gone on a long time, and the world has been awaiting new U.S. leadership. Moreover, both candidates were regarded as true internationalists, with a genuine interest in foreign policy.

Barack Obama, he noted, was born and raised in mid-Pacific Hawai‘i, spent some childhood years in Indonesia, and serves on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. John McCain endured the experience of being held for years in a Hanoi prisoner-of-war camp, an experience that could have left him bitter but instead gave him an enduring interest in strengthening good relations with Vietnam and the other nations of Asia. He also serves as the senior Republican of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Most individual elements of U.S. policy toward Asian countries have strong support, Morrison said. Current U.S. policy toward China, for instance, has

sought to work with China to help it become a “responsible stakeholder” in global affairs. This is a “sensible approach,” he said. “In fact, there is no other realistic policy with respect to China.”

The previous Democratic and current Republican administrations have gone a long way toward building bridges with India, he said, a non-partisan approach “which should continue under the next president, because it is rooted in common values, complementary strategic interests, and strong ethnic and business ties.”

There is always a temptation in a new administration to do something differently from its predecessor, Morrison acknowledged. If the next administration wishes to make change in the Asia Pacific region, he suggested it might consider:

- Articulating a clearer and broader vision about the United States and its partnership with Asia and the Pacific.

- Paying closer and more serious attention to multilateral organizations, and providing leadership, not simply at times of meetings.

- Strengthening the support base for a constructive Asia Pacific policy in the Congress and local communities.

There will be an opportunity to focus on those and other issues when the United States hosts the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in 2011, Morrison said. But he argued that developing a clear Asia Pacific policy vision “should not wait until 2011” and represents an opportunity for the new president.

“The world of the coming century will be a global world with Asia Pacific at its core,” Morrison said. “We need to be repositioning the United States to take into account this coming reality while continuing to provide regional and global leadership.”

Journalism on the Brink

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He lamented the quality of media coverage of this year’s presidential campaign. “Throughout this campaign there has been a trivialization of political issues,” he said. “Was Obama wearing a flag lapel pin? What color pantsuit was Hillary wearing today? How many homes does McCain really have? How does any of this help voters? There has been much good coverage, of course, but with 24/7 news cycles, journalism operated under a version of Gresham’s Law in which bad coverage drives out good. While indulging in trivia we haven’t held the candidates’ feet to the fire on some of their wilder claims.”

For example, Cannon said, the media “has done some reporting, much of it confusing,” on how long Obama and McCain would stay in Iraq. “How long would either of them stay in Afghanistan, where there are now 33,000 U.S. troops that both have said they’ll increase and where monthly casualties are now higher than in Iraq?”

He expressed a concern that the Internet tends to debase the political dialogue. “Many of the wilder

rumors and cruder descriptions of the candidates began on the Internet and worked their way into the mainstream press, driving coverage of the campaign,” he said. While talk radio and cable television have also contributed to “a coarsening of the dialogue ... they lack the reach of the Internet and operate under more constraints.”

The journalist also was skeptical about the impact of race on voters in this year’s presidential election. He referred to a survey by Frank Newport, who heads the Gallup Poll. “Mr. Newport, one of the nation’s most sophisticated pollsters, found that Obama might actually receive more votes because of his race than he will lose,” Cannon said.

In his conclusion, while critical of the decline of newspapers, the over-reliance on the Internet and the trivialization of political coverage, Cannon said, “I’ve been critical about our profession tonight in the belief that we need to examine ourselves with the same rigor and severity that we apply to others. We can do better, we need to do better — and I believe we will.”

Q&A WITH: Terry Bigalke

Tracking Progress in Timor-Leste

EWC Education Director Terry Bigalke with Timor-Leste alumni Domingos Lequi Siga Maria, Flavia da Silva and Jose Turquel.



The EWC Director of Education discusses the growing network of alumni who have participated in the United States-Timor-Leste Scholarship Program administered by the Center and funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. To date the program has produced 21 alumni and 17 participating students. Five more recipients will begin their studies at the Center in January.

Q: *How long have you been going to Timor-Leste?*

A: Every year since 2002. My main purpose is to be part of the final selection process for recipients of the U.S.-Timor-Leste scholarships. We now offer five scholarships a year.

Q: *How do you recruit students in a country where communication is not as sophisticated as in other parts of the region?*

A: The whole process of recruiting in Timor-Leste is complicated. We need to have someone on the ground who can work with local agencies, NGOs, churches, different organizations that have reach throughout the country, who can disseminate information about the scholarships.

In 2002, most people didn't have much access except to radio. We depended on radio and word of mouth. Now people have cell phones. Sending text messages is an effective and inexpensive way to communicate with villages. We rely on text messaging, radio, television ads and newspapers. Because Timor is a Catholic country, we find religious organizations, in particular, various Catholic orders with mission activities there are very supportive.

Q: *Is there a lot of interest in the U.S.-Timor-Leste Scholarship Program?*

A: Definitely. Over the last three years, we've received 150 to 200 applications a year. We make the first cut based on students meeting basic criteria. That leaves around 100 or so who sit for an English proficiency exam. Applicants who score 525 or above on TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) are invited to come for an interview. I'm a member of a team of three who then interview 30 candidates over a period of two days.

Q: *How would you describe the changes you've seen in Timor-Leste over the past six years?*

A: There's been real change recently but you can't appreciate it unless you go there regularly. When I went back this year, in September, the dynamic had changed and the government was able to move on getting people to go back to their villages and their neighborhoods. They started paying them \$4,000 to \$5,000 a family to renovate houses or whatever. A lot of people used it to buy motorbikes, for something economically useful. The IDP (internal displacement) camps were gone and there was just such a different feeling. Of course, there's concern about corruption, but there's a sense that money is available to do things. It's just figuring out the best way to do it.

Q: *What kind of needs do you see the EWC providing Timorese students?*

A: U.S. Ambassador Hans Klemm has cited a large percentage of ministry officials who have only third-grade educations. The EWC scholarship program provides Timorese with an education that really teaches people to think and be problem solvers and to not be narrowly channeled into some vocational track. They're competent in a major field and exposed to so much more, so they're able to deal with things that fall outside of their immediate area of responsibility.

Q: *Would you tell us about a couple of alumni who've returned to Timor-Leste and what they're doing now?*

A: Jose Turquel completed his bachelor's degree and was working toward a master's degree here when he was offered and accepted the position of chief of staff to President Ramos Horta. His outstanding skills have been recognized by the president and he recently accepted the position of Director of International Relations in the presidential office.

He emailed me when he was in New York, representing Timor-Leste at the Clinton Millennium Conference in October. Then he was going to attend meetings in Germany. He wrote back to say, "I wouldn't be here if it weren't for the experience I had at the East-West Center. It just transformed my life."

There's Flavia da Silva. She works for the United Nations World Food Program. She was hired for a position that is normally given to a foreign hire. Her level of responsibility has grown dramatically as it's realized she can perform at the level of foreign specialists. She's responsible for trying to set up a food monitoring system at the village level so they can map where the problems are in the food distribution system so they can import food to address shortages.

What's so exciting for her is that she's turned this into this amazing career path where she's making such a huge difference for the country and also has the potential of rising higher in that international agency.

Q: *Based on your interaction with alumni, how do you feel about the future of Timor-Leste?*

A: I've been interviewing alumni every year when I'm there and everybody, everybody, is on the track to doing really good things. I knew this was a good scholarship program. I knew these were good people. But when you see them go back and see the things they're doing, it's so validating of the whole effort. This brings you right back to what it's all about — the essence of the Center.

News in Brief

Supporting the Center

RECENT GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

RESEARCH

Government of France
\$29,405

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
\$42,528

RESEARCH/ POLITICS & SECURITY

Open Society Justice Initiative
\$25,000

UN Development Programme
\$104,184

RESEARCH/ POPULATION & HEALTH

National Institutes of Health
\$414,952

RESEARCH/ ENVIRONMENT

Commission for Environmental Cooperation
\$18,983

National Science Foundation
\$27,625

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Centers for Disease Control
\$10,000

EDUCATION

Freeman Foundation
\$140,000

Government of France
\$20,503

National Endowment for Humanities
\$150,000

U.S. Department of State
\$1,342,000

SEMINARS

Center for Global Partnership, Japan Foundation
\$9,048

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

EWC Foundation
\$62,700

EWC Foundation/Friends of Hawaii Charities
\$10,000

EWC IN WASHINGTON

Sasakawa Peace Foundation
\$80,000

Sananikone Leads EWC Board of Governors

Puongpun Sananikone was elected chairman of the East-West Center's Board of Governors. He is the first EWC alumnus to be elected chairman. In a speech Sananikone delivered to the board, he credited the Center's cross-cultural environment with shaping both his personal life and his career as an international development economist and business executive. Please see story on page 9.



Puongpun Sananikone

Morrison Re-Elected PECC Chair

EWC President Charles E. Morrison was unanimously elected to a second term as chair of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (PECC). He is the first chair to have served a three-year term and the first American to chair PECC since 1993.

As chair of PECC, Morrison guides the network of 26 Member Committees representing most of the economies of the Asia Pacific region. Each Member Committee comprises leaders from the academic, business and governmental sectors. The American committee, which is called the U.S. Asia Pacific Council, has its secretariat at the East-West Center's office in Washington and is chaired by Ambassador Stapleton Roy, now of Kissinger Associates. The Council will be the host committee for the next PECC general meeting in Washington in May 2009.

Henick Joins EWC as Diplomat-in-Residence

Jonathan Henick, a 15-year veteran of the U.S. State Department's Foreign Service, has joined the East-West Center for a one-year post as a visiting research fellow and diplomat-in-residence. At the end of July 2009, he will assume the post of Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Dili, Timor-Leste (East Timor).

Henick most recently served as the Public Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Baku, Azerbaijan, where he was the embassy spokesperson and was responsible for cultural, educational, civil-society and English-language programs. He received the 2008 Award for Achievement in Public Diplomacy granted by the Public Diplomacy Alumni Association.

Jonathan Henick



EWC Awarded \$350,000 for Environmental Stewardship Institute

The Center received a grant of \$350,000 from the U.S. Department of State to support a new six-week institute on environmental stewardship for undergraduate students from Southeast Asia.

The EWC, working in partnership with more than 20 organizations including the University of Hawai'i's Environmental Studies Program, Stanford University's Woods Institute for the Environment and the Nature Conservancy, will host and facilitate this program in May and June 2009 for students from non-traditional and underserved groups in the region.

Participants will examine pressing environmental issues through different lenses such as advocacy, market, policy, cultural and scientific approaches, culminating in a field study tour to San Francisco and Washington, D.C. They will interact with American peers and engage in job shadowing and service projects with community leaders.



Ayoob Khan, a carpet weaver from Agra, India, was a visiting artist-in-residence with the East-West Center in conjunction with the Moghul carpets and treasures exhibition.

Exhibition of Mughal Treasures from Doris Duke Collection

A rare pair of Mughal carpets from the collection at Shangri La — the Honolulu estate of the late Doris Duke and now a museum — are featured in "Field of Flowers: Mughal Carpets and Treasures," on display at the East-West Center Gallery through December 31st. Co-curated by EWC Gallery Curator Michael Schuster and Shangri La Curator Sharon Littlefield, the exhibition features intricate works of art inspired by Mughal floral patterns, including metalwork, paintings, stonework and textiles.

Across Asia, millions of people are pouring into crowded and often unmanageable urban areas in search of a better life. To some, particularly those who are tasked with running cities, these denizens of the “informal sector” represent a social and planning nightmare. But others see these striving urban slum and shack dwellers as the source of solutions to some of Asia’s urban planning challenges.

This was the thrust of a discussion recently at the East-West Center that brought together a number of planning specialists, city leaders and

others to talk about the implications of the urban transformation in Asia. They gathered for the inaugural seminar of a series on “Urban Asia — Challenges in Transition and Governance.”

Facing the Issues of Asia’s Urban Slums

“The whole point is to come to the table with information and with solutions, and then the city leaders have to listen to you.”

Role of Civil Society

Among the many topics discussed during the seminar was the role of civil society — citizen groups, nongovernmental organizations and others — in improving urban governance.

Opinion among participants was somewhat divided between those who seek a greater role for civil society groups and those who believe that the ultimate responsibility rests with those who have been elected to govern and manage.

The most passionate voice for involving marginalized members of a city in its planning decision was Celine d’Cruz, originally from Mumbai, India, who is co-coordinator of the multinational service organization “Slum/Shack Dwellers International.”

d’Cruz said the focus of her group is not so much to take over the task of urban planning, or even to change basic policies. It is simply to win the urban poor a place at the table when decisions are being made. This, she argued, rarely happens under traditional circumstances.

“We chose not to make changes in policy our first goal,” she said. “If you make the right changes on the ground, you prove yourself. We don’t have a problem with good policy; our problem is with implementation.”

Voice in Decision-making

d’Cruz said her organization works not to direct the activities of slum dwellers or take charge of their lives, but rather to give them a voice so they can make their own decisions. In Mumbai, for instance, when residents of one slum area came to recognize that there was just one functioning toilet for some 800 residents, they realized that marching on city government with broad demands for an improved sanitation system would result in nothing more than studies, planning and applications for loan funds.

Instead, they simply asked for help in building one clean and functioning toilet facility for their neighborhood, and then built the facility themselves.



Celine d’Cruz

“The whole point is to come to the table with information and with solutions, and then the city leaders have to listen to you. It was like a dam burst open,” she said.

Shack/Slum Dwellers International recently received a \$10 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support the urban poor in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The importance of the grant is that the money will go directly to grassroots groups to support their efforts in negotiation with urban governments.

d’Cruz said the key will be to use resources to get marginalized people directly engaged with those who ultimately make the decisions about urban planning and development.

Model to Work Together

d’Cruz’s presentation drew a sharp response from Feliciano Belmonte Jr., the mayor of fast-growing Quezon City in the Philippines. With 2.68 million people, this city — just north of Manila — poses just about every urban planning and management problem imaginable. That includes, Belmonte said, dealing with the urban poor and the “informal sector” who have moved to the city in search of jobs and opportunities.

“But can we really make a difference in the lives of these people?” Belmonte said. “When you’re talking about hundreds of thousands of people, what do a few thousand matter? What are we trying to achieve?”

Belmonte put a practical spin on the problem that faces administrators throughout the region: “The job is so immense. I am supposed to help everyone in the city, not just the 30 percent who are marginal. I’d welcome any help here.”

d’Cruz said that is precisely what groups such as hers intend to do. They are not there to fight government or replace it, but rather to help make it more efficient in dealing with the problems of human migration and growth that are beyond anyone’s ability to control.

“You do your homework,” she told Belmonte. “We do our homework. That’s the model we choose. Then we can work together.”

Managing China's rise as a great power dominated a briefing by EWC Senior Fellow Denny Roy on the emerging challenges for the United States in East Asia. "I'm often asked is China's rise a great threat?" Roy told a gathering of business and community leaders at an AsiaPacific Breakfast Briefing, sponsored by Bank of Hawaii in mid-October.

"I answer that question this way: China is growing in its capabilities, its economic capabilities, its military capabilities," he said. "That means a couple of things to the United States. First, China is increasingly able to constrain some of the things the United States would like to do in the region. Secondly, it means that some countries in the region that up until now have gone out of their way to be friendly and maintain good relations with the United States, may start accommodating China. These have consequences for the U.S. maintaining its influence in the region. This is the way I would couch the China threat."

Roy joined the East-West Center in 2007 after seven years with the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu. His work focuses mostly on Asia Pacific security issues, particularly those involving China.

In his overview of the pressing issues likely to present problems for U.S. interests in East Asia, Roy enumerated seven challenges, including the threat of an international pandemic, restoring America's international credibility, competition for resources, the future of Korea and of Japan, and democratization of Asia.

Throughout the discussion of these issues, Roy often referred to the growing influence of China in the region. When it comes to competition for resources, he noted the Chinese government will feel the pressure to respond to demands from the Chinese people for higher living standards. "The question rises," he said, "will China and other countries be content to buy their energy in the marketplace or will they try to control their own outside sources of energy?"

He cautioned that while a new government in Taiwan emphasizes "an atmosphere of relaxed tensions across the strait rather than emphasizing provocations with China," this doesn't mean the Taiwan Strait issue is settled.



Denny Roy

Roy said "the public in Taiwan is no more committed to unification with China now than it was under Chen Shui-Bien. The Chinese talk about moving very slowly, having a long period of building trust across the strait" before trying to settle some of the more difficult issues between Taiwan and China. However, he noted, "The people of Taiwan on the other hand demand action now on some of the issues that matter to them" regarding China.

"There is a limit to how much inaction they will tolerate," he said. "There will be some pressure to produce some results before the next presidential election." Without satisfying these domestic demands of the Taiwanese, he believes there's a possibility of a return to power of the opposition government.

Roy also questioned the validity of the theory that democratic countries don't go to war against other democracies, a strategy which is key to the U.S. push for democratization of Asia. "If China were to become a democracy, would this dramatically and automatically change the feelings China has for Taiwan or Japan?" he asked. "I think not. Would U.S.-China tensions disappear if China were to become a democracy? I think not."

Research shows, he said, that new and young democracies are more prone to allow public opinion to have more influence over foreign policy than previously. He pointed to recent events in some of the Eastern European countries that were formerly Soviet bloc countries. The transition to democracy means new leadership is under intense pressure to take strong positions on narrow nationalistic issues that sometimes involve ill feelings toward neighboring countries, he said.

"When it comes to Asia, it's not hard to imagine this kind of scenario playing out over these really emotional nationalistic issues that involve control of disputed areas," he warned. "Northeast Asia probably rivals any other region in the world in having a fairly large group of very strong civilizations with very strong nationalistic feelings compressed into a very small area sharing borders with each other — both land and maritime borders."

China's Rise Dominates Emerging Challenges for U.S. in East Asia

"If China were to become a democracy, would this dramatically and automatically change the feelings China has for Taiwan or Japan?"

Generous donors have made the following funds possible. At the “Ho‘opuka” ceremony welcoming new students in August, some of the recipients and donors of these awards were delighted to be able to meet each other.

*Rita Gallardo
and Jean Rolles*



The **Jean E. Rolles Fellowships** provide annual awards to students who have a past record and intention of future involvement in the fields of environment, economics or the travel and hospitality industry.
2008 Scholarship Recipient: Rita Madarieta Gallardo (Philippines), Graduate Degree Fellowship Program

The **Sumi Makey Awards** will benefit worthy degree candidates who have a background and interest in the arts and humanities, with a preference for women from S.E. Asia.

2008 Scholarship Recipient: Claire Suet Ching Chan (Malaysia), Graduate Degree Fellowship Program

The **Jhamandas Watumull Scholarship Fund** makes it possible for highly qualified candidates from India with demonstrated leadership skills to participate in the Asia Pacific Leadership Program.

2008 Scholarship Recipients: Neha Chaturvedia and Huma Sheikh (both from India) Asia Pacific Leadership Program

*Claire Chan
and Sumi Makey*



*Huma Sheikh,
Gulab Watumull and
Neha Chaturvedia*



For these recently established awards, the first scholarship recipients will arrive in August 2009.

The Amanda & Natalie Ellis Women Leaders Scholarship Award

EWC alumnae Amanda Ellis established this \$50,000 scholarship endowment in honor of her mother, Natalie Ellis, who has made significant contributions to the education of young women for more than 50 years. The scholarship aims to encourage young women leaders from Australia and New Zealand to study in the Asia Pacific Leadership Program.

Buddy & Melga Torre Gendrano Fellowships

Buddy and Melga Gendrano created the Buddy & Melga Torre Gendrano Fellowships as a \$50,000 Permanent Named Endowment. Awards will assist Degree Fellows or APLP participants from the Philippines or Hawai‘i with preference given to those with a past record and intention of future involvement in the fields of education and/or agriculture. Buddy and Melga own the real estate firm, KFG Properties.

Donors

On behalf of the East-West Center, we would like to thank those individuals, corporations, businesses, foundations, and organizations that have generously contributed to the East-West Center Foundation.

Listed are the gifts received between June 1, 2008 and September 30, 2008.

The East-West Center Foundation has made every effort to present an accurate listing of donors. If your name has been omitted or erroneously listed, please call the EWC Foundation at 808-944-7105.

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Programs

Asia Pacific Breakfast Briefings at Bank of Hawaii

October 14, 2008: Denny Roy, EWC Senior Fellow, see page 6.

September 16, 2008: Keith Coates gave a thought-provoking presentation on **“Seven Global Trends Changing the Face of Business and Leadership.”** He is the co-founding partner in the consultancy TomorrowToday.biz, which specializes in understanding the emerging connection economy and its global implications for business and leadership.

Arts ‘Ohana

September 23, 2008: Carpet weaving techniques by carpet specialist Sanjay Kalra and carpet maker Ayyoob Khan from Agra, India were demonstrated for Arts ‘Ohana members during the “Field of Flowers: Mughal Carpets and Treasures” exhibition in the EWC Gallery.

Foundation Staff

James Kia joined the East-West Center Foundation as the administrative assistant to Carol Fox, director of strategic planning and partnerships. He was most recently the administrative assistant at Aloha Medical Mission.

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EWC Associates Update

A Publication of the East-West Center Associates Office

Fall 2008



Puongpun Sananikone NAMED CHAIRMAN OF EWC BOARD

In July Puongpun Sananikone became the first alumnus elected to the position of chairman of the Board of Governors of the East-West Center. An international development economist and business executive, Puongpun had served five years on the Board, including most recently as the vice chairman.

Sananikone (ISI '64-68) met his wife, Thanh-Lo (ISI '64-68), while they were students at the East-West Center. Since leaving the Center, both have been very active alumni who've contributed considerably to the Center.

"Becoming an East-West Center grantee forever altered the course of my life," Sananikone said. "Not only did I meet and marry my wife, Thanh-Lo, at the Center, but I also began building the basis of a life and career that have been inextricably intertwined with the educational and cross-cultural learning opportunities I had while I was here.

"I could not have done this without my East-West Center education and the multi-cultural values instilled in me as a result of the wholly unique experience I gained here as a grantee," he added. "So to be the first EWC alumnus to be entrusted with the chairmanship of the Board is one of the most humbling moments of my life. It is more than an honor for me. It has always been my privilege to be able to give back to the Center in whatever role I could over the years. The Center has been, and will always be, a large part of my family's life, and I look forward to serving the Center and its constituents in the years to come."

Originally from Laos, Puongpun came to the EWC as an economics student in the mid-1960s. Fluent in six languages, Sananikone has held a variety of high-profile professional business positions in various

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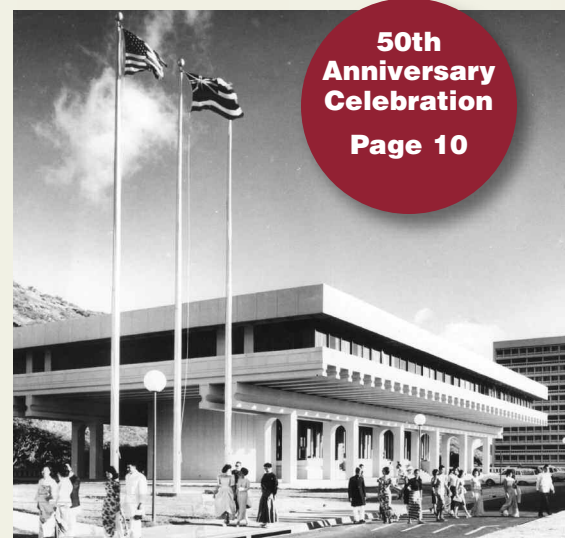
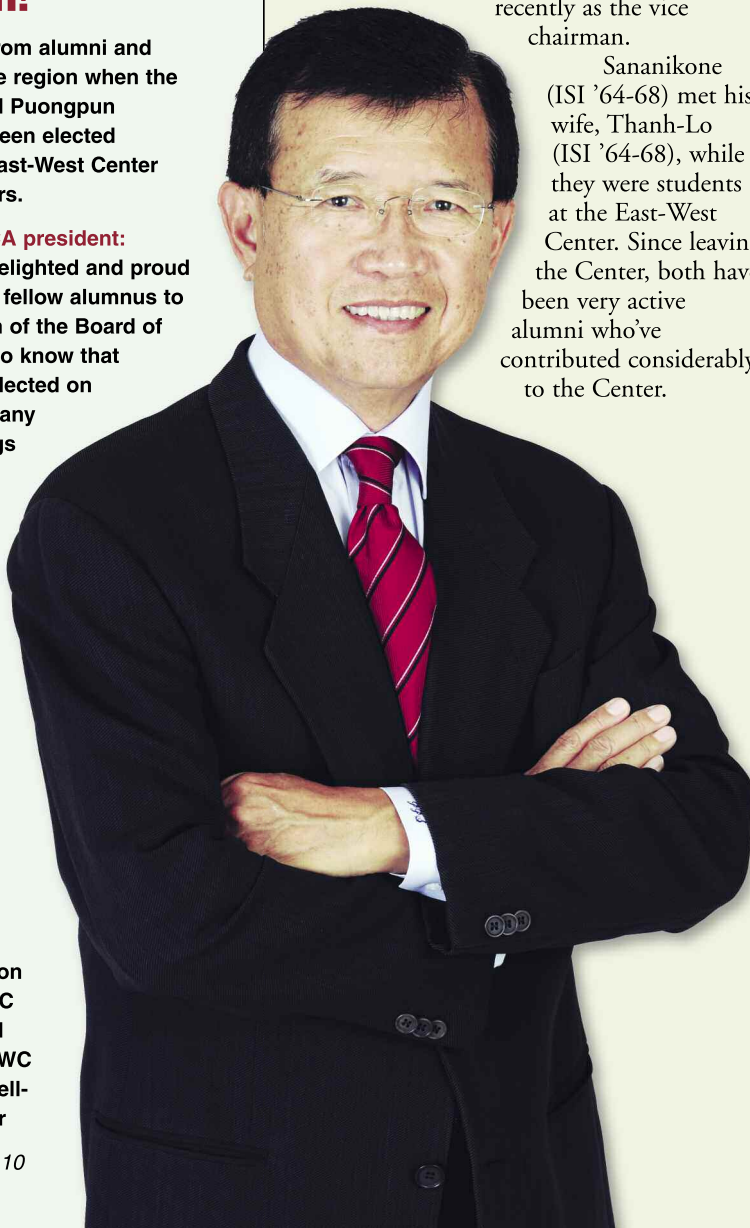
Congratulations, Puongpun!

Messages came from alumni and friends all over the region when the Center announced Puongpun Sananikone had been elected chairman of the East-West Center Board of Governors.

Larry Foster, EWCA president:
"The alumni are delighted and proud at having our first fellow alumnus to serve as chairman of the Board of Governors. We also know that Puongpun was selected on the basis of the many strengths he brings to the position. Among those strengths is his extraordinary network of contacts throughout the region, which we expect will bring great benefit to the Center."

Ric Trimillos, chair, UH Asian Studies Program and professor of ethnomusicology:
"Congratulations on being the first EWC alum to be elected chairman of the EWC Board. Not only well-deserved, but your

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**50th
Anniversary
Celebration
Page 10**

Puongpun Sananikone, *continued from page 9*

countries, including operations officer for the Asian Development Bank, chief economist and director of Asian Operations for the engineering and development firm Louis Berger International; and executive vice president of Hawaiian Agronomics International. Since 1987, he has headed his own Honolulu-based consulting firm, Pacific Management Resources, or PacMar, Inc., which provides a broad range of economic and technical advisory services to business ventures throughout the Asia Pacific region. Over the years, as an international development economist, Puongpun has worked on every continent.

He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Hawai'i and a master's in economics from the University of Colorado. In 2003 he received the University of Hawai'i's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Sananikone said he believes the elements of the

East-West Center community are currently working very well together, and his primary goal as chairman will be to help build the Center's long-term financial stability.

"The Center is an outstanding example of a public-private partnership," he said. "Congressional funding has been remarkably reliable over the years, but we have a relatively small endowment, so I believe it is important to diversify and expand our funding base."

Sananikone said he is looking forward to working with EWC President Charles E.

Morrison and his staff, along with "the private sector and the Center's many alumni and friends around the world to ensure long-term stability through creative fundraising."

"As a member of the greater EWC community of the Asia Pacific region, I believe I am justified in saying that these are also the best of times for our EWC 'Ohana. I do not remember a time in recent decades in which the EWC community has been so

together, so united and harmonious," he observed.

"I look forward to working to provide the collective leadership required to mobilize the human and financial resources we need to ensure the Center's future. We each have something special to contribute and this will be our lasting legacy. Let's move forward together on behalf of the East-West Center and a peaceful, prosperous and just Asia Pacific region."



Congratulations, Puongpun!

continued from page 9

appointment is also an important statement for leadership that has grown out of the Center itself. We are proud of you!"

Tsue and Jerry Ostermann, EWC 1960s alumni: "Congratulations to Puongpun on his new assignment on the EWC Board. We are delighted that 'one of our own' has achieved this position as chairman of the board. We look forward to what we are sure will be a successful term."

Dr. Arthur Crisfield, Laos: "What a tremendous honor for you and Thanh-Lo. Both of you have worked so hard and contributed so much to the EWC. Your keen understanding of the American psyche as well as of all the countries that belong to the EWC, and your consummate ability at bringing decision makers together ... or movers and shakers in high places will no doubt help build an ever stronger role for the EWC and maybe bring the dreams of more and more people ever closer to reality."

Sumi Makey, retired EWC dean of students: "Congratulations Puongpun! It's a well-deserved honor and I know you'll do an outstanding job of keeping the Board focused on the Center's goals, while exploring new horizons for the EWC. Consider yourself a pioneer in opening the door for greater involvement of alumni in EWC governance."

EWC/EWCA 50th Anniversary Celebration in Honolulu Set for July 2010

Plan to be in Honolulu on July 2 to 5, 2010 at the EWC/EWCA International 50th Anniversary Conference, when the East-West Center will mark half a century working to promote understanding and cooperation in the Asia Pacific region, including the United States.

Our golden anniversary year is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the Center's first 50 years and to look

forward to addressing the needs and challenges of the Asia Pacific community today and in the years to come. The international conference — with the theme: "Leadership and Community Building in the Asia Pacific Region" — will be one of the premier events of the 50th anniversary celebration.

The conference will consider the position, importance and relevance of national interchange and interaction in the 21st century and the impact of social, cultural, technological and political factors on traditional national frameworks and new international frameworks and institutions. It will draw on the richness of experience gained in five decades of study and involvement by alumni and staff of the East-West Center.

Since it's being held in Hawai'i — the crossroads of the Pacific and the home of the East-West Center — the conference will also provide an opportunity for the EWC community to "return to the source" to renew old friendships and make new ones. Mark the date on your calendar now — and plan to join us!



Amanda Ellis, Striving to Empower Women in Developing Countries

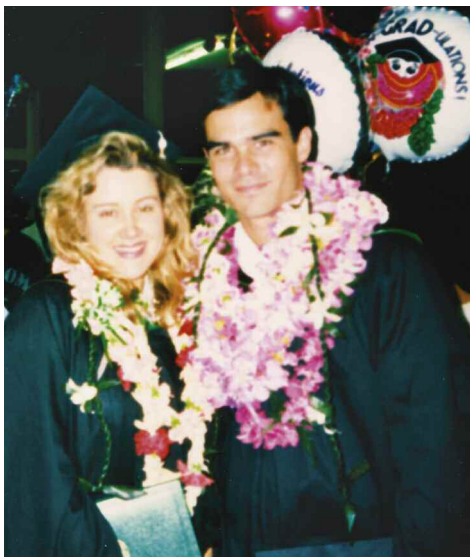
Take a look at a map of the world's developing countries and chances are Amanda Ellis has played a role in economically empowering women in an impressive number of those nations.

Ellis is lead specialist for the World Bank Group Gender Action Plan, a \$40-million initiative that promotes gender equality as smart economics. She spearheads an exciting new global research program on the ease of "Doing Business for Women" across 180 countries. On top of that, she manages the World Bank's Global Private Sectors Leaders CEO Forum.

None of this surprises those who knew Amanda when she was a graduate student at the East-West Center.

Ellis came to the Center in 1986, where she earned a master's degree in communication and political science, and studied Japanese. "I knew I wanted to go into the foreign service," she recalls. "When I finished my Honors degree, I felt I hadn't really seen the world or much of life and the East-West Center sounded like a wonderful place to learn more about the Asia Pacific region and a good training ground for foreign service.

"The Center was an amazing opportunity for someone from the bottom of the south island of New Zealand to learn from 350 students from 53 different countries," she continues, "from places I'd never heard of like



Amanda Ellis and husband, Keric Chin, at EWC graduation ceremonies in 1988.



Amanda Ellis with World Bank President Robert Zoellick at a *Doing Business for Women* event.

Chuuk, Pohnpei, or culturally different like Bangladesh and Nepal, and places I'd read about but never met anyone from before."

She recalls international days at Hale Manoa, the International Fair, learning Hawaiian hula culture and history. "It was really a life-changing opportunity being able to interact with people from so many countries and disciplines there for a common purpose," Amanda says.

"I saw how important it was from a development perspective that women have access to loans in microfinance."

When she completed her studies at the Center, Ellis stepped easily into the foreign service in New Zealand serving posts in Paris, the Pacific and Asia. Her first role was the International Secretariat for PECC and she later served as a senior official to APEC, before being headhunted by WESTPAC Banking Corporation, as national manager for women in business and the head of women's markets. In 2003, WESTPAC co-sponsored the EWC "Changing Faces" conference in Sydney, which brought together women from around the Asia Pacific region in leadership in the private, non-profit and public sectors. Ellis was instrumental in the regional gathering of the annual EWC seminar for women happening in Australia.

In 2005, Ellis moved on to the World Bank. In May 2007 and 2008, she gave the keynote address at the APEC Women Leaders' Network Conference in Australia and Peru. "It's fascinating how things I was involved with at the Center in my early career, how these connections have been maintained and strengthened to become a theme in my professional life," she says.

While studying political science at the University of Hawai'i, she developed an interest in gender issues. Then, in the foreign service, "I saw how important it was from a

development perspective that women have access to loans in microfinance," she says. In Australia, she ran a women's business program that introduced her to many of the country's women entrepreneurs and led to a book contract with Random House. That book "Women's Business, Women's Wealth" became a best seller. Next, Random House asked her to follow with a book about women entrepreneurs in New Zealand, which shot into the top 10 best-seller list for non-fiction in its first week on the shelves.

An active alumni member, Ellis has served on the EWCA International Board. She has also donated proceeds from sales of her books to an endowment for the Amanda and Natalie Ellis Scholarships, a tribute to her mother, Natalie, who retires in 2008 after a long and distinguished teaching career. The scholarships will go to young women leaders in Australia and New Zealand participating in the EWC Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP).

"It's my way of giving back to the Center in Australia and New Zealand and honoring my mother's contribution as an educator," she explains.

"The seeds of my future were definitely planted at the center," Ellis adds. "I think of Charles Morrison as a mentor. He gave me a break as a graduate student with an internship. It's why I'm committed to mentoring."

Ellis has helped to secure internships for APLP students at The World Bank. One of those interns, Thuan Thi Phuong Le, is on the staff of the bank's "Doing Business for Women" program.

"What makes the Center unique is you have a transformational, life-changing experience," Ellis says, "not only did I meet my wonderful husband, Keric Chin, I'm part of an alumni network that continues to provide relevant input in both the personal and professional dimensions of my life. That's a unique contribution."

AROUND the Globe

The EWCA would like to welcome its two newest chapters and their chapter leaders:

Timor-Leste, Dili Chapter

Chapter leader Brigida da Silva at nojiovi@yahoo.com

Indonesia, Aceh Chapter

Chapter leader Anton Widyanto at anton.widyanto@gmail.com

If you reside in one of these areas and would like to be involved in chapter activities, please email the chapter leader of that area.



SOUTH ASIA

Chennai (India)

The Chennai Chapter celebrated EWC Day on May 28. Frederick J. Kaplan, Consul, Public Affairs, American Consulate General in Chennai, delivered a talk on "Indo-U.S. Relations: Past, Present and Future." Professor Gopalji Malviya, head of the Department of Defence and Strategic Studies University, presided.

Chapter President P.M. Belliappa welcomed the guests and highlighted the role of EWC in promoting better understanding between the East and West, and building cross-cultural relations. He also spoke of chapter activities, particularly the EWC-Fulbright joint Environment Programme, supported by USEFI. In addition, Randor Guy, a celebrated film critic, discussed the American classic *Casablanca*, which was screened over cocktails and dinner.



Mumbai (India)

EWC Day was celebrated at the American Center in Mumbai. Alumni as well as non-EWC-alumni and media filled the auditorium to hear U.S. Consul General Michael Owen on Indo-U.S. Relations. At the beginning of the evening, Chapter leader Seshan spoke of the activities of the EWC and EWCA.

Kathmandu (Nepal)

East-West Center Day was celebrated by the EWCA Kathmandu Chapter on May 17, which also marked the formal launching of the sister relationship between the EWCA Brisbane Chapter, Australia, and the EWCA Kathmandu, Nepal Chapter. The Brisbane Chapter celebrated EWC Day on May 18.

The occasion was used by the chapter to visit the Bal Bhojan, a non-profit agency which assists children in need, to distribute educational kits to about 60 underprivileged and street children. Chapter members visited and also helped serve lunch to the youngsters.

Bangladesh

EWC Day was celebrated on May 14 with an alumni get-together and discussion of an article by Khaleda Ekram titled "Nostalgia of Hawai'i — The Volcanoes," which will be published in a local daily newspaper. The chapter continues to organize community service projects to help the poor in disaster-affected areas in partnership with local NGOs, especially in the north and south, which have endured flooding and damage from cyclones. Efforts are also being made to collaborate with more NGOs.

EAST ASIA

Shanghai (China)

Nick Barker, head of the EWC Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP), attended a dinner with EWCA Shanghai Chapter members on June 6. (See top photo.) EWCA President Larry Foster and his wife, Brenda Foster, director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, hosted the evening.

Kansai (Japan)

On April 21, Ambassador Ray Burghardt, director of East-West Seminars, met with EWC alumni in Kyoto at a lunch organized by the EWCA Kansai Chapter at the Hotel Granvia. (See photo above.) Ray brought the alumni up-to-date on developments at the Center and heard from alumni about the importance of the EWC experience in their lives. After the luncheon meeting, alumni Chapter President Tomohide Ashida gave Ray and Susan Burghardt a tour of some of Kyoto's most famous sights.

Former Research Program Administrative Officer Meg McGowan organized a reunion for 1968 alumni at the East-West Center on July 18. The eight alumni enjoyed the day receiving updates from President Charles E. Morrison and Dean of Students Mary Hammond, followed by a tour of the campus and dinner in the old cafeteria area.





SOUTHEAST ASIA

Phnom Penh (Cambodia)

EWC alumni in Phnom Penh held a dinner meeting in July with President Charles E. Morrison who provided an update on EWC and EWCA activities and encouraged Cambodian alumni to attend the Bali Conference in November. (See photo above.) Chhany Sak-Humphry and Nicole Knudsen (both standing far left) helped to organize the gathering.



Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

In September, a Walk-A-Hunt for Malaysian Orphan Children took place in Kuala Lumpur organized by the University of Malaya Bachelor of Education students with help from EWCA Kuala Lumpur Chapter alumni. The Walk-A-Hunt involved children from orphanages in the vicinity of UM, who were supposed to read and follow directions, decipher clues and then complete a task, all in English. Through the generosity of sponsors, each child took home a souvenir, fruit or stationery at the end of the hunt.

Philippines

At the recent general homecoming for the University of the Philippines centennial celebration in Manila, four members of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association - Hawai'i chapter were honored: Amy Agbayani, Lindy Aquino, Tita Terry Ramos and George Camara. (See top photo.)

PACIFIC

Brisbane (Australia)

On May 18, the Brisbane chapter celebrated EWC Day with a picnic next to the Nepalese pavilion in South Bank. The place was chosen because the chapter was inaugurating its sister chapter relationship with the Kathmandu Chapter in Nepal. Among chapter members is Nepal-born Bhishna Bajracharya.



UNITED STATES

Hawai'i

The Hawai'i chapter reports its annual meeting and fundraiser dinner was a great success, with more than 120 attending this year's event. Proceeds from the dinner ticket sales, and auction and bazaar sales go to support the EWC Student Travel Grants. To cap off the evening four student groups performed Thai, Vietnamese, Hindi and Malaysian music and dance.

On May 10, the chapter sponsored a celebration of EWC Day at Hale Halawai. Following opening remarks by Ambassador Raymond Burghardt, EWC director of Seminars, the chapter announced five student recipients of the EWCA 2008 Summer Travel Grant: Thuy La (Vietnam), Maria Chelo Manlagnit (Philippines), Carl Polley (USA), Turro Wongkaren (Indonesia) and Stuart Candy (Australia).

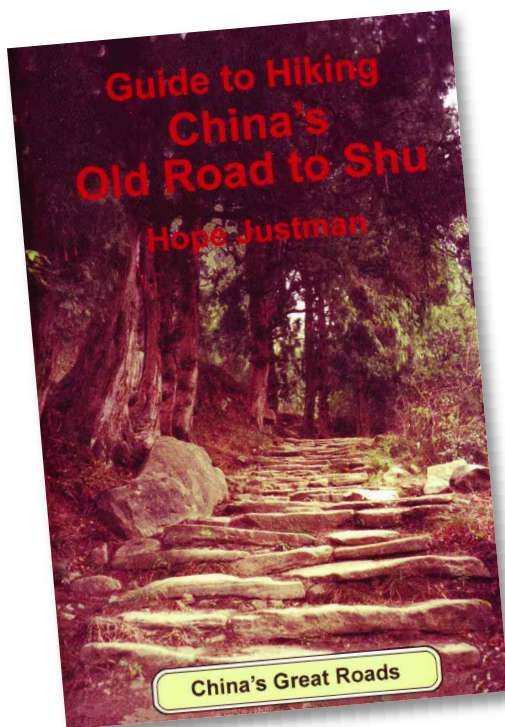


Southern California

The Southern California Chapter held a special event on May 3 in honor of the 2008 International Year of the Reef. Chapter alumni, including two members from the Arizona Chapter, met at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach.

Presentations on the importance of coral reefs, the impact of global warming and everyday actions people can take to protect them were given by Gregor Hodgson, executive director of the Reef Check Foundation and Chapter President Jenny Miller Garmendia, director of Project AWARE Foundation (both EWC alumni). The group also toured the aquarium exhibits, then had dinner at a restaurant and held a chapter meeting to plan future activities. This included attending the upcoming Los Angeles Ho'olaule'a July 18 and 19 and organizing an EWC alumni reception in conjunction with the 2009 ASPAC Conference at California's Soka University next summer.

Alumni Happenings



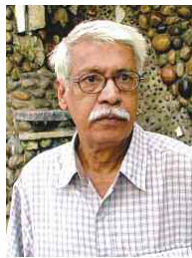
Hope Whitaker Justman (1964 to '67) has published a "Guide to Hiking China's Old Road to Shu" (paperback \$27.95, digital book \$6, published by iUniverse 2007, 435 pp.) Justman provides a guide "to remote and beautiful forgotten stretches of one of China's most famous ancient flagstone roads, the Road to Shu," built more than 2,000 years ago to link Xi'an and Chengdu. Nineteen hikes are described in detail, covering 120 miles and traversing the most scenic parts of the Daba and Qinling Mountains lying between Chengdu and Xi'an.

T.K. Jayaraman ('68) was awarded the first Vice Chancellor's Prize for Best Research Publication by the Office of Research and Graduate Affairs at the University of the South Pacific. An associate professor of Business and Economics, Jayaraman received the award for his 2007 chapter on "Regional Economic Integration in the Pacific Problems and Prospects" in the book "Issues in Economic Development of Small Island Economies," published by the Commonwealth Secretariat. He also received Fiji \$500 as part of the award.

Hon Wai Wong (NGS '08) was elected to a seat as assemblyman in Penang, Malaysia. A member of the Democratic Action Party, he won 61% of the popular vote.

In Memoriam

Zia Hyder ('66), of Bangladesh, a renowned poet-dramatist-director-teacher died in September. He received a master's degree in fine arts from UH while on an East-West Center scholarship. Founder of the theater troupe, Nagorik Natyasam-pradaya, Hyder contributed to the neo-theater movement in Bangladesh shortly after the country's independence. He worked to establish theatre as an academic subject at the university level in Bangladesh, producing a series of books on the history of world theater, used in universities in Bangladesh and India. For his many contributions to theater, Haider won numerous awards.



A.H.M. Moniruzzaman ('79), a distinguished, award-winning poet who contributed significantly to the field of arts and literature in Bangladesh, died in September. Moniruzzaman obtained his Masters degree from the University of Dhaka and completed his Ph.D. in 1969.

Tony Quagliano (AB'63), a poet, essayist, literary critic, jazz writer, editor and professor of American Studies at JAIME (Japan American Institute for Management Science) and the University of Hawai'i, died May 31 in Honolulu. A celebration of his life and poetry was held on Aug 11 at the Korean Studies Center. Tony published widely in numerous literary journals and wrote four books of poetry.

Richard A. Via, a former Visiting Fellow and member of the research staff, died on August 13. Based on his successful experience using Broadway drama techniques to teach English in Japan, he was invited by the East-West Center in 1971 to write a book for teachers and teacher trainers. That book *English in Three Acts* was published by the University Press of Hawai'i in 1976 as an EWC monograph and was the best-selling EWC publication for a decade. From the mid-'70s to early '80s, Via taught in the ESL Department at the University of Hawai'i and conducted training workshops for teachers at the Center and throughout Asia. An international authority on the use of drama techniques for teaching, Via was a frequent presenter at international conferences in the United States and Asia.

He also was a key figure in the establishment of arts programming at the Center in the '70s and '80s. His pioneering efforts brought to Hawai'i audiences such traditions as Maori dance and theatre, Indian sitar and sarod music, Japanese shakuhachi (flute) music and Butoh dance, Malaysian theatre, Chinese hand puppets and circus acts, Mongolian dance and music including "throat singing," Flamenco dance, American bluegrass, Mexican-American mariachi music, and storytellers from Asia, the U.S. continent, and the Pacific.

After his retirement from the EWC in September 1987, Via continued to be active in the local arts community and to be in demand as a language teaching consultant, particularly in Japan and Southeast Asia.



A memorial service for **Elizabeth "Betty" Bullard** (TIP 1967) was held at the East-West Center in April. Betty was a recipient of an EWC Distinguished Alumni Award and was co-chair of the 1960s Scholarship Endowment Drive which raised more than \$250,000 for student scholarships.

Chapter Highlight:

In Nepal, Raising Funds for Tsunami Victims, Street Children, and Establishing Ties with Alumni in Brisbane

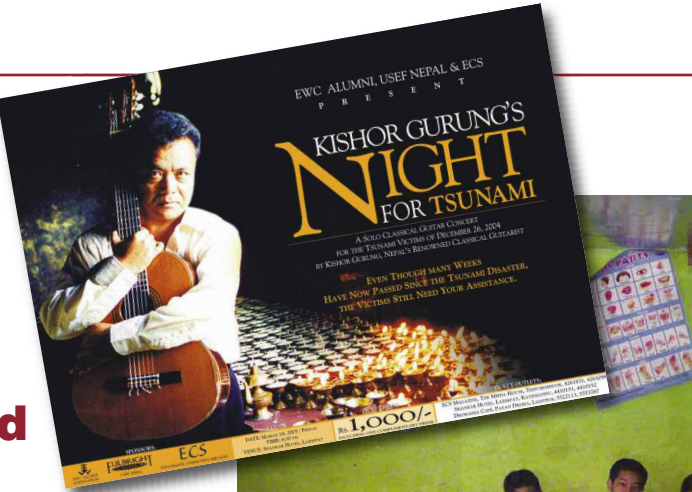
A concert to raise funds for victims of the 2004 tsunami. A community service project to provide educational programs and meals for street children in Kathmandu. A sister chapter relationship with EWC alumni in Brisbane, Australia. The EWCA Nepal Alumni Chapter in Kathmandu has been busy creatively and enthusiastically carrying out the mission of the East-West Center in South Asia.

“The things we learned at the Center, the aloha spirit and the living together, sharing different cultures, different foods and learning about other people, definitely has had a good effect on my life,” said Nirendra Maske (1967-68), vice president of the chapter, who was in Honolulu visiting family this summer. “What we’re doing now with our chapter programs and projects is to mobilize and give back to society because we were very fortunate to come to Hawai’i and have such wonderful experiences at the East-West Center.”

Nepal’s alumni chapter numbers about 50 to 60 members, with about 15 to 20 members regularly participating in programs and projects.

In spring 2005, after the devastating 2004 Asian tsunami, the chapter organized a concert to benefit the EWC tsunami relief effort. “We thought this was the time to show our solidarity with the people affected by the disaster,” Nirendra said.

The fundraiser featured a solo classical guitar concert by Kishor Gurung, an EWC alumnus and a renowned Nepalese musician, at a hotel in Kathmandu. The event, sponsored by the EWCA chapter, USEF and Expatriate Community Service, was sold out and raised more than US \$1,500. Those funds were donated to the EWC tsunami relief fund, matched by the East-West Center, and at the chapter’s request designated to aid victims in Sri Lanka and India.



An ongoing priority for the chapter has been its community service project, which supports the efforts of Bal Bhojan, an organization that provides food and education for street children in Kathmandu.

On EWC Day in May 2007, the chapter subsidized training for two teachers from the project. This year, to mark EWC

Day, chapter president, Dr. Shankar Sharma, and other alumni visited the Bal Bhojan program to distribute educational kits to 60 children. Alumni also helped serve lunch to the children.

This spring the Nepal chapter officially established a sister relationship with the Brisbane chapter in Australia. The chapters exchanged memorandum of understanding

signed by the chapter presidents, agreeing together to promote awareness of the EWC and its activities in their countries as well as develop common activities and projects involving their chapters. Out of this relationship the chapters hope to develop closer relations between its members.

As a first step, they’ve agreed to work together to raise funds to send a Nepalese student to the East-West Center. They’re also developing a joint research project on



The Bal Bhojan community service program provides food and education for street children in Kathmandu.

the current and likely future effects of global warming on Australia and Nepal, which will be presented at the Bali Conference in November.

They also have plans to raise financial and material support for a village education project in Nepal. And the Brisbane chapter hopes to make a good will visit to Nepal to further the development of joint activities.

There’s an EWC story behind the sister chapter relationship that dates back to 1967 and ’68 in Honolulu. Those were the years when EWC grantees Nirendra Maske and Jeremy Webb, from Nepal and Australia respectively, were roommates pursuing their studies in Hawai’i. Their friendship has continued through the decades — testimony to the strength of the network of EWC alumni which continues to benefit people and countries throughout the region.



Chapter members gathered at Hotel Himalaya for EWC Day.



EAST-WEST CENTER
FORMING AND INFORMING LEADERS

Help Build an EWC Community

More than 50,000 men and women have been EWC participants in its 48-year history, and many have joined the 47 established EWCA chapters in 20 countries.

The East-West Center Association, the Center's official alumni organization, works with alumni to strengthen the EWC network. We hope that you'll keep in touch with us. Send us your current contact information so you can participate in our international network.

Send it to:
alumni@EastWestCenter.org.

The EWC Associates Update is published by the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West, Inc. East-West Center, 1601 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96848-1601.

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Awards and Honors for EWC Media Alumni

Imtiaz Ali (Senior Journalists Seminar '06) of Pakistan, a special correspondent to the *Washington Post* and Geo TV, was named a 2008 Yale World Fellow, chosen from some 1,100 applicants. The program selects 18 highly accomplished early to mid-career fellows from government, business, media and civil society organizations for a four-month leadership program at Yale.

Haili Cao (Health Journalism Fellow '07) of China, was awarded a 2008 Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University. Cao, foreign editor at *Caijing* magazine, is the Atusko Chiba Nieman Fellow, which honors the memory of the accomplished 1968 Japanese journalist.

Suzette Parmley (Asia Pacific Journalism Fellow '07) of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, won awards from the New Jersey Press Association and New Jersey Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists' for business and financial writing, including a package of stories as a result of her EWC fellowship.

Steven Pearlstein (Hong Kong Journalism Fellow '04) of the U.S., was awarded the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for distinguished commentary. Pearlstein, a business columnist at the *Washington Post*, won the prestigious journalism award "for his insightful columns that explore the nation's complex economic ills with masterful clarity."



ONLINE: Reports from the Bali Conference

In the next issue of EWCA Update, we'll report on the EWC/EWCA Bali Conference, held November 13-15. This year's theme is "Building an Asia Pacific Community: Unity in Diversity." You can also read reports and comments about the conference at: <http://forum.eastwestcenter.org/alumni/>

In August, alumni had booked all the rooms available at the Sanur Paradise Plaza Hotel, location of this year's conference. When this issue went to press, more than 450 people were expected at the conference.

More than 30 concurrent panels on a variety of topics were planned, including on: "The Role of Indonesia in the 21st Century," "Contemporary Issues in the Region," "Philanthropy in Asia and the Pacific" and "Changing Dynamics of Business in the Region."



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