

# Cross Currents

UCLA Asian American Studies Center News Magazine  
Fall 2010



## Professor Jerry Kang Appointed to *The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo* Chair in Korean American Studies

THE first endowed chair of its kind, *The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo* Chair in Korean American Studies has been awarded to UCLA Professor Jerry Kang. With the Korean American Studies chair, the Asian American Studies Center now has four endowed chairs which focus on groups such as Japanese Americans and issues such as U.S.-China relations.



Professor Jerry Kang.

Professor Kang is an internationally recognized legal scholar whose research has focused on “technologies” broadly construed, including innovative work on cyberspace as well as the social impacts of new information structures. In addition, his research in critical race studies had garnered much attention not only from legal scholars, but also throughout the academy.

He has taught at the UCLA School of Law since 1995 and was named the Law School’s Professor of the Year in 1998. Professor Kang was awarded the Rutter Award for Excellence

in Teaching in 2007 and the 2010 Eby Award for the Art of Teaching, one of six Distinguished Teaching Awards given by UCLA. He has been an active member of the Faculty Advisory Committee of the Asian American Studies Center. Professor Kang earned his A.B. in Physics and J.D. with honors from Harvard University. Born in Seoul, Korea, Professor Kang was raised in Illinois.

“Professor Jerry Kang is a shining star of the UCLA faculty,” said

Professor Emeritus Don T. Nakanishi. “He is an internationally renowned scholar, an outstanding teacher, and a deeply committed contributor to compelling public policy and race relations issues. He will contribute significantly to the further development of the field of Korean American Studies.”

*The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo* Chair in Korean American Studies was made possible by the generosity of lead donor, Jae Min Chang, a UCLA alumnus and Chairman, Publisher, and CEO of *The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo* newspapers, as well as UCLA alumnus Mike Hong, Chairman and CEO of Dura Coat Products, Inc., and Do Won Chang, co-founder and CEO of Forever 21.

**“...a deeply committed contributor to compelling public policy and race relations issues.” - Professor Emeritus Don T. Nakanishi**

“It is a deep honor to be named to *The Korea Times-Hankook Ilbo* Chair in Korean American Studies,” said Professor Kang. “Since my research spans multiple fields, I’m excited about the Chair allowing me to focus more of my research on matters that interest and impact Korean Americans. Some examples include comparative work between Korean and United States Internet law, as well as the rise of Korean American lawyers.”

“More generally, I’m keen on channeling the generous resources of *The Korea Times Chair* to enrich UCLA’s intellectual environment, to make certain that questions, issues, and concerns relevant to Korean American communities be treated seriously,” Professor Kang added, “I am especially thankful to Mr. Jae Min Chang of *The Korea Times*, whose leadership made the Chair possible. I am committed to acting as a dynamic but responsible steward of this extraordinary community resource.”

## Newsletter Staff

**Christina Aujean Lee**, Editor  
 aujean@gmail.com

**Arnold Pan**, Copyeditor  
 arnoldpan@ucla.edu

### Contributors

Jean-Paul deGuzman, Melany De La Cruz-Viesca, Suza Khy, Layhannara Tep, Meg Thornton, David K. Yoo

### Photographers

Victor Bascara, Leslie Chanthaphasouk. Helen Chew, Erica Juhn, Tadashi Nakamura, Tam Nguyen, Dian Sohn, Tritia Toyota, Misha Tsukerman

**Ying M. Tu**, Business Manager  
 aascpress@aasc.ucla.edu

*CrossCurrents*, the newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, keeps readers abreast of Center programs, including academic programs, research projects, publications, faculty activities, student perspectives, relevant university and community issues, as well as programs not sponsored by the Center but in the province of Asian American Studies.

*CrossCurrents* is distributed in the community by Center staff. It is also mailed free to all subscribers of *Amerasia Journal* and *AAPI Nexus Journal*.

For information on how to submit articles, announcements, images, and so forth to *CrossCurrents*, contact the editor.

For information about activities and programs of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, visit [www.aasc.ucla.edu](http://www.aasc.ucla.edu) or 3230 Campbell Hall, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Box 951546, Los Angeles, CA, 90095.

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## Meet our Staff!



AASC Staff (from left to right, back to front): Ann Chau, Marjorie Lee, Betty Leung, Xin Zhang, David K. Yoo, Christina Aujean Lee, Meg Thornton, Russell Leong, Tin Nguyen, Mary Uyematsu Kao, Gena Hamamoto, Robert A. Nakamura, Melany De La Cruz-Viesca, Tam Nguyen

(not pictured: Arnold Pan and Andrew Jung).

### Current Staff

David K. Yoo	Director
Robert A. Nakamura	Associate Director
	Director, Center for EthnoCommunications
Melany De La Cruz-Viesca	Assistant Director
	Director, Census Information Center
	Co-Managing Editor, <i>AAPI Nexus Journal</i>
Russell C. Leong	Editor, <i>Amerasia Journal</i>
	Director, <i>U.S.-China Media Brief</i>
Arnold Pan	Assistant Editor
Mary Uyematsu Kao	Publications Coordinator
Betty Leung	MSO
Ann Chau	Office Manager
Ying M. Tu	AASC Press Distribution Manager
Marjorie Lee	Librarian and Reading Room Coordinator
Meg Malpaya Thornton	Student and Community Projects Coordinator
Tam Nguyen	Information Technology Coordinator
Andrew Jung	Managing Coordinator, <i>U.S.-China Media Brief</i>
Christina Aujean Lee	Co-Managing Editor, <i>AAPI Nexus Journal</i>
	Assistant Director, Center for EthnoCommunications

### Previous Staff

Xin Zhang	Assistant Editor, <i>U.S.-China Media Brief</i>
Tin Nguyen	Information Technology Coordinator Assistant
Gena Hamamoto	Assistant Director, EthnoCommunications

## Director's Message



**E**NTERING its fifth decade, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center remains committed to an agenda of engaged research and scholarship – *advancing knowledge to empower people.*

**POLICY:** The focus in policy-related areas includes public health, education, and immigration among other pressing issues of our day. The journal, *AAPI Nexus*, serves as a key vehicle for these findings, even as we support the University of California Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy Multi-Campus Research Project and the impressive breadth of applied research conducted by members of our Faculty Advisory Committee.

**HISTORY, CULTURE & COMMUNITY:** Documentation, interpretation, and preservation of our communities takes place in pages of *Amerasia Journal*, the media productions of the Center for EthnoCommunications, and through the innovative work of our faculty in the

humanities and social sciences. Moreover, the Center's Library and Archives serve as a critical repository for collections of individuals and organizations constituting Asian America.

**PARTNERSHIPS:** Our campus and community partners are needed now more than ever as we face increasingly complex social conditions that are local, national, and global in nature. Our office of Student Community Projects connects students with each other, our campus, and co-laborers beyond the classroom in transformative ways.

**IMAGINATION:** We must creatively move from critique towards constructive community formations characterized by social justice and enduring peace. Drawing upon our past and lessons borne from struggle, reflection, and social analysis, the UCLA Asian American Studies Center is about *advancing knowledge to empower people.*

David K. Yoo  
Director & Professor

## Yuji Ichioka and Emma Gee Endowed Fund in Social Justice and Immigration Studies

**T**HE Asian American Studies Center is pleased to announce that the endowment to honor the late Professor Yuji Ichioka, an esteemed historian and Center researcher, has been renamed. The efforts continue to raise funding for what would become the Yuji Ichioka and Emma Gee Endowed Chair in Social Justice and Immigration Studies. The change reflects the fact that Emma Gee, wife of Yuji Ichioka, is herself an Asian American Studies pioneer with a long association with the Center, having served as editor of the foundational text, *Counterpoint: Perspectives on Asian America*, and as a member of the editorial board of *Amerasia Journal*. Key founders of the Center, Yuji Ichioka and Emma Gee in the early years helped shape the curriculum for classes, establishing a comprehensive research agenda and linking the efforts on campus to Asian American communities.

Professor Yuji Ichioka coined the term "Asian American" during the early years of the movement and went on to become a research associate at the Center, producing such seminal historical works as the award-winning books, *The Issei: The World of First Generation Japanese Immigrants, 1885-1924* and *Before Internment: Essays in Prewar Japanese American History*. The themes of social justice and immigration not only served as prominent areas of study

for the two, but they also advocated for immigrant communities.

The Center is grateful to the many friends and supporters who have contributed, especially lead donations from the George and Sakaye Aratani Foundation of Los Angeles, the Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Foundation of San Francisco, and Dr. Paul I. and Hisako Terasaki. Dr. Terasaki is Professor Emeritus of the UCLA Geffen School of Medicine.

Although funding for the endowment is not yet complete, about 85% of the \$500,000 needed has been raised. The Center currently has four endowed chair professorships and looks forward to adding another to honor Yuji Ichioka and Emma Gee.



Photo Credit: Helen Chew

# Center Remembers Significant Contributors

## Chiyoko Doris Hoshide

At the age of 99, Chiyoko Doris Hoshide passed away in Rockville, Maryland. Doris attended UCLA from 1929 to 1933 after graduating from Hollywood High School. In 1929, she joined with 13 other Japanese American women students to form the Chi Alpha Delta sorority because UCLA's Panhellenic Constitution at the time excluded Asian American women from joining sororities on campus. Chi Alpha Delta continues to exist as the oldest Asian American sorority in the nation.

While a student at UCLA, she changed her major from education to geography because she was told that Japanese Americans could not get teaching jobs. Later, when she was incarcerated during World War II in 1942 at the Heart Mountain internment camp in Wyoming, she was able to serve as an elementary school teacher in the camp. The following year, she left to work for the Army Map Service as a translator and became a geographic research specialist. It was her love for teaching and UCLA that motivated her to establish the C. Doris and Toshio Hoshide Distinguished Teaching Prize for Asian American Studies professors. Later, she also estab-



lished two endowed undergraduate scholarships.

When she and her partner, Toshio Hoshide, settled in Rockville, Maryland, they were among the first Japanese Americans to go to the Washington, D.C. area. She served as a board member of the Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation and an honorary board member of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation. She also participated in the Ikenobo Ikebana Society and received a silver pin from the Japanese American Citizens League. UCLA Professor Emeritus Don T. Nakanishi spoke at her funeral service.

## John Delloro



Courageous, articulate, and passionate advocate for social justice, John Delloro passed away on June 5, 2010. He received his MA in Asian American Studies and his BA in Psychology and Specialization in Asian American Studies at UCLA. He was a lecturer for the UCLA Asian American Studies Department where he taught about AAPI leadership development, labor organizing, oral history, and public narrative. He is remembered as a long-time orga-

nizer who served as manager of the southwest California area of the 90,000-member SEIU Local 1000, the Union of California State Workers, and as a staff director for the acute care hospital division of SEIU Local 399, the Healthcare Employees union. He has also worked as an organizer for the Culinary Union (HERE Local 226) in Las Vegas and AFSCME International, organizing LA Superior Court clerical employees.

John Delloro was one of the co-founders of the Pilipino Workers Center of Southern California (PWC) and served as the National President of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO, which is the largest and only national organization of AAPI working families and union members. He was also the Executive Director of the Dolores Huerta Labor Institute, a member of the Board of Taxicab Commissioners for the City of L.A., and served as an appointee on the California Assembly Speaker's Commission on Labor Education. John Delloro is survived by his wife, Dr. Susan Suh, UCLA Sociology PhD alumna and community activist, and their two children, Mina and Malcolm. On July 1, 2010, UCLA Chancellor Block honored Delloro by lowering the flag at UCLA to half-staff for his service to UCLA, the Asian American Studies Department, the Asian American Studies Center, and the Labor Center.

## Tam Ngoc Tran

ON May 15, 2010, UCLA alumna and activist for undocumented students Tam Ngoc Tran passed away. She was born in Germany after her parents were forced to flee Vietnam. She immigrated to the U.S. and grew up in Garden Grove, California. She attended Santa Ana College, then transferred to UCLA, where she earned a BA in American Literature and Culture and minor in Asian American Studies. She was pursuing a PhD in American Civilization at Brown University, where she also co-founded the Immigrants' Rights Coalition.

In 2006, Tam was a recipient of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center's 21st Century Undergraduate Scholarship, for her research, "The Invisible of 'The Invisibles': Undocumented Asian Students at UCLA." As a student of the Center for EthnoCommunications, she produced several films, including the acclaimed documentary, "Lost and Found," about undocumented students. She also co-directed "The Seattle Underground Railroad" about a group of UCLA students who take an unconventional road trip during Winter Break to Washington State to get their driver's licenses.

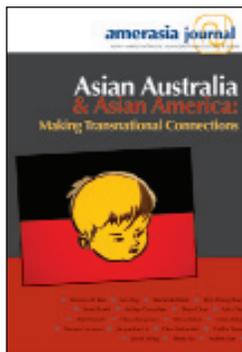
In 2007, she testified on behalf of the DREAM Act for a House subcommittee. Three days later, Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents raided her family's home to arrest her parents and younger brother. Through community support, calls to Congress, and immigration attorneys, she prevented her family from deportation. On May 20, 2010, Rhode Island legislatures introduced and passed House (H8166) and Senate (S2903) resolutions "expressing profound sympathy on the passing of Tam Ngoc Tran."



# Amerasia Journal and Nexus Journal Release New Issues

*Amerasia Journal* has recently published two new issues, “The Migrant with a Thousand Faces” and “Asian Australia and Asian America: Making Transnational Connections.” Both issues speak to the transnational and globalized concerns of Asian American Studies.

“The Migrant with a Thousand Faces” explores stories of migration from multiethnic perspectives, covering the diverse experiences encountered by Asian Americans. The essays in this collection range from accounts of Japanese Picture Brides in Hawai’i at the turn of the twentieth century to the family stories of Hmong immigrants in the United States. The issue also features tributes to two pioneering figures, filmmaker and activist Loni Ding and Professor Lucie Cheng, the first permanent Director of the Asian American Studies Center.



“Asian Australia and Asian America: Making Transnational Connections” is a special collaboration between *Amerasia Journal* and leading scholars in the burgeoning field of Asian Australian Studies, including guest editors Jacqueline Lo, Dean Chan, and Tseen Khoo. The issue not only introduces those working in Asian American Studies to important themes and historical contexts from Asian Australian Studies, but it also offers insights for comparative research of the Asian diaspora. Topics such as the influence of American film on Asian Australian cinema and a comparative study of the internment experiences of Japanese North Americans and Japanese Australians emphasize the connections that can be made between the two fields. The issue also examines the relationships between Asian Australians and Aboriginal Australians, as well as cultural approaches to understanding the experiences of Southeast Asian immigrants in Australia.

To order or obtain review copies of these issues, visit [www.aasc.ucla.edu/aascpress/default.asp](http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/aascpress/default.asp). For current information, join our Facebook group at [www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=143717778992900](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=143717778992900).

*AAPI Nexus Journal* has released its second and third issues in a three-part education series, focusing on Higher Education and Intersections of K-12 and Higher Education.

Guest editors Mitchell J. Chang (UCLA) and Peter Nien-chu Kiang (UMass Boston) of the Special Issue on Higher Education assembled articles that expand the horizon of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) educational research in exciting ways that extend beyond well-trod model minority paradigms. The articles in this issue discuss not only the many challenges that AAPI college students face, but also potential solutions that have implications for future generations of AAPI college students. Contributors include L. Ling-chi Wang, Rick Wagoner, Anthony Lin, Jillian Liesemeyer, Oiyen Poon, Julie Park, and Mitchell Chang. This issue is dedicated to UCLA alumni John Delloro, Tam Tran, and Cinthya Perez, who recently passed away.



The final educational issue around “Intersections of Education” focuses on K-12-university intersections. As guest editors Allyson Tintiangco-Cubales (SFSU), Sam Museus (UMass Boston), and Peter Nien-chu Kiang write, educational intersections “call for a fuller reconceptualization of educational policy, practice, and community in relation to AAPIs, and also to recognize the significant new work that appears in this special issue to demonstrate the richness and potential of the analysis and development of the intersections.” Contributors include Shirley Hune, Jeomja Yeo, Yang Sao Xiong, Yingyi Ma, Allyson Tintiangco-Cubales, Roderick Daus-Magbual, and Arlene Daus-Magbual. The manuscripts focus around Samoan American high school completion and college attendance, Hmong Students’ access to college-preparatory curricula, Asian Americans who choose science and engineering majors, and a Pin@y pipeline that reaches from kindergarten to doctoral students who then work to educate the community.

For other information and subscription forms, visit: <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/aascpress/nexuscollection.asp>

## Symposium Explores Criminal Justice System

WITH their 40th anniversary celebrations, the four UCLA Ethnic Studies Centers collaboratively hosted a symposium on May 13, 2010 entitled “Justice or ‘Just Us’: Race, Ethnicity, and Mass Incarceration” at the UCLA Neuroscience Research Building. This day-long event examined the societal costs of current criminal justice policies and the consequences of such policies for communities of color, in particular. The program featured noted scholars as well as community activists from various fields and institutional affiliations.

The three panels discussed issues such as “Restoring Justice and Reforming Immigration Policy,” “Incarceration as a Tool of Racial Oppression and Social Control,” “Impact of Mass Imprisonment on Community and Family,” and “Tearing Down the Golden Gulag.” The Asian American Studies Center invited Professors Bill Ong Hing (UC Davis, Law and Asian American Studies), Dylan Rodriguez (UC Riverside, Ethnic Studies) and Irum Shiekh (Birzeit

University and Asian American Studies Center affiliated scholar). Mia Yamamoto of the Asian Pacific American Women Lawyers Alliance also was an invited panelist for the event.

The event ended with a reception and was co-hosted by the Institute of American Cultures and UCLA Graduate Division.

Some of the related publications that were sold included *Amerasia Journal’s* “Deporting Our Souls & Defending Our Immigrants” and “WORLD<WAR>WATADA” and *AAPI Nexus Journal’s* special issues, “Youth Facing Risks” and “Model Minority Myth.”

With thoughtful discussion points, the panelists invited attendees to become engaged and critically think about how the prison system impacts our communities today through their own experiences advocating for immigrants who face deportation or those who have little resources to help them re-engage with society after released from prison.

## Center Appoints New Staff Members



Photo Credit: Tria Toyota

**Tria Toyota** has been appointed as Research Scholar for AASC. A double alumna of UCLA (MA, Journalism, PhD Anthropology), Dr. Toyota has contributed to the development of the field, especially in the areas of transnationalism and media studies. She is the author of the critically acclaimed, *Envisioning America: New Chinese Americans and the Politics of Belonging* (Stanford University Press, 2010). In this work, Dr. Toyota perceptively documents and analyzes

how newer Chinese immigrants in southern California have negotiated their incorporation into American life and society through a kind of civic engagement that undermines stereotypes of Asian Americans, especially the first generation, as apolitical. Among her many projects, Dr. Toyota is currently conducting fieldwork on new Japanese migrations.

“We are honored that Dr. Toyota will continue her long association

**Arnold Pan** is the new Assistant Editor of *Amerasia Journal*. Arnold will provide editing support for the AASC Press as well as producing an online profile for the Press. He holds a PhD in English from the University of California, Irvine, and his areas of academic expertise include Asian American Studies, American literature, and ethnic studies. He also has background teaching in these fields, having worked over the past decade at UC Irvine and Loyola Marymount University. Dr. Pan has a number of publications to his name, including an essay entitled “Transnationalism at the Impasse of Race: Sui Sin Far and U.S. Imperialism” in *Arizona Quarterly* (2010), as well as book reviews in *Amerasia*, *Genre*, and *Modern Fiction Studies*.

Growing up in the Dallas, Texas area, Arnold has lived in California ever since he completed high school. Arnold’s undergraduate years were spent at Stanford University, where he earned an AB degree from the Humanities Honors Program. After living in San Francisco briefly, he relocated to southern California to attend the Ph.D. program in English at UC Irvine. There, Arnold specialized

with Center with this appointment,” commented Director David K. Yoo. “She deepens our research agenda and profile, and we will benefit tremendously from her expertise and presence.”

As an award-winning journalist, Dr. Toyota has been at the forefront of media studies for nearly three decades, incorporating a related kind of fieldwork (in front of and behind the camera) around a host of stories related to Asian American communities that has influenced her published work and her teaching. She helped co-found the Asian American Journalists Association, serving as its President and receiving its lifetime achievement award. Dr. Toyota is also Adjunct Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Asian American Studies. She will continue to teach her popular undergraduate and graduate classes in the areas of race, politics, transnationalism, the media, and histories of anthropology for both departments.

Professor Toyota carries on the tradition of long-time Center researcher and distinguished historian Professor Yuji Ichioka, award-winning author of works in immigration and labor history.

in ethnic American literature, focusing on comparative approaches to African American and Asian American literatures, completing his dissertation and PhD in 2007. He has taught extensively in the Department of Asian American Studies at UC Irvine as both a graduate student teaching assistant and as a Lecturer. In 2005, Arnold was awarded the Justice Stephen K. Tamura Graduate Fellowship in Asian American Studies for his contributions inside and outside the classroom to the Asian American Studies department at UC Irvine.

Arnold’s other writing projects include a blog about his experiences in academia and earning a PhD, which can be found at [www.postacademic.org](http://www.postacademic.org). Arnold is also a freelance music critic.



Photo Credit: Tam Nguyen

## AAPI Culture and Mental Health Explored Risk, Prevention, and Treatment in Asian Americans

**P**ROFESSORS Gilbert Gee, Margaret Shih, and Phillip Akutsu organized the first “State of AAPI Mental Health and Treatment Issues for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders” conference on April 30, 2010 at UCLA’s California Center for Population Research. This transdisciplinary conference presented ground-breaking research on Asian American populations. The program consisted of a distinguished group of presenters including keynote speaker Nolan Zane, Chair of Asian American Studies at UC Davis and Director of the Asian American Center on Disparities Research. Professor Zane shared the need to look for culturally competent treatments that specify what aspects are similar across racial and ethnic groups (e.g., the emotion of fear) and what aspects are different, such as coping style.

Other panelists such as Tiffany Yip (Fordham University), Van Ta (San Jose State University), and Jean Phinney (UC Berkeley) discussed ethnic and cultural identity, while Hochang Benjamin Lee

(Johns Hopkins) examined aging in Koreans who lived in Maryland and Ramaswami Mahalingam (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) explored mindfulness, perceived discrimination, and psychological well-being. Other scholars elaborated on their experiences with the larger questions surrounding funding and effective research, such as Professors Frederick Leong (Michigan State University) and Todd Pittinsky (Stony Brook University). Finally, the President and CEO of Asian Pacific Islander American Health Forum shared how to align policy to the mental health needs of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Professors Gilbert Gee and Margaret Shih are Center affiliates. The papers given at this conference will contribute to an *AAPI Nexus Journal* Special Issue on Mental Health, which is set to be published by April 2011, in time for the second “State of AAPI Mental Health” conference. Conference organizers Gilbert Gee, Margaret Shih, and Phillip Akutsu are serving as the guest editors.

## Professor Bascara Awarded C. Hoshide Teaching Prize

THE 2009-2010 recipient of the C. Doris and Toshio Hoshide Distinguished Teaching Prize in Asian American Studies at UCLA is Associate Professor Victor Bascara. Professor Bascara received his BA from the University of California, Berkeley and the PhD in English from Columbia University. Among his many publications, he is the author of *Model Minority Imperialism* (University of Minnesota Press, 2006). He has taught a wide range of courses for the Asian American Studies Department, including an introduction to Asian American literature as well as on Asian Americans and war.

He worked with students, staff, faculty, alumni, and people in the community on the Concentration in Pilipino Studies for Asian American Studies majors, which was approved in 2009 and is in its first year. Professor Bascara has also been working across a broad spectrum of the campus to re-establish the summer travel-study program with the University of the Philippines.

Students and colleagues enthusiastically endorsed Professor Bascara for the award, recognizing his dedication and creativity. Stu-

dent comments included: "Professor Bascara is an excellent teacher and mentor. Not only is he willing to utilize alternative teaching methods and materials, he has proven to be a supportive mentor."

A colleague adds that his courses bring "innovative and critical approaches to teaching through a truly interdisciplinary framework, utilizing methods from literature, cultural studies, gender and sexuality studies and critical theories around race, imperialism, and decolonization. Victor has earned much respect and loyalty from students." The Hoshide Prize includes \$1,000 award.



Photo Credit: Victor Bascara

## Community Spotlight: Little Tokyo Service Center CDC

ON July 30, 2010, Little Tokyo Service Center, Community Development Corporation (LTSC CDC) celebrated its 30th anniversary at the California Science Center. LTSC has continued its mission of "helping people and building community" through a range of social services and advocacy work that it provides for the AAPI and Los Angeles community. Over the years, LTSC has responded to local issues such as housing rights and the revitalization of Little Tokyo, starting from the 1980s and 1990s.



LTSC CDC also has worked around community development with raising funds and building over 300 apartments and 100,000 square feet of community space. Headed by Executive Director Bill Watanabe, LTSC continues to provide a multipurpose social service center with programs including child abuse prevention, mentoring programs, computer skills workshops, cultural/historical events, counseling, and senior services in more than seven languages.

LTSC also partners with other programs, such as the Asian Pacific Islander Obesity Prevention Alliance and the Asian Pacific Islander Small Business Program. In 2003, the Asian American Studies Center and Little Tokyo Service Center also have collaborated to form the Downtown Community Media Center, a campus-to-community collaboration that produces community-based media.

To learn more about LTSC, CDC please visit [www.ltsc.org](http://www.ltsc.org).

## Census Information Center Upcoming Events and Reports

THE Asian Pacific American Community Development Data Census Information Center (CIC), housed at the Asian American Studies Center, produced several demographic policy briefs aimed at informing and enlightening public discourse on important public policy issues.

Assistant Director and Census Information Center Director Melany De La Cruz-Viesca developed and presented a brief, "Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Women and Wealth" at the Insight Center for Community Economic Development, "Economic Security for Women: Wealth Building for Women of Color as a Strategy for Long-Term Economic Recovery" this past March 2010 in Washington DC. The day-long symposium featured leading policy and research experts who examine the intersections of race, gender, and wealth with a special focus on why and how to increase the assets of women of color, including immigrant women, in the United States.

De La Cruz-Viesca will be presenting these findings again at the

Southern California Edison Strengthening the Asian American Leadership Pipeline Symposium on October 15, 2010. She will be on the "Challenges to Asian American Advancement: What Research Shows" panel.

De La Cruz-Viesca is a co-author on a forthcoming report by the UC Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy Multi-Campus Research Program entitled, "The State of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Education in California" to be released in September 2010. She is currently updating the 2007 report, "Improving the Path to Homeownership," for the Asian Real Estate Association of America, to be released in October 2010.

De La Cruz-Viesca is also providing technical assistance on a National Asset Scorecard and Communities of Color 2-yr pilot research project through Duke University's Research Network on Racial and Ethnic Inequality.

The reports will be released on the Center's website at [www.aasc.ucla.edu](http://www.aasc.ucla.edu) later this year.

## Leslie Chanthaphasouk Awarded as “Emerging Leader”

ON May 20, 2010, undergraduate Leslie Chanthaphasouk received the “Emerging Leaders Award” from California State Senator Lou Correa of District 34 and the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance (OCAPICA). An Asian American Studies and International Development Studies double major at UCLA, Leslie received the Emerging Leaders Award which honors up-and-coming leaders who have devoted their valuable time to serving the API community in the areas of education, business, and civic participation. In celebration of Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Senator Correa and OCAPICA recognized local community heroes at the Delhi Community Center in Santa Ana.

Leslie is the founding director of the Laotian American Organization (LAO) at UCLA and also coordinated the Refugee Nation

program in Winter quarter 2010, which drew about 300 students, faculty, and community members. She has also worked with the Southeast Asian Admit Day at UCLA and is a member of Thai Smakom. She graduated in the 2009-2010 academic school year.



Photo Credit: Leslie Chanthaphasouk

## Diversity Requirement Campaign Update

by Suza Khy and Layhannara Tep

EVERY experience with people shapes and influences our actions, values, and thoughts. Although people interact with religion, sexual orientation, race, and gender on a daily basis, we rarely engage in such concepts in an academic setting. This often means we rarely question the root of our views on identity. The campaign for a diversity requirement spawned from the need to discuss, analyze, and research the multi-faceted identities of people in order to build cross-community understanding that will build strong principles of community.

As part of the ongoing struggle for relevant education, students have worked with faculty on the creation of a diversity requirement to transform, revolutionize, and reform the general education (GE) curriculum. The creation and growth of Ethnic Studies should be coupled by GE curriculum reform for all UCLA students. To date, UCLA continues to be the only UC campus without a diversity requirement. However, the struggle for a diversity requirement has impacted the general education of UCLA students. When students first challenged the lack of critical content—based on issues of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexuality, disability, and so on—in the GE curriculum, the Academic Senate was forced to re-examine its priorities. This led to a thorough review of the GE curriculum and reform in 2001. The reform brought about more GE courses with

diverse content, but it still did not yield a diversity requirement. The lack of such a requirement ensures that UCLA students may finish their undergraduate careers without ever being exposed to critical concepts that emphasize principles of community.

The Asian and Pacific Islander (API) community plays a crucial role in the efforts to provide holistic and relevant education. Asian Americans are significant to the fabric of American society, but the API community is often misunderstood and marginalized. The diversity requirement is one medium to build cross-community understanding. Equitable education is achievable and should be inclusive of the rich backgrounds and diversity of this country.

Renewed efforts in the past year have yielded a diversity task force made up of students, faculty, and administration. The charge of this task force is to tackle issues of diversity across campus, from general education reform to matters of student life. The task force will begin meeting during the new academic year.

To get involved, contact the Academic Affairs Commissioner: [usaac@asucla.ucla.edu](mailto:usaac@asucla.ucla.edu).

Suza Khy (Academic Affairs Commissioner 2010-2011, USAC) and Layhannara Tep (Academic Affairs Commissioner 2009-2010, USAC and Asian Pacific Coalition Director 2010-2011)

## Ethno at the Asian Pacific Film Festival

IN this year's Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival put on annually by Visual Communications (VC), four EthnoCommunications alumni were featured in the “VC Digital Posse Ver. 2010” screening on May 5, 2010: Preeti Sharma, Jonathan Garcia, Kenny Nguyen, and Jonathan Reinert. After a year hiatus, VC's Armed with a Camera and the Center for EthnoCommunications collaborated once again for this program that highlights short films. The 11 shorts featured topics such as arranged marriages for Indian Americans, a Chinese American family reflecting on autism, a transgender Filipino American's spiritual journey, along with creative pieces such as a satirical infomercial for a product called “White On” and an Asian American boy who assembles his own makeshift “Slip ‘n Slide.”



(from left to right): Gena Hamamoto, Jonathan Reinert, Robert Nakamura, Jonathan Garcia, Tadashi Nakamura (not pictured: Preeti Sharma and Kenny Nguyen)

Photo Credit: Tadashi Nakamura

## MA Graduating and New Students Celebrate

by Jean-Paul deGuzman



Photo Credit: Erica Juhn

(from left to right): Erica Juhn, Chun Mei Lam, Leezel Tangalo, Jonathan Reinert, Mai Yang Vang, Wendsor Yamashita, Daisy Le, Lisa Ho, Thun (Bo) Luengsurawat.

THE new cohort of Asian American Studies MA students represent a variety of backgrounds and interests. After receiving his BA, **Sefa Aina** (UCLA) worked at the Center as the Assistant Coordinator for Student and Community Projects and an instructor for APALDP and PI Experience courses. His research interests include what institutional barriers conflict with Samoan identity and culture and break ground towards reversing the trend of academic adversity among Samoan American youth. **Asiroh Cham** (UCLA) is one of the first Cham Americans to attend and graduate from a four-year university. She plans to document the Cham American experience through an understanding of history, politics, and migration.



Asiroh Cham

**Eri Kameyama** (UC San Diego) is interested in struggles of identity and multi-culturalism that Japanese immigrants deal with today. **Daisy Kim** (UCLA) will research more accessible intersections of culture, identity, socialization, and policy as it relates to



Sefa Aina

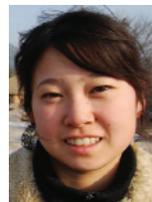
Photo Credit: Dian Sohn



Diana Price



Peter Sung



Eri Kameyama

Daisy Kim

Ethno alum Preeti Sharma participated in VC's Armed With a Camera Fellowship for Emerging Media Artists, which provides young AAPI adults with a \$500 award and access to Visual Communications' post-production facilities to complete a five-minute short film. Sharma's film, "Raising Eyebrows," weaves together the stories of two threading salons and their South Asian women customers and workers. Because one salon exploited its workers, the film shows how these women organized against their employer and eventually partnered to start their own salon, "WOW Beauty Salon."

Jonathan Garcia and Kenny Nguyen (who was unable to attend the screening) directed "We Are Able," a film about Frances "Cinderella" Garcia, a developmentally disabled Pilipino immigrant and her brother, who works for the North Los Angeles County Regional

Center, which provides services to people with developmental disabilities. Their story describes how Pilipino families with special needs children have built a community of support in the North Los Angeles area of California. Jonathan Reinert's film, "Left on Lockett Lane," tells his story about being adopted, growing up in the Midwest, and his journey to learning what it means to be Asian American. This film was also part of his thesis, which he completed for the UCLA Asian American Studies MA program.

Tuesday Night Project was the third community co-presenter for the program. For more information about the Center for Ethno-Communications, visit: <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/ethno/default.asp>. To learn about Visual Communications, visit <http://www.vconline.org/alpha/cms/default>.

JUNE 13, 2010 was the Asian American Studies Department commencement. Students overwhelmingly selected John Delloro to be the commencement speaker. However, due to his untimely passing, Professor Kent Wong, the Director of the UCLA Labor Center, offered a thoughtful and moving eulogy. Wong discussed Delloro's commitment to the labor movement and Asian American communities. Student speakers highlighted the personal and political stakes involved with majoring in Asian American Studies. Lisa Ho and Daisy Le spoke on behalf of the MA recipients, while Yuka Ogino and Robin Wayne represented the undergraduates. Also, the MA students honored Prof. Grace Hong with the Asian American Studies Graduate Student Association Teaching and Mentorship Award.

health care for Asian Americans, while **Diana Aquino Price** (Barnard College), an intern for the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, plans to focus on analyzing contemporary texts by multi-racial Asian Americans. **Natasha Saelua** (UCLA) is an advisor for the Student Initiated Access Center and will research how to further define the role of Pacific Island student activism and retention programs, and how to bridge the gap that remains between the communities they service and the universities that should be advocating for them. **Peter Sung** hopes to apply his teaching, military, and community work experience (both abroad and in California) to his interest in a larger sociological picture which he hopes to explore further. **Mihiri Tillakaratne** (Harvard) will research the Sri Lankan diaspora as she pushes the boundaries of what identity means to the Asian American community.



Natasha Saelua



Mihiri Tillakaratne

# AASC Fellowships, Prizes, Scholarships, Internships and Grants Awards for 2010-2011

These awards are provided from endowments and special funds that were established through the generosity of donors and supporters of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. For full descriptions, visit <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/scholarship.asp>.

## Research Grants

### Patrick and Lily Okura Faculty Research Grant on Asian Pacific American Mental Health

May C. Wang, PhD Public Health - Community Health Sciences and Anna Lau, PhD Psychology

Research Project: "An Early Childhood Intervention to Promote Mental Health Later in Life for Chinese Immigrant Families"

## Graduate Student Fellowships

### Professor Harry H. L. Kitano Fellowship

Mai Yang Vang, MA Asian American Studies

Research Project: "Hmong Elders and Gambling"

### Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Fellowship

Chun Mei Lam, MA Asian American Studies & Social Welfare

Research Project: "Oral Histories of Asian American Survivors of Domestic Violence"

### Tritia Toyota Graduate Fellowship

Albert Joon Lee, MA Asian American Studies

Research Project: "Concepts of Masculinity and Perceptions of Deviant Sexuality among API Gay Men and Implications for HIV Prevention Efforts"

### 21st Century Graduate Fellowship

Jennifer Ann Doane, MA Asian American Studies

Research Project: "Transracial Adoption: Korean American Adoptee Identity Formation and

the Creation of Adoptee Social Networks"

Alfred Peredo Flores, PhD History - United States

Research Project: "Colonial Subjects and Agents of Empire: U.S. Military Laborers in Guam, 1945-1980"

### George & Sakaye Aratani Graduate Fellowship

Susan Keiko Nakaoka, PhD Urban Planning - Community Development

Research Project: "Live from Budokan: Community Development in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo"

### Dr. Paul & Hisako Terasaki Fellowship

Marie Sato, MA Asian American Studies

Research Project: "The Political Economy of Food and Culture of New Okinawan Immigrant Women in Los Angeles after World War II"

### Pearl Wang Fellowship

Lin Chen, PhD Social Welfare - Gerontology

Research Project: "Older Asian American Residents and Their Children's Perspectives on Filial Piety and Institutionalization"

## Academic Prizes for Graduate Students

### Hiram Wheeler Edwards Prize for the Study of WWII Internment Camps and Japanese Americans Prize

Wendson Yamashita, MA Asian American Studies

Paper title: "When All You Have is Not Having: Making Claims to Ghosts"



Wendson Yamashita

### Nobu McCarthy Memorial Prize

Mila Zuo, PhD Theater, Film, Television

Paper title: "Hong Kong: Sexual Colonization in Cold War Television"

### Eun Ju Koo graduate Prize

Chun Mei Lam, MA Asian American Studies and Social Welfare

Paper title: "The Haunting of Power: Tracing the Intimacy of Violence in the Lives of Asian American Women"

### Professor Harry H.L. Kitano Graduate Prize

Jennifer Doane, MA Asian American Studies

Paper title: Korean American Adoptees of the Midwest and the Influence of Social Networks

### Benjamin Cayetano Public Policy & Politics Prize

Albert Joon Lee, MA Asian American Studies

Paper title: "HIV Reporting for Asian Pacific Islanders in California: 2010 Surveillance Policy Brief"

### Wei-Lim Lee Memorial Prize

Lisa Ho, MA Asian American Studies

Paper title: "When the Past Reaches into the Present: The Parallels between Prostitution in California during the mid to late 1800s and Modern Human Trafficking"

### Ben & Alice Hirano Academic Prize

Brian Woohyun Kim, MA Asian American Studies

Paper title: "Interpreting Korean Transnational Identity through Coffee"

### Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Prize

Mai Yang Vang, MA Asian American Studies

Paper title: "Released by Capture: Re-Evaluating Agency in Marriages Among Hmong Women"

### Tsugio & Miyoko Nakanishi Prize in Asian American Literature & Culture

May Hong-Ying Lin, MA Asian American Studies

Paper title: "With the Mic as a Hammer We Gon' Break the Mold: Asian American Hip-Hop in New York City"

## Undergraduate Scholarships, Internships & Research Grants

### Angie Kwon Memorial Scholarship

Van Thi Huynh, Major: Asian American Studies

Essay: "Active Learning and Engagement in the Asian American Community"

Samantha Lustado, Major: Geography & Environmental Studies; Minor: Geospatial Information Systems

Essay: "How Community Service Has Enhanced My University Education"

Annie Men-Wai Wong, Major: Interpersonal Communication Studies  
Essay: "Learning about Diverse Cultures and World Perspectives through Community Service"

### 21st Century Undergraduate Scholarship

Leaniva Tuala, Major: Sociology; Minor: Education

Research Project: "Creating a Culturally Relevant Curriculum for Samoans"



Albert Joon Lee

Photo credit: Erica Juhn

## Institute of American Cultures Awards

### Graduate Fellowships

#### **Alfred Peredo Flores, Jr., Ph.D. Candidate, U.S. History**

Research Project: The Operations of U.S. Empire: Colonization and Chamoru Counteraction in Guam

#### **Albert Lee, M.A. Candidate, Asian American Studies**

Research Project: Masculinity and Perceptions of Deviant Sexuality of Asian Pacific Islander Gay Men and Implications for HIV Prevention Efforts:

#### **Amy Malek, Ph.D. Candidate, Anthropology**

Research Project: Diasporic Negotiations: A Comparative Study of Iranian Cultural Production in Three Cities - Los Angeles, Toronto, and Stockholm.



Alfred Peredo Flores, Jr.

### Faculty Research Grants

#### **Lucy Burns, Asian American Studies**

Title: Scenes of Migration

#### **Patricia Marks Greenfield, Psychology**

Title: Cultural Value Orientations of Asian American Children and Asian Immigrant Parents

#### **Ailee Moon, Social Welfare and Asian American Studies**

Title: Perceptions of Elder Abuse and Neglect and Knowledge of Related Services in the Cambodian American Community

### Graduate Student Research Grants

#### **Hsin-Fu Chiu, Ph.D. Candidate, Applied Linguistics**

Title: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches to Chinese-American Children's Language Socialization in the Family and Beyond

#### **Jennifer Doane, M.A. Candidate, Asian American Studies**

Title: Transnational Adoption: Korean American Adoptee Identity Formation and the Creation of Adoptee Social Networks

#### **Jen-you (Ren-Yo) Hwang, M.A. Candidate, Asian American Studies**

Title: From Two-Spirit to Ku'Er: Trans-forming Movement, Activism, and the Politics of Visibility and In-Betweenness

#### **Viet Nguyen, M. A. Candidate, Asian American Studies**

Title: Spoken Word Poetry for the Movement

#### **May Hong-Ying Lin, M. A. Candidate, Asian American Studies**

Title: Youth Interventions Against Gentrification in Little Tokyo

#### **Susan Nakaoka, Ph.D. Candidate, Urban Planning**

Title: From Plantations to Corporations: The Origins of Asian American Community Development in Hawai'i

#### **Ryoko Onishi, M.A. Candidate, Information Studies and Asian American Studies**

Title: Enhancing Internet Access for the Elderly Asian American Community

#### **Yang S. Xiong, Ph.D. Candidate, Sociology**

Title: A Study of Civic Engagement Among Hmong Americans

### Toshio & Chiyoko Hoshide Scholarship

Kelly Osajima, Major: Sociology

Paper title: "Chinese & Japanese American Political Participation"

Shiori Tando, Major: Psychology; Minor: Asian Languages - Japanese

Paper title: "Bridging Together My Communities"

### Reiko Uyeshima & Family Scholarship

Amy Kapree Lieu, Major: Communication Studies; Minor: Asian American Studies

Paper title: "Deepening Divisions"

Diane Tam, Major: Asian American Studies & Linguistic Anthropology

Paper title: "The Internment and Now"

### Chidori Aiso Memorial Scholarship

Kelly Osajima, Major: Sociology

Essay title: "Lessons of the Japanese American Redress Movement"

### George and Sakaye Aratani Community Internship

Jennifer Nakamura, Major: Asian American Studies

Essay title: "Gaining Knowledge in Asian American Studies and Building Bridges within a Multi-Racial/Ethnic Community"

Internship: Little Tokyo Service Center

Sara Seto, Major: Psychology

Essay title: "Expanding My Knowledge of the Japanese American Community"

Internship: Little Tokyo Service Center

### Morgan & Helen Chu Outstanding Scholar Award

Chi Ching Gabriella So

### Academic Prizes for Undergraduate Students

**Hiram Wheeler Edwards Prize for the Study of WWII Internment Camps and Japanese Americans**

Amy Kapree Lieu, Major: Communication Studies; Minor: Asian American Studies

Paper title: "In to and Out of War"

### Professor Harry H.L. Kitano Undergraduate Prize

Lucia Lin, Major: Asian American Studies; Minor: Labor & Workplace Studies

Paper title: "From Redress to 9/11: The Fight Against Racial Injustice"

### Benjamin Cayetano Public Policy and Politics Prize Award

Patrick Nguyen, Major: Southeast Asian Studies; Minor: Asian American Studies

Paper title: "The Fabric of Vietnamese American Refugee Histories"

### Ben & Alice Hirano Academic Prize Award

Luxi Chen, Major: Biochemistry

Paper title: "Chinese American Immigration: From Cheap Labor to Skilled Professionals"

### Tsugio & Miyoko Nakanishi Prize in Asian American Literature & Culture

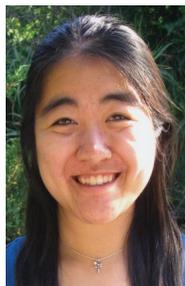
Dian Sohn, Major: Economics; Minor: Asian American Studies, Global Studies

Paper title: "Steer Toward Rock: Exclusion, the Confession Program, and the Notion of 'Family'"

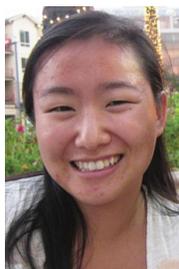
### Rose Eng Chin & Helen Wong Eng Prize

Alvin Ho, Major: Asian American Studies

Paper title: "Success as a Chinese American"



Jennifer Nakamura



Dian Sohn

University of California, Los Angeles

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# CROSSCurrents

*Newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center*

## Upcoming Events

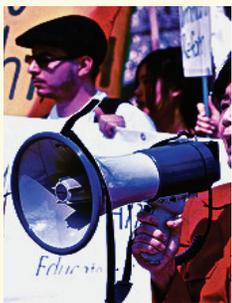


Photo credit: Misha Tsukerman

**October 26, 2010**

**5:30 pm**

*Defending Access and Affordability to California's Higher Education: An AAPI Campus/Community Forum*

*Golden Eagle Ballroom, Cal State Los Angeles*

We invite students, faculty and community organizations to join us in organizing this forum to help build the struggle to restore and improve access and affordability

to California's public higher education. Budget cuts, higher fees, fewer classes and reduced admissions are putting higher education out of reach for many Californians, including many Asian American Pacific Islanders. Hear elected officials, faculty, students from the UCs, CSUs and community colleges and AAPI community organizations speak about how our communities are affected and what we can do. We will release important new studies: *AAPI Nexus: Special Edition on Higher Education* and the UC AAPI MRP's State of AANHPI Higher Education in California.

To join the organizing and for more information please contact the convening organizations: Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, Japanese American Citizens League, Asian Pacific American Legal Center, and the offices of Asm. Mike Eng and the APA Legislative Caucus/Asm. Warren Furutani.

RSVP: Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council: (213) 239-0300 or mark.A3PCON@live.com



**October 15, 2010**

**12:00-2:00 pm**

*Casting a Literary Net: New Chamorro Writing*

*UCLA, 193 Humanities*

Please join us for a book launch and an afternoon of reading from the Pacific. This event will feature three Chamoru writers, Craig

Santos Perez, Tanya Chargualaf Taimanglo, and Alison Taimanglo Cuasay. Perez is the co-founder of *Achiote Press* and received the Poets & Writers California Writer's Exchange Award in 2010. Taimanglo is the author of the children's book, *Sirena: A Mermaid Legend from Guam* and *Attitude 13: A Daughter of Guam's Collection of Short Stories* (authorhouse.com / 2010), and was a Creative Writing/English teacher for 8 years. Cuasay is the author of the children's book, *Tasi & Matina: The Story of the First Clown Fish* and is an eight-year Army Veteran and served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Light refreshments will be served

Sponsored by the Asian American Studies Center, Asian American Studies Department, the Office of Instructional Development, and the Postcolonial Literature and Theory Colloquium.

*This listing is not complete. Please visit our website for more details and updates at <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/events.asp>.*