Attorney Angela E. Oh, Esq., one of the nation’s leading commentators on race relations, has written *Open: One Woman’s Journey*, published by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press. *Open* is a personal narrative on race, gender, and spirituality from an Asian American perspective. The book reflects Ms. Oh’s twenty-year work as a teacher, public lecturer, and lawyer—and more recently, as an ordained Priest, Zen Buddhist Rinzai Sect.

The book, according to editor and UCLA Prof. Russell C. Leong, “is an intimate portrait of a 20th and 21st century activist, scholar, and priest from a perspective of humanism that includes, but goes beyond, racial identity. *Open* is unique in its candor, humour, and deft portraits of ordinary, and not-so-ordinary, people Angela Oh has met on her journey.”

Ms. Oh, commenting about her life and writing, states: “My perspective is a product of who I am—a second-generation Korean woman, and first-generation new American, born and raised in Los Angeles at the historical moment when Civil Rights, Women’s Rights, and the Free Speech Movement were emerging in the collective consciousness of a nation. Gender, class, history, and culture have required me to forge a different path than others. Walking that path has given rise to these writings.”

The book also includes a series of black and white photographs by noted photographer Sae Bhang Lee, that chronicle Ms. Oh’s spiritual journey inspired by the ever-changing and passionate landscape of wind, sand, sun, and desert of Southern California. Ms. Oh says, “I hope only to put down a marker in time; I imagine mostly Korean Americans and Asian Americans reading these essays, but I wish others would read some of these essays and begin to question.”

Ms. Oh was appointed by President William Clinton to the President’s Initiative on Race. Between 1998 and 2002, she examined race relations, community building, and leadership development. She graduated from UCLA where she earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees; her Juris Doctorate is from King Hall, the UC Davis School of Law. Ms. Oh has her own law firm, Oh & Barrera, LLP, and is a board member of the Korean American Bar Association of Southern California.

Contents of *Open: One Woman’s Journey* include:

“Times to Remember, Even as We Try to Forget”
“I’ll Kill You, I’ll Kill Myself”
“A Blessing and a Curse”
“Pbali-Pbali People”
“Yujah/Woman”
“Detours”
“Judges and Judging”
“The Korean Jewess (aka The Oriental Beauty)”
“Seeing Each Other”
“Multi-Racial Reality”
“Nate & Sue”
“A Stranger at the Gate (of Race)”
“9/11”
“Would You Like to Add Anything?”
“Body, Spirit, Practice”

The book may be purchased by sending a check made payable to “UC Regents” in the amount of $15 (plus $4.00 shipping/handling and 8.25% tax for California residents) to: UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press, 3230 Campbell Hall, Box 951546, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546. Visa, Mastercard, and Discovercard are also accepted. Inquiries for purchasing the book, contact Thao Cha (e-mail: thaocha@ucla.edu or phone: 310.825.2968).
Higher Learning: Remembering I-Hotel

by Julie Vo

RISE UP AND REMEMBER … I-HOTEL FOREVER! RISE UP AND REMEMBER … I-HOTEL FOREVER! Chants so loud I could hardly catch my breath. Being swept along with the movements of the crowd. Banners lifted high, we marched toward the site of what once was the International Hotel.

Those at the front of the lines led the fervent crowd as bystanders watched. As onlookers strained to read our signs and arm bands, we thrust flyers into their palms. Walking past storefronts and businesses, I peered into their shops, symbols of the still living, culture of the Chinese and Filipinos in San Francisco.

Moving along with the crowd, I realized that this was one of the few times of deep unity that I’d ever experienced in the Asian American community. We were there to honor the elderly Filipino and Chinese tenants who were evicted from the International Hotel 25 years ago, as well as the movement that transpired within the community in protest. Walking down Kearny Street this past summer in San Francisco and being a part of the I-Hotel march and vigil impacted me greatly. Yet, why was this remarkable event so significant for me now? Why hadn’t I been a part of something like this before?

There are ways that sitting in a lecture hall simply listening to and reading about what it means to be Asian American deadens the spirit.

After a few years at UCLA, many questions have flooded my head. What makes me Asian American? Is it because I’ve chosen to take a few ethnic studies classes at UCLA that deem me proficient in the Asian American experience? How about because I am an “Asian American Studies Major”? What does that mean anyway? Sitting in lecture halls, I realized that the problem for me lay in the fact that I was doing just that—sitting in a lecture hall.

I could only connect and be moved by these issues to a certain point. What was I going to do with all of this when I left campus? I learned about community action, but the only action I took was picking up the assigned reader for the class.

Sitting in my first Asian American Studies class my freshman year, I looked around at the sea of faces—the same overwhelming number I see around campus, (Continued on page 13.)
Not Just a Tourist Destination:
The UCLA Multicultural Summer Program in Hawai’i
by Erin K. Wright & Roderick N. Labrador

For many, the mere mention of “Hawai’i” conjures up a multitude of exotic images. White sand beaches, supple hula maidens, lu’aus, and tropical, fruity drinks are just some of the more prevalent representations of Hawai’i. Coupled with these images, Hawai’i also evokes certain feelings. Hawai’i is blissfully carefree, a place of peaceful coexistence. These are the same notions most students participating in the UCLA Multicultural Summer Program in Hawai’i bring with them to Hawai’i…notions that they usually end up leaving there.

The UCLA Multicultural Summer Program in Hawai’i is a jointly sponsored academic program between the Asian American Studies Center (AASC) at UCLA and the Ethnic Studies Center at the University of Hawai’i at Manoa (UH-M). Every summer, students are afforded the opportunity to live in Hawai’i for six weeks, earn academic credit, learn about different communities in Hawai’i, and interact with students from Hawai’i.

The “Hawai’i Program,” as it is usually referred to, stems from a personal friendship. AASC director Dr. Don Nakanishi and UH-M American Studies professor Dr. Dennis Ogawa created the Hawai’i Program in the early 1990s to examine “Multicultural Hawai’i,” or Hawai’i as an example of relative racial harmony. Initially, the program began as a partnership between Asian American Studies and American Studies. The program consisted of two courses: Asian American Studies 135A: Asian Pacific American Communities in Hawai’i; Critical Issues Past and Present and Asian American Studies 135B: Asian Pacific American Communities: Field Studies. The lecture, facilitated by Hawai’i storytelling celebrity Dr. Glen Grant, focused on the experiences of the different ethnic groups living in Hawai’i as framed by the popular Hawai’i Multicultural Model, while the Field Studies course focused on student internships.

Over the past few years, the Hawai’i Program experienced incredible growth in terms of students, curriculum, and structure. Currently, the Hawai’i Program is run by Erin K. Wright and Roderick N. Labrador. In 1998, the excitement of Erin’s first year was tempered by an enrollment of twelve and a notice from the UCLA Travel Study Programs that if the enrollment did not significantly increase by the next year, the Hawai’i Program would be cut. Due to positive student feedback and Rod’s outstanding promotional efforts that following year, enrollment shot to thirty-five students. With the help of AASC and Travel Study Programs, our enrollment and waiting list have continued to grow since 1998. According to the Travel Study Programs, Hawai’i is one of the most popular programs they offer.

Always wanting to improve the program, we also modified the curriculum. For AAS 135B, we decided to end the internships. Instead, we created a course using the social-historical Hawai’i experience as the context for conducting community-based action research. Using this far more critical lens of the Hawai’i Multicultural Model, students would learn historical and contemporary issues of Hawai’i, acquire research skills, actively engage in the community, and be self-directed learners. We’ve had research on everything from Hawaiian Sovereignty and Filipina Literature in Hawai’i to Homosexuality in Hawai’i and the Militarization of Hawai’i. As an addition to the program curriculum, we also added discussion sections to further assist students in their analytical thought processes.

A favorite part of the Hawai’i Program is the field trips. The field trips provide a chance to experience Hawai’i outside the classroom. As such, we visit places that are thematically related to the topic of the week. For example, when we cover immigration, we visit Waipahu Cultural Garden and Plantation Village. We also go on field trips unique to our program like the guided cultural and historical tour of O’ahu and the Wai’anae Coast. Some other field trips were ‘Iolani Palace, Polynesian Cultural Center, Germaine’s Lu’au, Bishop Museum, and the Prince Lot Hula Festival.

Although the basic structure of the program remains the same, we have added some new elements for Summer 2003. We moved our UH-M base from American Studies to Ethnic Studies. Then, we created two additional lecture choices for students. Students will still be required to take AAS 135B but will have the opportunity to choose from one of three lecture courses: AAS 135A, AAS 197D (Contemporary Issues in Hawaiian Society), or AAS 197E (Immigration and Multiculturalism in Hawai’i). Essentially, the Hawai’i Program provides students with a number of different learning opportunities: first-hand experience in a society where A/PIs are the majority and occupy positions of power and privilege; and the chance to examine their own privilege and its effect on the indigenous population.

The Hawai’i Program attracts a diverse group of students. They are from all over the United States from a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds with different academic interests and reasons for enrolling in the program. At the beginning of our tenure, many of our students told us they enrolled because the experience would be like earning credits for vacation. Other students said

(Continued on page 8.)
On November 16, 2002, the Center held its 33rd Anniversary Awards Dinner, sponsored by Dr. Sue Ann Kim, a pioneer in the Korean American community. Proceeds from the dinner support programs and activities of the Center, as well as raise funds for scholarships, graduate fellowships, and research grants to assist many undergraduate and graduate students pursuing their studies in Asian American Studies.

The dinner theme was “Journey & Communities—A Celebration,” and honorees included Govind B. Bhakta, businessman and author of *Patels: A Gujarati Community History in the United States*; John Kobara, businessman and former UCLA vice chancellor who received the 2002 APA UCLA Outstanding Alumnus Award; and the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON). The keynote speaker for the evening was award-winning journalist Helen Zia, author of *Asian American Dreams: The Emergence of an American People* and co-author of *My Country Versus Me* about Wen Ho Lee. Tritia Toyota, former journalist and co-founder of the National Asian American Journalists Association, was the mistress of ceremonies.

Govind Bhakta received the Pioneer Recognition Award. Mr. Bhakta was born into a farming family in Sarai Village, in the Navsari district of the Gujarat States, India. As a child, he lived under one roof with an extended family consisting of twenty-eight members. This early experience led to his conviction that the lives of youth and communities are intertwined in a unique way.

Mr. Bhakta immigrated to the United States in 1968. He has been in the real estate business during the past twenty-eight years, owning “Mom and Pop” motels and franchised motels in the greater Los Angeles area and in other parts of the United States. Mr. Bhakta is active with the Indo American Patel community, and is working to build the community development capacity of Indo-American Patels nationally, focusing on the Los Angeles and Orange County areas.

2002 APA UCLA Outstanding Alumnus Award recipient John E. Kobara received his B.A. in Political Science and Sociology at UCLA. He obtained his M.A. in Urban Studies from Occidental College and his M.B.A. in Marketing and Finance from the University of Southern California.

Mr. Kobara has been involved in education his entire life. He started working in maximum security institutions as a counselor. He was later appointed Vice Chancellor of University Relations at UCLA. He has also invested over thirty years as a volunteer in many professional and charitable organizations.

The Community Service Award was given to Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON). A3PCON has emerged as one of the leading advocates for the rights and needs of the APIA community in Southern California. A coalition of health, human service, educational, cultural, and advocacy agencies, A3PCON’s diverse membership has grown to over fifty organizations and represents a wide range of ethnic communities and policy interests.

In the aftermath of 9/11, A3PCON has been a leader in opposing xenophobic policies emanating from the “War on Terrorism,” including the degrading of civil liberties, racial profiling, and restrictions on immigration. A3PCON celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2001 and will undoubtedly continue to be one of these most strategic and important voices for the APIA community.

(Continued on next page.)
One of the highlights of the evening was a speech delivered by Chancellor Albert Carnesale, in which he shared the exciting developments of and gave his personal approval for the departmentalization of the Asian American Studies Center’s Interdepartmental Program. The much anticipated departmentalization means a greater expanse of resources, faculty, and opportunities for those students pursuing their studies in Asian American Studies.

Special tributes were also paid to Yuji Ichioka, professor and one of the Center’s founders, and Harry Kitano, professor emeritus and one of the leading authorities on race and ethnic relations.

The Center was very honored to have Dr. Sue Ann Kim sponsor the celebration, as she also generously created an endowed scholarship to support, in perpetuity, Korean American Studies by UCLA undergraduate and graduate students. The scholarship also supports the Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo endowed chair in Korean American Studies at UCLA. “We are tremendously honored by Dr. Kim’s generosity and commitment to our center, and to the support of UCLA students interested in Korean American Studies,” said Don Nakanishi, director of the Asian American Studies Center. “Dr. Kim has led a remarkable life of service and achievement, and has contributed immensely to enhancing the lives of children, families, women and immigrants in Southern California through her career and numerous voluntary leadership positions. Her ‘American Dream’ has been to make it possible for others to reach their full potential in this society,” Nakanishi said.

Dr. Kim was born in Taegur, South Korea, and taught and worked as a principal there for over ten years. She is a survivor of the Korean War and remembers a time in South Korea when “all the country was just ashes, everything was just burned.” She came to the United States on a Fulbright Fellowship in 1959. Kim received her doctorate in education at UCLA in 1970. Her dissertation focused on how vocational education could be improved in South Korea.

The Center also thanks all its other generous donors and supporters over the years—and especially this year, with the tragic loss of three of our most respected faculty members, Nobu McCarthy, Yuji Ichioka, and Harry Kitano.

The Center moves forward into the new year, while remembering the journeys which brought us to where we are today.
Patels are highly visible on the American urban landscape, especially in motel businesses throughout the nations, although Patels are also found in many professions including doctors, lawyers, and teachers. Patels: A Gujarati Community History in the United States is an invaluable guide to the Patel Indian contribution to American entrepreneurship culture and the professions through the eyes of first- and second-generation individuals, households, and community organizations. The book has photographs, charts, tables, and listings of community organizations in addition to biographies of Patel business people.

Professor Karen Leonard of the University of California, Irvine says that Patels is “a fine introduction to a community very important in both India and America.” The book contains ten chapters, two dozen charts, glossaries, and maps.

Contents include:
Patels and the Gujarati Homeland
Patel Migration within India
From India to America
Settlement, Entrepreneurship and Business Success Stories
Socioeconomic Characteristics
Education and Language
Dating and Marriage
The Generation Gap
Other Traditions

See the next page for information on how to order this important book!

The New Face of Asian Pacific America: Numbers, Diversity and Change in the 21st Century is the most up-to-date, comprehensive analysis of demographic and cultural changes in the Asian Pacific American community, with a look forward into the 21st century. The 312-page book draws upon U.S. Census 2000 data (including Summary Files 1-3), as well as historic Census data and other quantitative surveys. It is the first analysis anywhere of Census 2000 SF3 socioeconomic data (released September 2002) on Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, as well as the first demographic analysis of the fast-growing hapa (mixed-race/ethnicity) population. Demographic changes are illustrated with more than 100 graphics, maps and charts (in spot and full color) and 50 photographs. Thirty-one chapters fall under four section categories: Overview, Ethnic Group, Geography, and Cultural Change.

The Center will hold a book release party on Saturday, March 8, 2003, in the UCLA James West Alumni Center. Contact Don Nakanishi at dtn@ucla.edu for more information.

Editors: Eric Lai and Dennis Arguelles
Co-Publishers: AsianWeek newspaper of San Francisco and UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center
Partner Organizations: Organization for Chinese Americans and National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development

After more than three decades and over 20,000 pages, UCLA’s Amerasia Journal commemorates its contribution to Asian American Studies with a 30th Anniversary Cumulative Index of every article, author, and review published between 1971 and 2001. Amerasia Journal is widely acknowledged as the premier journal in Asian American Studies. The 160-page index includes article excerpts and photographs of 30 years of Amerasia Journal graphic design. The Index is compiled by Prof. Yen Le Espiritu, Ellen Wu, and Stephen Lee, and designed by Mary Uyematsu Kao.

Contents include: Asians in the Americas; Asians Americans and U.S. Asia Relations; Asian American Studies and the Movement; Comparative Ethnic and Race Relations; Culture, Arts, and Media; Education; Ethnic and Racial Identity; Gender and Women’s Studies; Hawai’i and the Pacific; Immigrants, Refugees, and Migration; Labor, Business, and Economy; Legal, Political, and Civil Rights Issues; Literature, Literary Criticism; Multiracial Asians; Poetry; Religion; Sexual Politics; Short Stories, Memoirs, and Novel Excerpts; War and Peace Issues; World War II and Japanese Americans; Bibliographies; Authors, Books, Films Reviewed.

Amerasia Journal subscribers receive a free copy of the Index with their subscription; annual subscriptions (3 issues) are $35.00 for individuals, $55.00 for institutions.
CROSSCURRENTS
Fall/Winter 2002

NEW TITLES FROM UCLA ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER PRESS


Capping five years of research and planning, guest editors Prof. Lane R. Hirabayashi and Prof. Evelyn Hu-DeHart announce a special edition of Amerasia Journal: “Asians in the Americas: Transculturations and Power” (28:2). The term “transculturations” refers to the circulation and transformation of ideas, peoples, capital, and technology, across the borders of cultures, communities, and nations. According to Hirabayashi, “scholars in literature, history, architecture, musicology, political philosophy, and so forth, have adapted it” as a flexible, cross-cultural concept.

Prof. Hirabayashi introduces the issue by stating that we should study Asians in the Americas because it will help us to study and compare cultural change among diverse peoples and nations.

Within this issue, 17 scholars bring historical, sociological, and literary perspectives to looking at Asians in the Caribbean, Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, Panama, and elsewhere in the Americas.


What is the relationship between the personal lives and memories of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans and the politics of their collective history? Guest editors Prof. Henry Yu and Prof. Mae M. Ngai pose this question in this special issue of Amerasia Journal: “The Politics of Remembering” (28:3).

Section I, “Remembering,” re-examines the murder of Vincent Chin twenty years ago in terms of how a tragic experience led to political organizing for Asian Americans across the nation. In Section II, “Recollecting,” the authors utilize various research strategies in their articles as ways to access historical experience, including archives, oral history, myths, and poetic texts and photographs. Commentaries and memoirs in Section III, “Reflecting,” provide a fresh look at the writing of a new generation.


This issue is dedicated to Prof. Yuji Ichioka (1936-2002), a founder of UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center and a historian of Japanese American history. His colleagues and friends in the U.S. and in Japan pay tribute to his role in shaping the understanding of Japanese Americans within both an American and an Asian context.


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Inquiries for purchasing the book or for textbook discounts: Contact Thao Cha (e-mail: thaocha@ucla.edu or phone: 310.825.2968).

YES! I would like to order:

___Open: One Woman’s Journey, $15.

___The New Face of Asian Pacific America: Numbers, Diversity and Change in the 21st Century, $35.

___Patels: A Gujarati Community History in the United States, $18.95.

___Amerasia Journal 30th Anniversary Cumulative Index, $10.


___One-year subscription to Amerasia Journal, $35 (shipping charges do not apply).

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Center Thanks Two Key Players in Establishment of Hawai‘i Summer Program

by Dennis Arguelles

This summer marks the 10th anniversary of the UCLA Hawai‘i Summer Program. The program has given hundreds of students the opportunity to study Hawai‘i’s multiculturalism, immigration history, and contemporary society at the University of Hawai‘i’s Manoa campus.

The Hawai‘i program owes much of its success to two individuals: Dennis Ogawa and Glen Grant. Dr. Dennis Ogawa is a UCLA alumnus and professor in UH Manoa’s Department of American Studies. Dr. Glen Grant is also a UCLA alumnus and a renowned storyteller, author, and historian known best for his works on local Hawaiian folklore, mythology, and ghost stories.

Prof. Ogawa played a fundamental role in the establishment of the program, and Grant has served as one of its instructors every year since its founding. This summer the program will experiment with a new arrangement with UH’s Department of Ethnic Studies. However, the Asian American Studies Center would like to thank Dennis and Glen for their dedication to the program over the past decade.

Professor Augusto Espiritu

On November 20, 2002, UCLA Asian American Studies M.A. program alumn Augusto Espiritu presented a paper entitled, “Performing Nationalism: Filipino American Intellectuals, Gender, and the Discourse of Reciprocity.” The presentation, which drew a packed crowd to 150 Royce Hall, was part of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies Fall 2002 Colloquium Series and co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Center.

The presentation explored such questions as, “How does the terrain of Filipino American and by extension Asian American history change when seen in the light of a gendered ‘post-colonial’ criticism? How do hybrid cultural practices like colonial patronage and reciprocity provide analytical perspectives that complicate ideas of American modernity?” Professor Espiritu offered answers to these questions by examining the biographies of Filipino American intellectuals Carlos P. Romulo, former President of the United Nations General Assembly, and Carlos Bulosan, described as a quintessential Asian American “worker-intellectual.”

Professor Espiritu is an assistant professor of history at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is currently Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellow at UC Berkeley’s History Department. He received his M.A. in Asian American Studies and Ph.D. in history at UCLA. He specializes in Asian American history, intellectual history, post-colonial criticism, and Philippine studies.
This year, the Center is hosting a number of workshops as part of the “Pacific Studies Workshop Series,” organized by Professor Henry Yu and with the generous help of Student and Community Projects Assistant Coordinator Sefa Aina. Prof. Yu states, “The goal is to help spread awareness of existing scholarship in Pacific Islander Studies and Pacific Studies and to give the faculty, staff, and students at UCLA a chance to hear and see some of the wonderful work that has been done. We would also like to engage in a dialogue with these scholars about what we as Asian Americanists can do to work together with them, both to support their scholarship and to revise some of our canonical ideas about Asian American history.” During the Fall 2002 quarter, the Center welcomed Professors Amy Ku’uleialoha Stillman, Vicente Diaz, and Damon Salesa, all from the University of Michigan, to present and explore various topics on Pacific Islander Studies.

Prof. Stillman, who is chair of the Asian Pacific American Studies Program at the University of Michigan, presented “Putting the ‘Pacific’ in Asian American Studies.” Her presentation prompted students to discuss an important issue regarding an Association for Asian American Studies ballot measure to change the organization’s name to include “Pacific” or “Pacific Islander” in its title. Professor Stillman spoke with students and faculty about the implications of this issue and related topics.

Prof. Diaz presented “Youth Football and the Remasculinization of Indigenous Identity in Guam.” He also showed various film clips from interviews he conducted with ex-football players and their friends. Professor Diaz’s research interests include American imperialism and decolonization in the Pacific, Native Pacific cultural studies, and traditional seafaring and sports in the Pacific. He has written several important articles on Chamorro culture in Guam and also made the film Sacred Vessels: Navigating Tradition and Identity in Micronesia.

To end the quarter, Prof. Salesa joined students and faculty in Bunche Hall to present “America’s ‘Morning’ in Samoa: Sovereignty, the Making of Subjects, and Troublesome Half-castes.” Professor Salesa, who received his doctorate from Oxford, works on the history of Samoa and other Pacific Islands at the intersection of American and European empire.

All talks were well received, and Prof. Yu plans to organize more talks during the rest of the 2002-2003 academic year. He says, “I believe that engaging in a conversation about the importance of understanding the Pacific, and addressing the historical and contemporary issues of Pacific Islanders, is an important challenge we face in the field. What we would like to avoid is a token or superficial attempt to put the word ‘Pacific’ into the rubric of something called ‘Asian Pacific American’ or ‘Pacific Islander American’ history, without a serious consideration of what kinds of changes this entails in the ways we think and teach, and without a serious engagement with the scholars who have been working on Pacific Islander Studies.”

Prof. Yu comments that this series serves as part of Asian Pacific American History Collective’s (APAHC) mission to “rethink the ways that Asian American history has been taught and researched. In particular, we have been focusing on how thinking about the Pacific as a region, and of Pacific Islanders and Pacific Islander migrants to the United States, challenges us to revise many of the assumptions we make when we emphasize the experiences of Asian immigrants to the U.S.” The APAHC is a group of historians who are working together to create materials and resources for teaching and researching history. An essential step in this creation of resources is to engage in a larger conversation about how to keep the process of teaching and researching history open to emergent and previously marginalized histories. Prof. Yu states, “The APAHC is not interested in creating some singular thing called ‘Asian Pacific American history’ but is more concerned with searching for a way to create alliances between a divergent set of scholars so we can share resources for teaching and research and make sure that as many different voices and perspectives on history can be made widely accessible.”

For more information about the Asian Pacific American History Collective project or its Pacific Studies Workshop Series, hosted by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, email Prof. Yu at henryyu@ucla.edu.
15 New Graduate Students Form Largest Freestyle Fellowship in the History of the M.A. Program

What do you get when you bring together fifteen wild and crazy individuals from around the world who have an eclectic range of interests pertaining to the realm of Asian American Studies? (No, the answer is not the next season of Survivor!) The answer: the biggest M.A. class to walk in and freestyle through the Asian American Studies Center. This year’s fabulous fifteen are interested in public health, media representations, information studies, creative writing, and much more!

During their first year in the M.A. program, the students will take core courses with Professors Henry Yu, Kyeyoung Park, and Don Nakanishi. Profiles of the graduate students follow:

ELENA BOVETTI was born in Ashiya, Japan and has lived in Tokyo, Kobe, Virginia, Rome, and San Mateo, California—"I guess that makes me part of the hapa diaspora," she states. She received her B.A. in Asian American Studies and Communication from UC Santa Barbara. Elena says, "I wanted to continue my academic interests as well as gain some tools and knowledge in how to serve the Asian American community post-M.A." For her thesis project, Elena plans to work on a creative project related to "multiracial Asian American contemporary issues or media issues in the Asian American community regarding representation." Her mentors include Paul Spickard, K.W. Lee, Steve Wong, Kip Fulbeck, and Alex Fabros. After receiving her M.A., Elena would like to get involved with Asian American media arts.

KIA CHA grew up in Fresno, California and received her B.A. in History from UCLA. She joined the M.A. program because "UCLA has the best, largest, and most comprehensive program in Asian American Studies." The diverse faculty and flexibility of the program were also strong factors. I look forward to the next two years." For her thesis, Kia would like to create a collection of poems and/or short stories "conveying the experiences of the Hmong community." Her past community involvement, she states, includes, "[being] involved in Dr. Tony Vang’s campaign for Trustee Area #4 of the Fresno Unified School Board. He is the first Hmong American to run for the school board in Fresno. I was also part of Central California Asian Pacific Women, an organization dedicated to promoting higher education for Asian women." Her interest in Asian American Studies stems from her desire to creatively write about the Hmong community and experiences, as well as the influence from her mentors Henry Yu and Valerie Matsumoto. After the M.A. program, Kia would like to get discovered with a remarkable singing talent and sign a huge record deal! ... But seriously, it’d be awesome to be an influential published poet and author. It’d also be super cool to establish a community center in Fresno for the Southeast Asian population.

ROGER VIET CHUNG was born in San Francisco and grew up in Oakland. He attended Berkeley, where he received a degree in Biology, with a minor in Asian American Studies. Roger joined the M.A. program because "the dual program with Public Health intrigued me. It was right up my alley, incorporating ideas of science with humanities." For his M.A. thesis, Roger would like to study the "racialization of healthcare and healthcare access in immigrant communities." Though he is not sure of his post-M.A. plans, he is certain that he wants to "achieve a good mix of community work, teaching, and travelling."

TODD HONMA grew up in San Francisco and received his Bachelor’s in Molecular Cell Biology and Japanese from UC Berkeley. Todd is enrolled in the joint-degree program of Information Studies and Asian American Studies. Todd will focus on issues related to multicultural library services and/or archives, with a focus on serving API communities for his M.A. thesis. After the program, Todd would like to work in a library or archive in the San Francisco/Bay area.

RICHARD KAN grew up in Rowland Heights, and he received his degree in Business Administration at the University of Southern California. Richard states he joined the program because "the more time I spent working for a typical, Corporate America company, the more I wanted to answer questions about race and ethnicity in the workplace." For his thesis, he would like to study "patterns of advancement and promotion within one particular industry, most likely the defense industry since it is based largely in Southern California and because so many APA’s are hired as engineers by these companies." Richard is involved in the Chinatown Service Center / LA Bridges Mentorship Program, New Song Community Church, and...
the USC Career Mentorship Program. After the M.A. program, Richard would like to pursue a Ph.D. in (Business) Management, with a focus on Organizational Behavior and Human Resources. He states, “This area of business ties in closely with my interests of race/ethnicity in patterns of advancement, promotion, and layoffs in the workplace.”

Sophia Kong grew up in Fremont, California. She attended San Francisco State University, where she majored in Asian American Studies. Sophia states, “I decided to join the M.A. program because I believe that there is lack of documentation on Asian Americans around the issue of HIV/AIDS, and I thought that this would be a great way for me to research this topic and document it.” She is currently a Case Manager for the Risk Reduction Program in the Division of Adolescent Medicine at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles where she works with youth living with HIV. Her other previous experience includes being a Youth Coordinator at Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team doing HIV prevention work. She is also an active member in the API Youth and HIV National Network. Sophia describes a pivotal moment for her Asian American Studies consciousness: “About six years ago, I had the opportunity to work at my first community-based job in Union City, CA. I worked with young API girls and was a mentor in a program called Asian Sister In Action (ASIA). I fell in love with working with youth and the community and found the importance of advocating not only for the API community but for all communities of color. There I was able to see the type of support and empowerment that is needed in young adults’ lives around issues of self identity, sexual orientation, body image, and social consciousness.” Sophia would like to go overseas to Indonesia and do research on the AIDS epidemic there after receiving her M.A.

Alex Lewis grew up in Winchester, VA/Washington, DC. She received her B.A. in American Studies and Linguistics at Georgetown University. While living in DC, she and some of her friends formed a non-profit organization to serve the international adoption community: “Most of us were Korean American adoptees, but we had programs for various other countries as well. We started a mentorship program, speakers’ panels, workshops for teens and parents, and an annual culture day.” Alex would like to continue being involved in the Asian American community while pursuing her Master’s in Asian American Studies.

Jason Mak grew up in Eugene, Oregon, and attended the University of Oregon where he received a dual degree in Ethnic Studies and General Science. Jason says about the M.A. program, “Like many others, I decided on UCLA’s Asian American Studies Program as it is well regarded in the community...
“It’s hard to explain what exactly motivates me to write. It’s like asking me what motivates me to breathe,” says Shona Ramaya, co-editor and co-founder of Catamaran, a bi-annual South Asian American and Canadian literary magazine scheduled to debut in April 2003. Inspired by a desire to create spaces of belonging, Shona, along with English Professors Rajini Srikanth and Samir Dayal, also identified a need in the South Asian American community for a forum of literary expression and assembled a team of established and highly respected poets and writers to help actualize their vision. In addition to the aforementioned founders, the editorial board includes multilingual and internationally published writers Tahira Naqvi, Vyvyan Loh, Reetika Vazirani, and Pulitzer Prize winner Lloyd Schwartz.

Because South Asia encompasses seven countries—namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, and not to mention the diaspora nations—it incorporates an overwhelming mosaic of different languages and experiences. Historically, American scholars have privileged India whenever brandishing the label South Asian. In light of this tendency, Catamaran’s epistemology is consciously non-partisan, but still reflective of the region and consistent with the mission of the writing project. Originating from the Tamil phrase kattu-maram for a swift raft, the Anglicized catamaran “conveys the sense of adventure, speed, and boldness that one associates with sea-faring” and will steer South Asian Americans into exciting and uncharted literary waters.

In response to mainstream society’s ignorance of the richly intertextual culture of the diaspora, the magazine’s pieces will collectively showcase a South Asian American experience different from stereotypically “ethnic” themes of arranged marriages and model minorities. Hence, it will challenge the dominant exotified definitions of desi life with writing on interracial relationships, frustrated sexuality, and homelessness, while still appealing to anyone, desi or not, who can relate to these universal themes. The venture hopes to “complicate representations of South Asian experiences in North America” by featuring work that will “give form to the tensions that many South Asian Americans—both first- and second-generation—feel between allegiance to ancestral homelands and the panethnic pan-national construction South Asian American.”

Please send submissions to: editors@catamaranmagazine.com. Pieces must be in English, and in the form of Microsoft Word attachments. The magazine will feature short fiction, one-act plays, poetry, non-fiction in the form of personal essays, travelogues, book and film reviews, photography, and one feature article per issue about a South Asian creative artist working in America.

**TINA BHAGA** is a second-year student in the Asian American Studies M.A. program.

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**Wide Eyed Workshops Holds Inaugural Reading at Espresso Mi Cultura**

Russell Leong gives some humorous advice to a new generation of API poets and writers.

Wide Eyed Workshops, a new API artists and writers groups in Los Angeles, held its first reading at Espresso Mi Cultura in Hollywood on August 22, 2002. Approximately sixty people came out to see such featured performers as Allan Aquino, Cheryl Deftowicz, Russell Leong, Janis Calleja, Michelle Nyree Collins, Jason Howard, Malcolm Kao, Arvin Lambinico, Marjorie Light, and Shirlie Mae Mamaril. The reading, hosted by *Amerasia Journal* Associate Editor Brandy Liên Worrall, concluded with an open mic.

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**VSU Hosts F.O.B.**

The UCLA Vietnamese Student Union (VSU), along with the Vietnamese American Arts and Letters Association (VAALA), presented “F.O.B.: A Multi-Art Show” from October 21-November 1, 2002 all throughout UCLA campus. “F.O.B.” was a two-week long exhibition devoted to forty emerging Vietnamese American artists incorporating all the major mediums of visual and performing arts. “F.O.B.” also had a successful turnout in Orange County. The organizers write, “F.O.B. is the first exhibition dedicated to incorporate art, popular culture, and (un)popular notions of our identity as Vietnamese and Vietnamese Americans.” For more information, visit http://vaala.vinamall.com.
yet now congregated in one room. A class devoted entirely to the history of my people? I felt both strange and excited. We dared to talk about those issues in our community that had always been “swept under the rug.” I was enraptured. That first Asian American Studies class enabled me to take myself seriously and taught me about my identity as an Asian American, as a Vietnamese American woman.

I decided soon after I wanted to major in Asian American Studies. Discovering my “Asian American-ness” was wonderful. One after the other, I took in all these amazing things I was learning about my people, my community. Towards the end of the quarter, we watched the film, The Fall of the I-Hotel, which documented the incredible events that led up to and culminated in the eviction of the tenants.

I remember the rawness of the footage and being moved by the personal stories of the Manongs and their eventual helplessness.

Hundreds of people mobilizing to fight, picket, scream and yell at the top of their lungs.

The wail of sirens penetrating the dark night and the power of united voices chanting in protest.

The eerie silence of the morning after the eviction, and the empty streets littered with shop owners standing in disbelief.

To see so many people in the community come out to advocate and dare to be disruptive for their rights was amazing.

Yet, at that time I did not realize that my self-identity as an Asian American had been skewed. Yes, it was amazing that I’d been given the opportunity to learn about the history of the Asian American movement, and the power of knowledge is crucial, but then what? I walked out of lectures feeling both sobered and empowered by the reality of the Asian experience in America. Yet, I gradually began to feel disillusioned by my own “ethnic identity.” What was I to do with this newfound knowledge?

This past summer, while visiting my friend in Berkeley, she mentioned that there was going to be a march and vigil in downtown San Francisco to commemorate the I-Hotel.

The story of the I-Hotel marked a turning point in Asian American history that many of us have only heard about. The significance of the I-Hotel transcends anything that we could ever imagine. From 1969 to 1977, a time when many of us had not even been conceived, the International Hotel tenants in San Francisco and their supporters fought off numerous attempted evictions from their low-income senior housing. The city’s wealthiest landlord, Milton Meyer and Co., wanted to tear down the hotel to build a multi-leveled parking lot, all for the sake of large company expansions.

On August 4, 1977, more than 300 San Francisco police officers forcibly evicted the tenants and, soon after, the hotel was torn down. What the International Hotel represented was a sense of community for the elderly Filipinos known as the “Manongs,” as well as the Chinese immigrants living on Kearny Street. The show of support among not only the Asian American community, but also the numerous groups and activists unifying in resistance to injustice, was a testament to the power of the people.

The 25-year commemoration of that night not only marked this key piece in API history, but also celebrates a new senior housing development from the same site, currently in the process of being rebuilt.

After two-and-a-half years, I vaguely remembered the images and story of the Manongs, yet knew that this was a landmark event that I needed to attend. When I arrived, I immediately felt a sense of community among the people there, and a wave of adrenaline rushed through me as we began the march. The emotions that ran through me that night, just walking down Kearny Street, were unforgettable.

I felt an immense sense of pride and harmony and also a desire to let our words be heard by every individual within earshot. I could sense the deep passion and vibrancy that those around me exuded as we marched side-by-side. This time, the march down this street was not in resistance, but in solidarity, remembrance and hope. Our chants reflected the homage that was due to the events that transpired on the same grounds 25 years ago.

I remember meeting people who had been there on that historical night, seeing the gaping hole that was once the I-Hotel, and looking around and seeing people of all ages came out in support. This is what embodied the significance of the I-Hotel—it was about people recognizing injustice and feeling compelled to act.

One of the invited speakers had a few words for the crowd that stayed with me. She spoke about how the I-Hotel wasn’t just a turning point in the Filipino community, but that it related to all of us on numerous levels. My being there wasn’t just about advocating for the Filipino community, but taking on the issue as my own because this was something that affected my life as an Asian American.

When I came back to UCLA, I re-watched the documentary of The Fall of the I-Hotel. It was as if I was watching it for the first time.

The images that flashed before me helped me piece together my feelings from watching it the first time 2 years earlier. The emotions I felt before were real, but I still felt strangely disconnected from the events.

It wasn’t until I was able to step outside of my academic knowledge of the I-Hotel and actually experience that fervor and passion in the community that it became real for me. What I needed was not only to learn, but act and experience.

Julie Vo is a fourth-year student majoring in Sociology and Asian American Studies at UCLA. This article originally appeared in Pacific Ties, UCLA’s Asian Pacific American Magazine, Fall/Winter ’02.

SNAP!

Photograph by Brandy Worrall

Undergraduate and graduate students in the Asian American Studies program mix it up at the annual Asian Pacific Coalition mixer in the Fall 2002 quarter.
**Professor Robert Nakamura’s Documentary on Toyo Miyatake Receives Top Honors**

Toyo Miyatake: Infinite Shades of Gray, a documentary tribute to the life and art of Japanese American photographer Toyo Miyatake produced by the Frank H. Watase Media Arts Center of the Japanese American National Museum, garnered top honors at the 2002 Savannah Film and Video Festival, an international showcase and competition held every October in Savannah, Georgia, and special recognition for the documentary’s producer.

Selected from a field of over 500 entries, the 30-minute production was first awarded Best Short Documentary and then producer Karen Ishizuka went on to receive HBO Film’s Producer Award, the top overall festival prize. Ishizuka, Senior Producer of the Watase Media Arts Center of the National Museum and director Robert A. Nakamura, Artistic Director of the Watase Center and Director of the Center for EthnoCommunications of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, were on hand to receive the awards before a packed house of 1,200 at the Festival’s gala awards ceremony that closed two weeks of competition, workshops and special film screenings.

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**Toyo Miyatake: Infinite Shades of Gray**, an Official Sundance Film Festival Selection 2002 and recipient of the Florida Film Festival Grand Jury Award for Best Documentary Short, was edited by Gail Yasunaga, with videography by John Esaki, digital effects by Masaki Miyagawa and music written and composed by David Iwataki. Other awards include the CINE Golden Eagle, Aurora Gold Award, Worldfest Houston Bronze Award and Telly Award. It has been featured nationally in New York, Washington, DC, Vermont, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Toronto, Vancouver, Chicago and San Francisco.

Professor Nakamura gives his acceptance speech at the 2002 Savannah Film & Video Festival.

Professor Nakamura is a faculty member in Asian American Studies and the Department of Film and Television at UCLA, and holds the academic chair in Japanese American Studies at the university. He is also the Associate Director of the Asian American Studies Center.

Press release courtesy of Chris Komai.

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**Professor Clara Chu Wins Major Award to Diversify Field of Information Studies**

The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has awarded Professor Clara Chu, a member of the Center’s Faculty Advisory Committee and an Associate Professor in the Department of Information Studies, a $196,055 grant that will fund PRAXIS—Practice, Reflection, Advocacy, eXcellence, Inquiry, Solutions: A Pre-Doctoral and Recruitment Program for Tomorrow’s Culturally Diverse Information Studies Faculty and Leaders. PRAXIS is a one-year program that will train eight librarians of culturally diverse backgrounds in research, information technology and policy to prepare them for future doctoral studies.

Professor Chu states, “The grant enables us to sponsor working librarians of culturally diverse backgrounds, furthering their education and providing them access to the latest advances in library and information science.”

PRAXIS is responding to two critical professional issues:

1. Shortage of library and information studies (LIS) faculty from culturally diverse backgrounds.
2. Lack of empirical, critical and theoretical inquiry in multicultural library and information practice.

For more details about PRAXIS, visit: http://is.gseis.ucla.edu/.

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**2003 Asian Pacific American Community Research Roundtable**

The Asian Pacific American Community Research Roundtable (APACRR) will present academic and community-based presentations on issues affecting various Asian and Pacific Islander communities in the United States on Friday, February 28, 2003 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in UCLA’s Ackerman Union.

The APACRR was initiated in 1989 by the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON), a consortium of over forty Asian and Pacific Islander social service and advocacy organizations in greater Los Angeles, and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. Since that time, several other campuses and community organizations have joined the partnership between community service organizations and local institutions of higher learning. Other community and public agencies like the U.S. Census Bureau and the L.A. County Human Relations Commission have also actively contributed to past APACRR conferences.

The main purpose of the APACRR is to encourage campus and community collaboration for research and resources. Many community organizations have difficulty conducting research themselves or accessing university resources. This collaboration is critical to helping universities fulfill their public mission. The APACRR brings together researchers, students, and community-based organizations to identify research needs, share research findings, and generate interest in community-based research.

For more information, contact:
Meg Thornton, (310) 825-1006, meg@ucla.edu
On Wednesday, December 11, 2002, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center’s Census Information Center held an interactive, hands-on Census 2000 Community Training specialized on meeting the data needs of advocates and researchers in the affordable housing and community and economic development field. Besides providing an overview of the Census 2000, the training provided strategies on how community-based organizations could use the census in grantwriting, affordable housing, workforce development/job trainings programs, and small business development. At the end of the training, participants expressed how they found the training very useful in helping them in their everyday community work.

The UCLA AASC CIC has been working in partnership with the National Coalition of Asian Pacific American Community Development (CAPACD) to put on these trainings. Together we have launched this first Community Census 2000 Training as part of a series that we will take on the road to other parts of the nation such as the East Coast, Midwest, and other areas where CAPACD member organizations are located. In addition, the partnership includes the development of the Asian Pacific American Community Development Data Center (APACDDC), which will further provide member organizations with research and technical assistance.

For more information, please email Melany dela Cruz at apadatacenter@aasc.ucla.edu.

The Center’s Census Researcher Melany dela Cruz discusses how the Census 2000 on the Internet can be used to support everyday community work and social change.

**Prof. Henry Yu Receives Distinguished Book Award**

Professor Henry Yu, who holds a joint faculty position in History and Asian American Studies, has received the Norris and Carol Hundley Prize for the “most distinguished book on any historical subject” by the American Historical Society (Pacific Coast Branch) for his pathbreaking book, *Thinking Orientals: Migration, Contact, and Exoticism in Modern America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001).

**Lois Takahashi Joins Faculty Advisory Committee**

The newest member of the Center’s Faculty Advisory Committee is Professor Lois Takahashi, an Associate Professor in the Department of Urban Planning. She joined the faculty there last year after spending her early professorial career at UC Irvine.

Dr. Takahashi received her Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Southern California, her M.S. in Public Management and Policy/Architecture from Carnegie Mellon University, and her A.B. in Architecture from the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Takahashi’s research focuses on challenges to social service delivery in the U.S. and on environmental governance issues in Southeast Asian cities. Her work on social service delivery has explored access to medical and human services for homeless women and persons living with HIV/AIDS, collaboration among community-based social service providers, and community opposition to controversial human service facilities.

Dr. Takahashi is a member of the Inter-University Consortium on Homelessness and Poverty, and the Geographers Network on Politics in America. She is also a founding member of the Orange County Asian Pacific Islander HIV Task Force.
Don Nakanishi Receives Award at Filipino American Library Gala

Center Director Don Nakanishi received a Community Service Award at the Filipino American Library’s Spirit Awards and Dinner Benefit on October 5, 2002. He was awarded the honor for the lasting impact he has made on the Filipino American community. Other Spirit Award honorees included Governor Gray Davis, Jackie Goldberg, Tania Azores Gunter, Denise Dador, and actor Lou Diamond Phillips.

Student and Community Projects Assistant Coordinator Sefa Aina received a Leadership Award at the Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP) 20th Anniversary Awards Dinner on July 18, 2002. LEAP is a national, nonprofit organization founded in 1982 to achieve full participation and equality for Asian Pacific Americans. Sefa received this award for his strong commitment to working with and educating Asian and Pacific Islander American youth.

Sefa Aina Is Honored at LEAP’s 20th Anniversary Awards Dinner

Professor Roshan Bastani Promoted to Full Professor

Professor Roshan Bastani of the Department of Health Services of UCLA’s School of Public Health, and a member of the Faculty Advisory Committee of the Asian American Studies Center, has been promoted to full professor. Professor Bastani, who is active in a variety of Academic Senate and community groups, specializes in the study of access to health care in multi-cultural populations. She has conducted a large number of studies in this area, particularly focusing on cancer screening, tobacco control, and AIDS prevention.

A Taj Mahal Evening

On October 10, 2002, the Center co-sponsored, with Wide Eyed Workshops, “A Taj Mahal Evening”—a special evening of theater, literary readings, and spoken word performances exploring love, longing, memory, and recollection. The evening, hosted by Malcolm Kao of Wide Eyed Workshops, brought together on one stage distinguished playwright Wakako Yamauchi, Academy Award winner Chris Tashima, John Freeland, Rodney Kageyama, Grace Talusan, Lillian Howan, and capoeiristas Kimly Bolacha Touche and Ricky Malandro Lawson II. An audience of approximately 150 people enjoyed the program in Royce Hall.

L.A. Enkanto Kollective Performs at the Getty

L.A. Enkanto Kollective, a Los Angeles-based Filipin@ American arts organization, performed at the Getty as part of the Friday Nights at the Getty series on November 1, 2002. Featured artists included Allan Aquino, Rebecca Baroma, Cheryl Deptowicz, Alfie Ebojo, Dorian Merina, Edren Sumagaysay, TULIS (Jenny San Angel & Gertie Meza), and our Center’s own Irene Suioco Soriano, who is one of the co-founders of L.A. Enkanto. The performers presented some pieces from their 2001 CD In Our Blood: Filipina/o American Poetry and Spoken Word From Los Angeles (available for purchase). The pieces include hip-hop, balagtasan, dialogues, song, and poetry, with each piece reflecting different experiences of Filipin@ American life in Los Angeles.

The Center Says Farewell To...

The Center’s long-time chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee, Professor James Lubben, will be resigning at the end of the academic year. He will be accepting the honor as the first recipient of an endowed academic chair in social work at Boston College. Prof. Lubben has provided extraordinary leadership to the Center for over a decade.

Professor Pauline Agbayani-Siewert, who had a joint appointment between Social Welfare and Asian American Studies, has resigned from her position, and has become a full professor in the School of Social Work at CSULA. Prof. Agbayani-Siewert made enormous contributions to both the Center and the IDP as a scholar, teacher, mentor, and colleague.

Legendary actor Lou Diamond Phillips and Center Assistant Director Dennis Arguelles strike a pose at the Filipino American Library Gala.
The Asian American Studies Center has selected Dr. Eliza Noh as its 2002-2003 postdoctoral fellowship recipient. Dr. Noh received her Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley and her B.A. in women’s studies and sociology from Columbia University. Her research interests include Asian American Studies, gender, race, coloniality, U.S. imperialism and transnationalism.

During her postdoctoral fellowship period, she will be examining class, intergenerational, and ethnic differences among Asian American women’s suicides through analyzing interviews with suicide survivors in the San Francisco Bay area, Los Angeles County, and New York. Dr. Noh will also teach a graduate seminar called Comparative Racialized Psyches during the winter quarter, which will offer an interdisciplinary approach to ethnic psychology. The course focuses on studies of Asian American psyches in comparison with texts on African American, Native American and Chicano psychology.

She says, “I am impressed with how much the Asian American Studies Center has to offer. All the staff and faculty that I’ve met so far have been very helpful and friendly, a very down-to-earth, hip group of people...I’ve made some very interesting contacts, with whom I hope to work on putting together a panel on suicide in the Asian diaspora.”

After her postdoctoral fellowship period ends, Dr. Noh will begin teaching at CSU Fullerton as an Assistant Professor in its Asian American Studies program.

More information about the Center’s postdoctoral fellowship program can be found at: http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc.
Professor Harry H.L. Kitano, 1926-2002

Harry H.L. Kitano, one of the world’s leading authorities on race and ethnic relations, particularly as they related to the contemporary Japanese American and Asian American experiences, passed away on October 19, 2002, in Los Angeles.

Born in San Francisco on February 14, 1926, Professor Kitano was the youngest of seven children of Motoji and Kou Yuki Kitano, who had immigrated from Japan. He grew up in the San Francisco Chinatown, where his parents operated a hotel, and attended Galileo High School. The bombing of Pearl Harbor had a profound and everlasting impact on Kitano, who was fifteen years old at the time. His father was picked up soon afterwards by the FBI. Kitano and other members of his family were ordered to leave their home, and were transferred to the Santa Anita race tracks in Arcadia, California, where they lived in a horse stall for six months, and then to the Topaz concentration camp in Utah, where they remained from 1942-1945.

According to the Asian American Almanac (1995), “After his release from Topaz, Kitano traveled to Milwaukee and worked briefly as a farmhand. Although the war was over, lingering racial hostility towards Japanese Americans worried Kitano, so he changed his name to Harry Lee. He played trombone with several jazz bands in Minnesota, where he had the chance to work with black musicians. It was an eye-opening experience for Kitano.”

Prof. Kitano returned to California in 1946, and subsequently received his B.A. in 1948, his MSW in 1951, and his Ph.D. in Psychology and Education in 1958, all from the University of California, Berkeley.

Prof. Kitano then headed to Los Angeles, where he spent his entire professional career, from 1958 until his retirement in 1995, at UCLA, where he was a faculty member in the departments of Social Welfare and Sociology. Twice serving as the acting director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, he was an active member of the Center’s Faculty Advisory Committee even during his retirement years.

The author of over 150 books, articles, and reports spanning over four decades, Prof. Kitano was a pioneer in the social scientific approach to understanding the contemporary Japanese American population, and in providing theoretical frameworks for understanding persistent and new patterns of racial and ethnic conflict, cooperation, and interactions.

“Harry Kitano was a very special one-of-a-kind scholar,” said Prof. Don T. Nakanishi, Director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. “He deeply appreciated social science theorizing, and sought to introduce new concepts and frameworks in understanding complex racial and ethnic structures and relationships. And yet, he did not theorize simply for the sake of theorizing. Theories had to stand up firmly to data and to Harry’s strong intuitive sense of what was really happening. He also was genuinely committed to improving professional practice and guiding sound public policies on many compelling community issues that had been long overlooked because of the misinformed notions that Asian Americans always took care of themselves and that they were a model minority without social needs and concerns. He was supremely committed to the community. He was a pioneer among scholars in the professional school disciplines like social welfare, law, and public health who are using their fields to undertake basic, applied, and policy research, as well as the training of new practitioners, to address the centrality of race, ethnicity, and gender in American society.”

In 1990, in recognition of his path-breaking contributions in developing the field of Japanese American Studies and his stellar record in teaching and professional service, Prof. Kitano was appointed as the first recipient of the Endowed Chair in Japanese American Studies at UCLA, the only academic chair of its kind in American higher education, which was established through the generosity and commitment of Japanese American alumni and friends of the university.

On May 6, 1997, Prof. Kitano and other Japanese American students who were removed from San Francisco public high schools as a result of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942, were finally awarded their high school diplomas. Prof. Kitano was the keynote speaker for the special ceremony organized by the San Francisco Board of Education. With a chuckle, he remarked, “I do things backwards. I got a Ph.D. first and then I got my high school diploma.”

Prof. Kitano is survived by his wife, Lynn; children Keith, Kimberly (David Roe), Kraig, Kerrily, and Christine; grandson Conor Hogan; sisters Kiyoko Yamashita, Sadako Kawaguchi, Chizuko liyama, and Tamio Kitano; and many nieces, and nephews.

A public tribute celebrating Prof. Kitano’s extraordinary life and work in academia and in other arenas was held on December 14, 2002, at the UCLA Faculty Center. Speakers included Professors Barbara Nelson, Dennis Ogawa, Roger Waldinger, Fernando Torres-Gil, Joseph Nunn, Mitchell Maki, Diane De Anda, Megan Berthold, Dr. Andrea Rich, Ms. Chizuko liyama, Dr. Herbert Hatanaka, Herman Chai, and Alex Chang. Prof. James Lubban was the Master of Ceremonies, with remarks by Prof. Don T. Nakanishi. A musical interlude was provided by Dr. Herbert Shon, and a video interlude by Julie Cho was also presented.

Please send donations to: the “HARRY KITANO SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT/UCLA FOUNDATION.” A scholarship endowment to support UCLA undergraduate and graduate students, in perpetuity, who are interested in Asian American Studies, will be established in Professor Kitano’s name, and administered by the Asian American Studies Center. Please send donations for the endowment to:

HARRY KITANO SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT/UCLA FOUNDATION
c/o UCLA Asian American Studies Center
P.O. Box 951546, 3230 Campbell Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546

For more information, please contact Don Nakanishi, Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, (310) 825-2974, or dtn@ucla.edu
Internationally renowned historian and Asian American Studies pioneer Yuji Ichioka passed away on Sunday, September 1, 2002, in Los Angeles. He was born on June 23, 1936 in San Francisco. During part of his childhood, Prof. Ichioka and his family were forcibly removed and incarcerated in the U.S. Topaz concentration camp during World War II. Prof. Ichioka dedicated much of his life to social justice and scholarly research in the U.S., Japan, and Latin America. He is survived by his wife, Emma Gee; his mother Sei; his brothers Eddie and Victor, of the San Francisco Bay Area; and his sisters Pat S. Traylor of La Jolla and Yowko Richardson of Portland, Oregon.

Prof. Ichioka created the term “Asian American” in the late 1960s. While at U.C. Berkeley, where he organized the Asian American Political Alliance in 1968, he was an activist for Civil Rights and against the Vietnam War.

Prof. Ichioka was a key founder of the Asian American Studies Center at UCLA, where he taught its first Asian American Studies class in 1969. For nearly thirty-three years, Prof. Ichioka was a Senior Researcher at the Center and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of History. He was a dedicated instructor who mentored both undergraduate and graduate students, many of whom went on to become leading researchers and university professors.

“Our Center and the fields of U.S. history, Asian American Studies, and immigrant studies,” said Professor Don T. Nakanishi, Director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, “will forever benefit from Professor Ichioka’s path-breaking intellectual contributions, his courageous leadership, and his fiery social commitment. He was a giant presence. He was also an avid basketball player.”

The preeminent scholar of Japanese American history, Prof. Ichioka authored the seminal book *The Issei: The World of the First Generation Japanese Immigrant, 1885-1924*, which was nominated for the 1988 Los Angeles Times Book Prize in History and awarded the 1989 National Association for Asian American Studies Book Award. Prof. Ichioka, an important historian of the Japanese American internment during World War II, testified at the Congressional hearings that resulted in the official apology and redress of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

Prof. Ichioka emphasized the importance of using both Japanese- and English-language sources to recover what he labeled the “buried past” of Japanese American history. Over three decades, his extensive collaborative work in compiling the Japanese American Research Project (JARP) Collection at UCLA—the largest and most significant historical archive on Japanese Americans in the U.S.—and his annotated bibliographies, *A Buried Past (1974)* and *A Buried Past II (1999)* provided the foundation for the field of Japanese American studies. Prof. Ichioka also served on the editorial board of *Amerasia Journal*, the leading international journal in Asian American Studies.

In 1971 Prof. Ichioka observed that like the history of many other racial minorities in the U.S., “Much of Japanese American history remains unwritten…” He saw his mission to help write that history, which involved “the debunking of old distortions and myths, the uncovering of hitherto neglected or unknown facts, and the construction of a new interpretation of that past.” Because of Yuji Ichioka’s pioneering scholarship and vision, his dedication to teaching, and his commitment to make known the long legacy of working peoples’ resistance to injustice, new interpretations of the past were made possible.

A public tribute was held on October 19, 2002, at the UCLA James West Alumni Center. Other tributes were also held in Berkeley, California and Tokyo, Japan.

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center is establishing THE YUJI ICHIOKA ENDOWED CHAIR IN SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDIES to continue the activist scholarly work of Prof. Ichioka. Such an Endowed Chair would recognize and support the research, teaching, and community service activities of leading scholars, who are pursuing research that provides new analysis of the significant historic and contemporary role of racial, ethnic, and gendered minorities in American life. Please send donations to:

**YUJI ICHIOKA FUND**

c/o UCLA Asian American Studies Center

P.O. Box 951546, 3230 Campbell Hall

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For more information, please contact Don Nakanishi, Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, (310) 825-2974, or dtn@ucla.edu

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**UC Davis Professor Steffi San Buenaventura, 1941-2002**

Prof. Steffi San Buenaventura, a distinguished historian and professor of Filipino American history in Asian American Studies at the University of California, Davis, died on November 22, 2002. Prof. Steffi San Buenaventura was a beloved teacher and mentor to her many students at Davis and an active scholar, colleague and friend to the faculty and staff who worked with her. She once served as an Institute of American Cultures Postdoctoral Fellow at the UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

Prof. Steffi San Buenaventura’s research interests were in American ethnicity; immigration history; race relations; social movements; religion; Asian American Studies (emphasis on Filipino American history); Asian diaspora; and Philippine-U.S. Relations.

The Steffi San Buenaventura Archive Fund has been established for the development and preservation of an Asian/Filipino American archival collection of primary documents, correspondence, publications and photographs, especially those materials donated to Prof. Steffi San Buenaventura over the years from several sources. Please make checks payable to “U.C. Regents” and write on the memo portion of the check “Steffi San Buenaventura Archive Fund” and send to:

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