NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER
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ASIAN/PACIFIC IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE DRAWS OVER 400

AMERASIA JOURNAL'S 'HAWAII' ISSUE

FIRST TONGAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE HELD

SEMINARS ON ASIAN/PACIFIC EDUCATION

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES OFFERED IN CHINATOWN & GARDENA

CHINESE AMERICANS & THE KKK

ASIAN/PACIFIC STUDENT ACTIVITIES IN 1981
Cross Currents, newsletter of the Asian American Studies Center, is printed to keep readers abreast of current developments in Center programs as well as to announce new ones. Articles concerning programs not sponsored by the Center but in the province of Asian American Studies, UCLA student programs, and University issues of relevance to Asian Americans will also be featured. All editorials represent the opinions of the writers and do not reflect the consolidated view of the Center staff, unless otherwise noted. Articles and letters from readers will be considered, subject to editing. The staff welcomes suggestions and criticisms.

Please submit written materials and inquiries to Cross Currents, Asian American Studies Center, 3232 Campbell Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, California 90024. Editor: Roy Nakano; Assistant Editors: Gary Chiang, Kim Lim and Susie Ling Contributors: Jenny Chomori, Tim Dong, Sam Law, Russell Leong, and Don Nakanishi. Special thanks to Visual Communications.

On the cover: Japanese American grocery store in Haleiwa, Hawaii

Professor Ron Takaki addressing attendants at the Asian/Pacific Immigration Conference

ASIAN-PACIFIC IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE DRAWS OVER 400

Over 400 individuals from across the state and nation attended the Asian/Pacific Immigration to the United States: Historical and Contemporary Issues conference at USC's Davidson Conference Center on December 12 and 13.

The conference, which was organized by Asian American Studies programs at UCLA, USC, and CSULB, featured fourteen specialized panel workshops on Asian/Pacific immigration issues, and exhibits by over twenty Asian/Pacific organizations. Major keynote addresses were made by attorney Ellen Ma Lee, former Executive Director of One-Stop Immigration Center of Los Angeles; award-winning journalist Kyung Won Lee, editor of Koreatown Weekly of Los Angeles; Alex Esclamado, publisher of San Francisco's Philippine News; and UC Berkeley Professor Ron Takaki, author of the highly-acclaimed Iron Cages.

According to UCLA Professor Don Nakanishi, the conference coordinator, the two-day gathering 'clearly demonstrated that immigration and refugee issues are of vital concern to all Asian/Pacific communities,
especially in light of current deliberations by the Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy. Immigration issues cut across the special organizational agendas for all Asian/Pacific ethnic groups, and served as crucial linkages for sustained discussion, research, and action.

Calls for unity and legislative advocacy were repeatedly made in panel workshops and keynote speeches. Alex Esclamado, for instance, urged Asian Americans to create a national immigration task force which would lobby for major reforms in U.S. immigration and refugee policies. Similarly, Professor Takaki argued that unity and vigilance among all Asian/Pacific American communities, as well as all minority groups, were absolutely crucial in protecting and advancing minority and immigrant rights during a period of heightened conservatism in the nation.

The conference also featured dramatic readings of the immigrant experience in Asian American literature by the Pacific Asian American Women Writers - West (PAAWW-W), and film presentations by Loni Ding, producer of the 'Bean Sprouts' children's television series, and Bob Nakamura, director of Visual Communications of Los Angeles. The conference closed with a special reading by Bienvenido Santos, author of A Scent of Apple.

The gathering, Nakanishi said, 'showcased and pulled together several dynamic, creative, and powerful forces which are in operation in Asian American communities, as well as Asian American Studies. We witnessed the enormous strides which historians, film-makers, and creative writers have made in the past decade to capture the significance and meaning of our immigrant past and present. We observed the talents of a number of Asian American attorneys from across the nation who have been working diligently to seek major immigration and refugee policy changes. And finally, we witnessed the strong concern - as well as the many positive achievements - of psychologists, social workers, community organizational leaders, educators, and policy makers, who have developed programs and strategies to deal with the needs of the ever-growing Asian/Pacific immigrant and refugee population.'

Over ninety individuals from Asian American organizations, Asian American Studies, government agencies, and Asian American law groups directly participated in the conference program.

Funding for the conference was provided by a major grant from the California Council for the Humanities, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Contributions were also received from KNXT, KNBC, Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, Pacific-Southwest District of the JACL, Mazda, Nissan, Toyota, Carter Hawley Hale Stores, Ota and Mori Law Office, Kenwood Electronics, American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees, Asian Pacific Family Outreach, Refugee Resettlement Program of the International Institute of Los Angeles, Atlantic-Richfield Foundation, Sumitomo Bank, Merit Savings and Loan Association, Far East National Bank, Fukui Mortuary, USC School of Public Administration, USC Center for East Asian Studies, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment, Jewish Federation-Council of Los Angeles, Nishiyma, Muai, Leewong, Evans, & Saldin Law Office, Korean American Forum, and Mr. See-Myon Kim of Los Angeles.

A final report for the conference will be available in late January. For a complimentary copy, please write to the Asian Immigration Committee, Asian American Studies Center, 3232 Campbell Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

Office site for the Waikoloa-Waikane Community Association in Hawaii

AMERASIA JOURNAL'S 'HAWAII: ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES'

Hawaii's Polynesian-Asian heritage, history, and society are highlighted in the Winter issue of the Amerasia Journal, now available from the Asian American Studies Center. Articles and perspectives based on the experience and attitudes of Hawaiians, Filipinos, Japanese, and Chinese in Hawaii explore issues of ethnicity, race, class, and labor in this 150 page publication.
Based on extensive interviews, Chad Taniguchi’s case study of the recent 1979 United Public Workers Strike demonstrates how oral history can add a vital human perspective to the study of labor issues. Taniguchi is director of the Ethnic Studies Oral History Project at the University of Hawaii.

Davianna McGregor-Alegado’s article on native Hawaiian organizing in the 1979-’s examines the Hawaiian movement, providing an overview of political organizing and the formation of present day grassroots Hawaiian community groups.

While these works place ethnic groups within the framework of labor and politics, the issue of land ownership is explored in other articles. Marion Kelly’s article, ‘Land Tenure in Hawaii,’ traces the process by which the Hawaiian maka ‘ainana, or commoners, were divested of their land in the mid-19th century. This division of land replaced a subsistence economy with vast sugar plantations and established a labor supply that began with native Hawaiians and later expanded to include immigrant Asian groups. In ‘The resurgence of Non-metropolitan Hawaii’ Willard Chow shows how current land use policy and development continue to work against the ethnic working class in non-metropolitan areas.

Other articles in this special issue on Hawaii explore the question of ‘local identity,’ and the adaptation of Filipino workers between 1906-1946. Book reviews and an extensive annual bibliography are also included. Amerasia Journal’s ‘Hawaii: Issues and Perspectives,’ is available for $3.00 plus state tax from the Asian American Studies Center, 3232 Campbell Hall, University of California at Los Angeles, 90025. Published twice yearly, subscriptions are $6.00 annually.

MASTER’S DEGREE IN ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

Applications for the Master of Arts program in Asian American Studies for the Fall, 1981 Quarter are available from the Asian American Studies Center. The program currently has four second year students and five first year students. The purpose of the program is to serve students who have an interest in eventually pursuing a Ph.D or who plan to work in Asian American communities. For more information and application materials, contact Tim Dong at the Asian American Studies Center, 3232 Campbell Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90024, telephone (213) 825-2974.

FIRST TONGAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE HELD

On October 10 and 11, the first Tongan American Unity Conference was held in Lennox by the Tongan Community System. The conference marked an historic occasion for this Pacific Islander community. The two-day event provided a forum for the community to receive a general orientation on the American social service system and to identify the greatest needs of Tongans in Southern California. The effort received the active support of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center as well as support from Irene Hirano of the Asian/Pacific Women’s Network and Mary Thorne of the Department of Public Social Services, Los Angeles County.

The enthusiasm for the conference ran high as participants spoke out time and time again on the needs of the Tongan American community. An active discussion ensued between the audience and the speakers throughout the two-day conference with spirited emotions. Speakers included representatives from Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment, Southwest Mental Health Center, and the National Association of Enrolled Agents (for income tax advise).
The participants overwhelmingly identified the lack of a center in Los Angeles as the most immediate need, according to Dr. Mumui Tatola, a conference organizer. Reflecting on the purpose of the conference, he noted, 'Tongans go through tremendous culture shock in this country, and problems arise as a result. For instance, women traditionally play a major, leading role in Tongan society. But, here, they are often stripped of their roles which causes many family-related complications.'

Despite their large population here in Los Angeles (estimated at 15,000), Tongan Americans remain one of the least known and most neglected Pacific Islander groups. Descendants of the only kingdom in the Polynesian Islands that has never been colonized, the population has rapidly grown within the last ten years - particularly in the Lennox and South Bay areas.

Tongan Community System has plans to organize several projects on social service and legal related issues. The UCLA Asian American Law Students Association is looking into ways of assisting the organization. Currently there are no Tongan attorneys in Southern California. Other plans include trying to acquire a center and establishing English language classes for Tongan Americans. Much work remains to be done, but it is hoped that the recent conference has served as a catalyst for Tongans, other Asians and Pacific Islanders, and the general population to take notice and act upon the needs of this community. Further information regarding the activities of the Tongan Community System can be obtained by contacting Dr. Mumui Tatola at (213) 674-6946 in Lennox.

ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN STUDIES MEETING

The first meeting of the Association of Asian Pacific American Studies was held at the University of Washington at Seattle on November 6-8, 1980. The major purpose of the Association is to foster the development of Asian Pacific American studies as an academic discipline by encouraging interchange among people interested in Asian Pacific American studies and by advocating positions which support the continued growth of Asian American studies programs.

The conference was attended by 337 people who participated on 22 panels relating to Asian Pacific Americans. Dr. Sucheng Chan, a postdoctoral scholar visiting the Asian American Studies Center for 1980-81 was elected president of the Association for 1981-82.

SEMINARS ON ASIAN/PACIFIC EDUCATION

The National Association for Asian and Pacific American Education (NAAPAE) has been refunded by the National Institute of Education to continue its project, the Asian Pacific American Research Seminars. The project is headquartered at the Asian American Studies Center at UCLA.

The project continues to identify researchers and develop a network of social scientists interested in educational development of Asian and Pacific Americans. The series of national seminars on educational issues and professional development has been expanded to include:

1. The Asian American Public Policy Training Seminar, May 15-17, 1981, in Los Angeles, organized by Professor Don Nakanishi. The seminar will provide in-depth training on the application of social science research to Asian American policy issues.

2. The Curriculum Development and Evaluation Training Seminar, date to be announced, to be held in Chicago, and coordinated by Suzy Chan. Current curriculum projects and methods of evaluation will be reviewed with particular attention given to the unique problems associated with evaluating ethnic materials and the impact they have on ethnic and non-ethnic children. Bilingual materials will be examined.

3. The Northwest Research Training Workshop, March 5 and 6, 1981, in Seattle, during the NAAPAE Conference, and organized by A. Beretto Ogilvie. The seminar will examine topics warranting research attention and provide educators with critical skills and knowledge relative to APA research activities.

4. The Hawaii Educational Research Seminars I-IV, held quarterly, in Hawaii, conducted by Morris Lai. The seminars will focus on research issues facing APAs in Hawaii. The first seminar was held in November of 1980. Seminar II, Resources and Materials for Conducting Educational Research Involving APAs in Hawaii, January 14, 1981, will be held in conjunction with the Hawaii Educational Research Association's Annual Meeting. Seminar III, Developing APA Educational Researchers, April 23-25, 1981, at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, in Honolulu, will be held during the NAAPAE Annual Meeting. Seminar IV, Research Proposals for the Future, July 15, 1981, Hilo, Hawaii, will be held simultaneously with the Summer Institute for Educational Research on Asian Americans.
The Second National Scholar Awards will be sponsored by the Asian Pacific American Research Seminars in cooperation with NAAPAE to promote and encourage original research on educational concerns of Asian and Pacific Americans. An honorarium of $500 and a certificate of recognition will be awarded to the winning papers.

For further information, please direct your inquiries to Kenyon S. Chan or Judith A. Takata at:

Asian Pacific American Research Seminars
Asian American Studies Center
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90024
(213) 825-0315 or 825-2974

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES OFFERED IN CHINATOWN AND GARDENA

In an effort to bring Asian American Studies courses to people who normally would not have access to a campus, two community classes will be offered in Winter, 1981:

‘TOISAN, CHINA - YESTERDAY & TODAY’

This course will briefly cover the early emigration from Toisan, China to the United States as well as provide a glimpse into Toisan as it is today. ‘Toisan - Yesterday & Today’ will be offered in Cantonese on two consecutive weeks. The course will be taught by Dr. June Mei, Director of the Chinese Oral History Project, which is jointly sponsored by the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California and the Asian American Studies Center. Professor Mei has spent considerable time in the People’s Republic of China researching Chinese emigration from the province of Guangdong.

‘Toisan - Yesterday & Today’ is being jointly sponsored by the Chinatown Service Center, the Chinatown Senior Citizens Service Center, and the Asian American Studies Center. In order to accommodate many of the senior citizens in the area, the course will be held on Friday afternoons, February 6 and 15 from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm at the Chinatown Service Center on 600 North Broadway Avenue, Los Angeles. An English language version of the course is in the making. Please contact the Asian American Studies Center at UCLA for further details.

‘NISEI - PERSPECTIVES ON 2ND GENERATION JAPANESE AMERICANS’

In response to the successful community class on Japanese American history, a six-week course on ‘Nisei’ will be held in Gardena. ‘Nisei - Perspectives on 2nd Generation Japanese Americans’ will be taught by Professor Yuji Ichioka, noted authority on Japanese American history and researcher for the Asian American Studies Center at UCLA. Professor Ichioka has taught several courses on Japanese American history, both on campus (through the UCLA Department of History) and off campus. The course is being co-sponsored by the Asian American Studies Center and the Little Tokyo Service Center.

The major focus of the course will be historical, including topics such as the birth and initial growth of the JACL and Nisei responses to the Japan - U.S. crises (1937-41), where major turnarounds took place. The course will also look at James Sakamoto's Japanese American Courier (1928-37), which was the only English language weekly written by for Nisei. Two areas closely tied to Issei will also be covered: the large degree of nationalism which dominated during that period; and kusabi - an Issei conception on the future of Nisei children.

Everyone is welcome, and Nisei are particularly encouraged to attend. Format will include discussion and lecture, with personal experience sharing as an integral part of the class. The course will be held on Wednesday nights from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, beginning on February 4th. ‘Nisei - Perspectives on 2nd Generation Japanese Americans’ will be held at the Gardena Valley Baptist Church located on 1630 West 158th Street (between Normandie and Western Avenue) in Gardena. Due to limited enrollment, pre-registration is advised. This course will be offered free of charge, although a nominal donation will be requested for the instructor. If you would like further information, please contact Tim Dong or Roy Nakano at the Center, (213) 825-2974.

STATE LEGISLATIVE BILL HAS REPERCUSSIONS ON INDOCHINESE

There have been a recent series of developments affecting Indochinese refugee students attending public colleges and universities in California that have received very little publicity. These developments involve State legislative bill AB 2619, which would have provided for an extension of a previous bill that granted special resident status to refugee students and exempted these students from paying non-resident tuition
fees. The previous bill concerning refugee students was allowed to expire in June of 1980, and its extension, AB 2619, was defeated in August.

The minority of supporters in the State Senate generally point at misdirected anger on the part of legislators toward Iranian, Mexican, and Cuban refugees as one major cause for the defeat. The general public as a whole was given very little information regarding this pending measure, thus contributing to the apparent lack of public support concerning the passage of this bill.

State officials initially estimated that 15,000 Indochinese students residing in California would be directly affected by the defeat of this bill. It was originally assumed that refugees must reside in the United States for two years before becoming eligible to file for permanent residence status (green card), and that they must also live in California an additional year to establish residency in this state. Thus, it was generally believed that refugees would have to reside in California for at least 3½ years before they could be considered California residents for tuition purposes. Because of AB 2619's defeat, it was thought that a great number of refugee students would find it necessary to either terminate or postpone their college education, as the non-resident tuition charged by community colleges and state universities would be difficult for them to afford.

In light of this pending problem regarding refugee students attending colleges, a state committee was established to research the ramifications of the defeat. In the course of the investigation, it was found that the Refugee Act of 1980 passed by Congress provided that refugees may file for permanent residence status after living in the United States for one year. Upon filing for permanent residence status, students could utilize I-181 certificates as residency certification until they received their green cards. It was also discovered that the permanent resident status granted by these certificates would be retroactively effective. In essence, they would be considered permanent residents retroactive to their date of entry into the United States. This essentially alleviates the anticipated difficulty regarding non-resident tuition since refugees need only to hold an I-181 certificate or a green card and be established as California residents in order to be qualified to pay resident tuition. As a further adjunct, it should be noted that students who fulfill the above requirements and who have paid non-resident tuitions for Fall of 1980 qualify to receive a tuition refund upon petitioning for such a refund.

For any further regarding AB 2619, please contact Staff Counsel, Catherine Close-Kaufman at (916) 445-0103, Arnold Bray or Moni Van Camp at (916) 445-8752 of the legislative unit.

CHINESE AMERICANS AND THE KKK

"...The problem originates from the boat people. All those damn chinks. ...KKK Alhambra alms to kick the ass not kiss ass.'

From the Monterey Park (California) Progress, December 10, 1980:

'More than a half-century ago, according to our files, the infamous Ku Klux Klan served up an 'event' for the West San Gabriel Valley before a reported crowd of 'about 25,000' right on the corner of Valley Boulevard and Garfield Avenue.

While the crowd estimate of 25,000 may have been exaggerated, the 'event,' a KKK initiation, drew many people because of 'mammoth searchlights (that) operated throughout the evening' and two airplanes circling over the field, 'one with lights forming the letters KKK and the other one displaying a fiery cross.'

We quote excerpts from the report from the files of the Progress and Post-Advocate newspapers:

Aug. 22, 1924 - It is estimated that about 25,000 people saw the initiation of 500 members from Alhambra and Monterey Park into the Ku Klux Klan. The initiation or 'naturalization,' as the Klan calls it, was held Saturday evening at Valley Boulevard and Garfield Avenue...

In the center of the field a large electrically lighted cross about 30 feet high and 15 feet across was erected...About 3,000 Klansmen, with their white robes on, formed a big square around the cross and platform. Many Klansmen from other cities were present and helped Alhambra Klan No. 8 with the 'naturalization'...

Alhambra Klan No. 8 has greatly enlarged in the last few months. Starting with only a few hundred members, they are now about 2,500 strong...Monterey Park (is) in Klan No. 8 District.

The Ku Klux Klan had perhaps its greatest public acceptance in the 1920s. Today we are much more aware of what the Klan has traditionally stood for - separation of ethnic and religious groups in society and violence to achieve those ends.

In recent weeks there have been incidents of vandalism directed against those in the West San Gabriel Valley who apparently don't fit into the white, Anglo-Saxon, Protestant supremacist mold.

One target for this vandalism was a Jewish house of worship in Alhambra. Another target has been Chinese-language movie houses in the area, and still another target has been the Alhambra office of the Progress and Post-Advocate newspapers.
New information has now come to light that appears to more solidly document that these incidents are linked and that the perpetrators are parties or associations with the KKK. This information comes to us in the form of a letter to the Post-Advocate.

Naturally, the person or persons responsible for the letter did not sign it, because one of the commonalities of the senseless, irrational behavior known as bigotry is cowardice.

The letter contains a drawing of a hooded Klansman holding a fiery cross in his right hand to drive off a vampire-like figure, and another drawing of a Klansman holding a much larger fiery cross while astride a klan-costumed horse. It is signed 'KKK Alhambra.'

We quote excerpts from the letter (and we caution readers that they may find some of the language offensive because terms not ordinarily found in this newspaper are used):

...American freedom is being violated. We can't even see American movies in our own city. The problem originates from the beat people. All those damn chinks.

...Three-fourths of Monterey Park population aren't even American citizens and are here on visas. To top that off, Monterey Park has the second highest Oriental population in America. America is not there (sic) home, and as far as Alhambra is concerned it will not be welcomed as such. There is a real need for a community blockade.

...The Post-Advocate will pay because it is just a contributing factor to the problem. It is unjust to print an American paper in chink language. The vandalism at your offices and those chink theaters, i.e. the Garfield, is justified simply because the sounds of crashing glass is all community leaders (?) can hear. This is what you deserve - not our money. There will be trouble with your paper if you continue to kid their asses.

...KKK Alhambra aims to kick the ass not kiss ass. So if you continue roll out the Chinese RED carpet, do so at your own risk. The worst is yet to come.

...Alhambra community is proud to announce its new organization founded by the original KKK. Our headquarters in Fontana has been contacted many times in the past four months. We have proven that Alhambra needs help and welcomes klan activity...”

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITIES

A planning committee has recently formed of Third World student and staff women for International Women’s Day activities to be held on the UCLA campus. The activities are scheduled to occur around the time of International Women’s Day, which falls on March 8. Those interested in assisting with planning the activities can contact Susie Ling at 825-1006.

WINTER QUARTER COURSES IN ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

The Winter Quarter schedule of classes in Asian American Studies is listed below. A syllabus for each Asian American Studies course is posted on the Curriculum bulletin board at the Asian American Studies Center. The 100-series classes are upper division courses; the 200-series classes are graduate level courses. Asian American Studies classes fulfill the social science breadth requirements. For further information about the courses, please contact the Asian American Studies Center.

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES

16552 AAS 100A Lect 1 - Introduction to Asian American Studies. J. Mei, TuTh 11-12:15, GSM 2250. The first of a two-course survey of Asians in America; this course focuses on history.

16553 SEC 1a - Discussion, Tu 10, Bunch 2178

16554 SEC 1b - Discussion, Tu 1, Bunch 2160

16555 SEC 1c - Discussion, Th 10, Bunch 3115

16556 SEC 1d - Discussion, Th 1, Bunch 3165

16557 AAS 197A Lect 1 - Topics in Asian American Studies: Asian American Literature. M. Hom, TuTh 12:30-2:00, GSM 2214. A survey of major interpretations of the Asian American experience as expressed in literature. The course provides an analysis and readings of important works and criticisms. This course is also listed as English 190 - Literature and Society. (Note: Please note changes from Schedule of Classes listing.)

16558 AAS 197B Lect 1 - Topics in Asian American Studies: Analysis of Asian American Communities. H. Chen, MWF 12-1, Kinsey 230. The course provides an analytical perspective of the Asian American community and considers the contemporary issues concerning Asian American communities. (Note: Please note changes from Schedule of Classes listing.)


HISTORY

43247 HIST 153 Lect 1 - The Philippines and the United States. A. Saxton, MWF 12-1, GSM 1256. An examination of the interrelationships of immigration and of colonialism and independence between the United States and the Philippines focused mainly within the time period of 1898 to the present.
84199 SOC 276 Sem 1 - Selected Topics in the Sociology of East Asia: Emigration and Development. L. Hirata, Tu 2-5, Haines 146. This course provides a sociological perspective to emigration and development patterns of East Asia.

SPRING QUARTER COURSES

- Introduction to Asian American Studies (Contemporary Issues)
- Asians in the Media
- Japanese American History
- Asians and Education
- Korean American Experience

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

We are many, and we also act as one. We are of Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Pilipino, Hawaiian ancestry... We are of many different cultures.

We too have nine to five jobs, and are involved in specialized careers - doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, journalists, etc. We are also students getting through college, secretaries, truck drivers, nurses...and cover the whole spectrum of human experience.

We are gay and lesbian Asians. A minority within a minority. ...We are part of something that is rarely discussed or brought up openly. But yes, we do exist. And we have experienced some degree of racial prejudice in the gay world as well.

So, in an effort to construct a positive image of the gay Asian, we have formed the Asian Pacific Lesbians and Gays (APLG). Currently, there are approximately one hundred members. This organization is basically social and is open to both men and women.

Can you do us fellow Asians a favor and spread the word by whatever means of communication - to gay and lesbian Asians looking for an organization to receive support from? We are quite serious about the formation.

Currently, there is no telephone number for the organization, but we can be reached by mail. The mailing address is P.O. Box 42121, Los Angeles, California 90042.

Thank you for your time,

Cathy

STUDENT ACTIVITIES FOR 1981

New Directions for Asian Coalition

Benjamin Franklin once said, 'He that is good at making excuses is seldom good at anything else.' Today we are facing the insistent demands of a restless society. Before our own eyes, we are seeing a rise in racism, coupled with an unstable economy. Our basic intuition warns us that these two elements can result in disaster. Nevertheless, we are confronted with the inevitable question of what to do. Should we attempt to combat these trends now, or should we decline from any political involvement, hoping for the situation to clear by itself?

The Asian Coalition believes these issues must be addressed immediately. History reveals to us that complacency has failed in accomplishing anything, and we certainly don't wish to repeat our mistakes. The Asian Coalition urges you to become assertive, to get involved, and to effect change in your communities. Without the unified support and involvement of all Asians, we will be left at the mercy of those in power. For example, UCLA doesn't have one Asian student on the Student Legislative Council, nor in any major policy-making positions.

If we don't involve ourselves in the politics of everyday life, we then leave our fates in the hands of those who do. Get involved, or else there might come a day when it is too late for involvement and excuses can no longer be made.

Please join us in our efforts to fight oppression and in our campaign to promote a racially harmonious UCLA. Last quarter we devoted most of our energies into public relations. Winter promises to be one of the Asian Coalition's busiest quarters, so we hope to see you around. Our major events include the following:

January 20, 12:00-1:00 pm ‘Asian Awareness Rally’ at Meyerhoff Park
January 21: February 4 & 8; March 4, 12:00-1:00 pm ‘Speakers Forum’ at North Campus Student Center, Room 22

Topics: Asians in the media, Asian youth gangs, & Asian identity

February 1, ‘Asian Coalition’s Sports Tournament’ (please contact the Asian Coalition office if you wish to register a men’s basketball or coed volleyball team)

February 6, 6:00-10:00 pm ‘UCLA - USC Leadership Exchange’ at the Sunset Recreation Center, Buenos Aires Room

January 14, 28; February 11, 25; March 11, 6:00 pm ‘Board of Representatives’ meetings at 3517 Ackerman Union (everyone is welcome to discuss their views and offer their ideas)

Other Events: Intercultural Night, Asian Film Festival, Asian Week & Spring Dance

If you are interested in working on any project of the Asian Coalition, please fill out an application form available at 2240 Campbell Hall or Kerckhoff 409, or call 825-7184.

Sam Law, Director
Asian Coalition
ANNOUNCEMENTS

South Asia Association Formed

A new student organization has recently been formed to promote an awareness and better understanding of South Asia through sponsoring programs relating to its culture and society. The organization, South Asia Association, hopes to generate a greater consciousness of the oppression of women, workers, peasants and ethnic minorities. "The position of women in South Asia has declined alarmingly in the past decade," according to Sucheta Mazumdar, one of the founding members of the group. "There is an increase in the number of students entering UCLA who are U.S. citizens of South Asian origin. The size of the South Asian immigrant population in the Los Angeles area has also increased dramatically within the past few years. We wish to build better rapport with the American South Asians and focus on the problems of the immigrant community."

South Asia Association is currently planning discussion sessions in January on American-raised South Asians who returned to South Asia. In addition, South Asia Association will begin publication on a newsletter. The first issue will cover aspects of South Asian women. For further information on the organization, contact Sucheta Mazumdar (Mukherjee), Vasant Kawai, or Beheroze Shroff c/o 3232 Campbell Hall or come to the office in 2240 Campbell Hall. Telephone (213) 825-1006.

The Chinese of America, 1785-1980


Echoes from Gold Mountain

Echoes from Gold Mountain, an Asian American Journal, is now accepting short stories, poetry, plays, illustrations, and photographs on Asian Americans for publication in its third issue. All writers and potential writers are encouraged to submit material. For more information, contact Echoes from Gold Mountain c/o Asian American Studies, California State University, 1250 Bellflower Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90840. Telephone (213) 498-4821.

'Asian Women in America' taught at the Women's Building

Asian Women in America, an 8-week course at the Women's Building, will be taught by Dr. Judy Chu. The course will emphasize the role of Asian women in the community struggle against oppression at home and in society. History, current problems, and alternatives will be discussed by Dr. Chu and a number of guest speakers. Dr. Chu has been teaching Asian Women in America at UCLA for the past year. The course is sponsored by the Women's Building and is being offered free of charge due to recent funding approvals. Asian Women in America begins Wednesday, January 14, and will be held on consecutive Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The Women's Building is located near Chinatown in Los Angeles on 1727 North Spring Street. Telephone (213) 221-6161.

READING ROOM ROUND-UP

As a service to our readers, selected issues of Cross Currents list recent acquisitions by the Asian American Studies Center Reading Room. Students, staff, and faculty of UCLA should use their library card to check out materials. All others should use the Reading Room card, which may be obtained by presenting one picture ID (usually a driver's license) and one other ID to the Reading Room staff. Contact the Reading Room at 2230 Campbell Hall, (213) 825-5043 for more information.

BOOKS


Kos, Jorge; Chandler; East Indian Immigration on the Pacific Coast, R & E, Stanford, 1916.

Menahem, Robert; Myths of the Bluc, Middle Water Press, 1978.


Plamas, Chris (editor); Senat: An Anthology of Asian American Writings, Asian American Studies Center, Berkeley, 1980.


Toan, Anh; Lang Xom Viet Man (Viet Namese Culture), Yuan Thu, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Toan, Anh; Phong-Tuc Viet Man (Vietnamese Tradition), Suan Thu, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

ARTICLES


THE ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER at UCLA HAS JUST COMPLETED AND PRINTED AN
ASIAN/PACIFIC COMMUNITY DIRECTORY
OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

- Over 200 entries of social service groups and agencies, with brief descriptions of services offered
- Index categories for Chinese, Indochinese, Japanese, Korean, Pacific Islander, Filipino, South Asian, and general Asian American
- Index by subjects such as counseling, direct and emergency services, advocacy, child care, special interest groups, women, senior citizen, immigrant/immigration services, and others
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