

Recent Publications from the UCLA Asian American Studies Center

Executive Order 9866: The Internment of 110,000 Japanese-Americans, by Akisue & Richard Conrat. A photo journal documenting the Japanese American wartime experience; originally published in 1972. Softcover, \$12.00.

Korean Americans: An Annotated Bibliography of Korean and English Language Materials, compiled and annotated by Eun Suk Yang & Gary Wanki Park. Documents Korean American history from 1903 to 1990. Softcover, \$7.00.

Finding Footprints of the Issei: An Annotated Checklist of the Manuscript Holdings of the Japanese American Research Project Collection, compiled by Yasuo Sakia. Softcover, \$8.00.

Philip Vera Cruz: A Personal History of Filipino Immigrants and the Farmworkers Movement, by Craig Schardin & Lilia Villanueva. This personal history also embodies the story of the *minhng* Generation—the first wave Filipino immigrants who came to the U.S. in the early twentieth century. Softcover, \$14.95.

Japanese-Americans during World War II: A Selected, Annotated Bibliography of Materials Available at UCLA, compiled by Brian Niitaya. Softcover, \$7.00.

Ordering information: Make checks payable to "Regions of U.C." and send to: Publications, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 3230 Campbell Hall, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1516. Shipping and handling charges: \$2.00 on first and \$1.00 on second book; third copy and above on same order free of shipping charges; boxes \$5.00 and up. California residents add 7.25% sales tax, and Los Angeles County residents 8.25%.

The View from Within: Japanese American Art from the Internment Camps, 1942-1945. Catalog accompanying exhibition featuring works of more than 30 Japanese American artists. Softcover, \$16.00.

Asian Pacific Community Directory, compiled by Student/Community Projects. Lists over 550 community organizations in Los Angeles and Orange counties. Regular format, \$10.00; three-ring binder format, \$12.00.

"Humanities Research Issue: Rockefeller American Generations Program," special theme issue of *Amerasia Journal*, volume 18, number 2 (1992). \$7.00.

"Asian Pacific American Workers: Contemporary Issues in the Labor Movement," special theme issue of *Amerasia Journal*, volume 18, number 1 (1992). \$7.00.

"Burning Cane," special theme issue of *Amerasia Journal*, volume 17, number 2 (1991). Essays, poems, short stories, and artwork by Asian Pacific American students. \$7.00.

"War and Asian Americans," special theme issue of *Amerasia Journal*, volume 17, number 1 (1991). \$7.00.

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CROSSCURRENTS

The Newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center

CROSSCURRENTS

Newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, Vol. 15, No. 3 (Fall/Winter 1992)

Asian Pacific American Public Policy Institute To Be Set Up at UCLA

The first national Asian Pacific American public policy research institute will soon be established at UCLA, according to Center Director Don Nakamishi. The policy institute is a joint project of our Center and Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP), which has served Southern California since 1982. The project is funded by a major grant from the Irvine Foundation. The mission of the research institute will be to serve as a center for information and policy analyses of national and regional issues of importance to Asian Pacific Americans and to influence the decision-making process in all sectors of society relating to our community. To these ends, the institute will conduct briefings and forums, provide resource information, issue reports and studies, and promote discussion of key issues.

The first project of the institute will be a major policy book concerning national demographic projections of the Asian Pacific population to the year 2020 (see accompanying story). The book will be formally released at a forum in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Asian Pacific American congressional delegation in early 1993.

An important role of the institute will be to support the advancement of Asian Pacific Americans in key positions in the private and public sectors. While the research institute will be housed at UCLA, public policy issues undertaken will be viewed from a national perspective.

While the long-range mission of the institute will encompass a range of issues, the institute during its first years of operation will concentrate on three priority areas:

- 1) *1990 Census*: The 1990 Census report is the single most critical source of data available to verify the extraordinary growth and diversity in the nation's Asian Pacific population. The data will be special significance for areas where changing demographics are having a dramatic impact on social structures and programs. The institute, through its network of resource experts, will be available to provide the analytical expertise necessary to interpret the census data to ensure its application in the public, private, educational, social service, and nonprofit sectors.
- 2) *Information and Resource Clearinghouse*: There currently exists no central information and data collection center which gathers, analyzes and disseminates information on Asian Pacific Americans. The institute will establish this database, identify the many and sometimes obscure information and data resources on Asian Pacific Americans, collect and catalogue this information, and analyze the data. Another major function of the institute will be to develop a national network of community leaders, academics and researchers knowledgeable about these issues.
- 3) *Analyses of Vital Issues*: The institute's evolving interpretive and analytical capabilities will be used to address future economic, marketing and political considerations. Not only will Asian Pacific Americans have increased numbers—and correspondingly greater political and economic potential—but the extent to which Asian Pacific Americans have realized this potential can be validated by the institute's analyses.

—From "Mission and Goals" statement
LEAP Asian Pacific American Public Policy Institute Task Force

Major Policy Book to Study Population Projections

"Asian Pacific American Policy Issues in the Year 2020" is the title of a major policy book to be published by LEAP with the Asian American Studies Center in early 1993. Chapters in the book include:

- "Shifting Paradigms: An Overview of Asian Pacific American Futures," by Shirley Hune of the UCLA Graduate Division;
- "Twenty Million in 2020: The Growth of the Asian Pacific American Population," by Paul Ong and Urban Planning; and Suzanne Hwe of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center;
- "Education K-12 Policy: Exclusion or Contribution?" by Peter N. Kiang of University of Massachusetts/Boston, and Vivian Wah-Fan Lee of National Coalition of Advocates for Students;
- "Higher Education Policy: Asian Americans in Colleges and Universities—Trends and Emerging Issues," by L. Ling-chi Wang of UC Berkeley;
- "Health Policy: Health Care Needs and Service Delivery for Asians & Pacific Islander Americans," by Tessa Callerman of Asian American Health Forum;
- "Mental Health Policy: The Changing Asian American Population," by Stanley Sue of the UCLA National Research Center on Asian American Mental Health;
- "Arts Policy: Asian American Art in the Year 2020," by Gerald Yoshimoto of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center;
- "Cultural Preservation Policy: Is There a Future for Our Past?" by Franklin Odo of the University of Hawaii/Honolulu;
- "Immigration Policy: Making and Remaking Asian Pacific America," by Bill Ong Hing of Stanford Law School;
- "Labor Policy: Work Issues Facing Asian Pacific Americans," by Paul Ong of the UCLA Graduate

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The Need for Filipino American Studies

By Emily Porcincula Lawsin



When I applied for admission to UCLA over two years ago from Seattle, I was excited to learn about the burgeoning Filipino community in the area. I was encouraged when I learned that Filipino American classes were regularly taught on campus. I was inspired by the fact that UCLA had published the first reader on Filipino American Studies. I was impressed with the research conducted then by Arleen de Vera in Asian American Studies. And I was intrigued by the statistical work performed by research associate Dr. Tania Azores.

When I finally entered UCLA in the Fall of 1991, I discovered that the Los Angeles Filipino community is far more extensive than imaginable. I discovered that the over-crowded Filipino American Experience class is taught by a part-time community lecturer, as opposed to a full-time faculty appointee; that related Filipino courses are taught on an irregular, one-time-only basis by visiting professors; that the first reader on Filipino American Studies actually dates back more than 16 years; and that de Vera, in December of 1990, was actually *the first* Filipino to graduate from the Center's Masters program since its creation in 1976. And as of last June, Dr. Azores is no longer on staff.

The blessing, though, was that last year, the Asian American Studies Center sponsored many Filipino American projects led by visiting scholars, including literature conferences as well as research on Filipinos in Hawaii and in historical social movements. While these efforts were inspiring and pioneering, they face the same doom of not being repeated again, for lack of an *established* Filipino American agenda at UCLA.

As the third largest ethnic group in California behind only Chicanos and African Americans, and the fastest-growing Asian group in the country, Filipino Americans need a program that will meet the needs of L.A. County's largest and oldest Asian group. According to historian Lorraine Jacobs Crouchett, Filipinos have been in America since the year 1587, when Spanish galleons landed in Morro Bay, California. Moreover, since the 1920s, Filipino students have been enrolled at this campus. Yet despite these benchmarks, this history, our history, is the least known.

What we *do* know is that of *all* ethnic groups at UCLA, Filipinos have the lowest admit rate, with only 32 percent of undergraduate applicants granted admission in Fall 1992. What we *do* know is that the Filipino population at UCLA has been steadily declining since 1987 and that only 40 percent of Filipino students complete their degrees in five years or less. What we *do* know is that UCLA is not attracting permanent Filipino faculty, especially in the humanities and social sciences, to teach our courses. And sadly, what we also know is that the problems that the original Pinoy students faced in the 1920s are still relevant today.

We need a program with scholars who will serve our community, mentor our students, and provide a voice to our experiences. Surely one program will not cure all of the ills in the Filipino American community, but it will rectify the dearth of information available to understand what causes these problems.

The Committee for Filipino American Studies at UCLA has been meeting since last June to formally establish a Filipino American Studies Program within the Asian American Studies Center. Comprised of students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members, the Committee needs your help.

In September, representatives met with Vice Chancellor Claudia Mitchell-Kernan and Senior Vice Chancellor Richard Sisson to discuss these needs. However, the administration has put the responsibility of creating such a program, including obtaining necessary funding, on the Committee's shoulders. The Committee needs volunteers to sign and circulate petitions, to draft letters of support, and to push for long-term funding and faculty. We need to move forward with innovation and dedication to continue the legacy placed upon us.

A few years from now, what am I to tell nine-year-old Joseph Flores III, an eighth-generation Filipino American from Louisiana, when he looks to enter college? Must I tell him that despite his long history, *our* long history in this country, that Filipinos do not warrant study? Twenty years from now, will Filipino American Studies at UCLA still be at the same place as it is now, as it has been since I was born? Let's hope not—or better yet—let's work together to see that it's not.

(Emily Porcincula Lawsin is a second-year graduate student in our Center's M.A. program.)

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CROSSCURRENTS, the newsmagazine of the Asian American Studies Center, keeps readers abreast of new and current developments in Center programs, including graduate and undergraduate programs, research projects, publications, faculty activities, relevant university and community issues, and programs not sponsored by the Center but in the province of Asian American Studies.

The staff welcomes suggestions and criticism. Please submit written materials and inquiries to **CROSSCURRENTS**, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 3230 Campbell Hall, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1546; phone, (310) 825-3415.

Center Welcomes Largest First-Year Class into M.A. Program

This Fall Quarter, our Center welcomed the largest group of incoming students into our M.A. program: 14 students, plus three students from Japan under the Education Abroad Program.

The incoming students "were selected from the largest, and perhaps strongest, group of applicants we have ever received," stated Center Director Don Nakanishi.

The new class includes a former student body president at U.C. Berkeley, a UCLA Phi Beta Kappa, a writer from one of the nation's largest Asian American newspapers, several creative writers, and our first Samoan American student.

The new, first-year class will be profiled in the next issue of *CrossCurrents*.

Next *CrossCurrents* To Be Published April 1993

The next issue of *CrossCurrents*, Spring/Summer 1993, will be published in April 1993.

1992 Asian Pacific Frosh Admissions at 37%

Asian Pacific Islander students comprise 37 percent of the 1992 entering freshman class, according to information released from the UCLA Office of Academic Planning & Budget.

The percentage represents a slight decrease from the preceding year, when Asian Pacific Islanders were 39 percent of the freshman class.

The Fall 1992 statistics reveal several interesting facts:

- The number of freshmen entering UCLA in 1992 was five hundred less than in the previous year.
- For the third consecutive year, Asian Pacific Islanders, as an aggregate population, were the largest group in the freshman class.
- All ethnic populations had fewer numbers of incoming freshmen in 1992 than for the previous year, except for slight increases for African Americans, Chicanos, Pacific Islanders, and East Indians/Pakistanis.
- There are only 15 Pacific Islanders in the 1992 entering class.

UCLA 1991 & 1992 Freshman Classes

| Ethnicity | Fall 1991 | | Fall 1992 | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Number | % of Total | Number | % of Total |
| Amer. Indian | 57 | 1.4 | 44 | 1.3 |
| African Amer. | 228 | 5.8 | 242 | 7.1 |
| Chicano | 440 | 11.2 | 448 | 13.1 |
| Latino | 192 | 4.9 | 168 | 4.9 |
| Pac. Islander | 13 | 0.3 | 15 | 0.4 |
| Pilipino | 168 | 4.3 | 125 | 3.7 |
| Japanese Amer. | 120 | 3.0 | 84 | 2.5 |
| Chinese Amer. | 586 | 14.9 | 491 | 14.4 |
| Korean | 330 | 8.4 | 231 | 6.8 |
| Thai/"Other Asian" | 280 | 7.1 | 234 | 6.9 |
| East Ind./Pakistani | 76 | 2.0 | 81 | 2.4 |
| Caucasian | 1270 | 32.3 | 1121 | 32.9 |
| "Other"/"Unknown" | 176 | 4.5 | 186 | 5.5 |
| International | 45 | | 54 | |
| Total | 3984 | 100.0 | 3461 | 100.0 |

Source: UCLA Office of Academic Planning & Budget

Professor Valerie Matsumoto Wins Tenure in History Department

Professor Valerie Matsumoto has become the first Asian American woman to attain tenure, or permanent faculty appointment, in the UCLA History Department.

Professor Matsumoto teaches several classes in History and Asian American Studies, including the undergraduate "Introduction to Asian American Studies, Historical Issues," and the graduate class, "Critical Issues in Asian American Studies" this academic quarter.

During the forthcoming Winter Quarter, she will teach an innovative seminar course on Asian American historical issues and identity, based on an analysis of food, eating habits, restaurants, and cultural rituals in Southern California Asian Pacific communities.

Professor Matsumoto is a member of the Center's Faculty Advisory Committee, and has served on the thesis committees for numerous students in our M.A. program.

She is the daughter of Terry and Sachi Matsumoto of Nogales, Arizona, and did her undergraduate work in history at Arizona State University at Tempe and her graduate studies at Stanford University.

Professor Matsumoto has one sister, Lori at UC Santa Cruz, who is an active



member of Asian Pacific Islander Student Association.

Professor Matsumoto's book, "Farming the Homeplace: A Japanese American Community in California, 1919-1982," will be published in spring 1993 by Cornell University Press.

The book focuses on three generations of Japanese American families in the farming community of Cortez, California, in the San Joaquin Valley.

New Health Research and Training Center Funded

The National Institute of Health has provided funding to establish the nation's first Asian and Pacific Islander health research and training center at UCLA.

The project is a collaboration between the Asian American Studies Center and several UCLA professional schools—the School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, School of Nursing, School of Public Health, and School of Social Welfare. Also involved are three community organizations: Association for Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations, Asian Pacific Health Care Venture, and Asian American Health Forum.

Serving as director and principal director for the project is Professor Takashi Makinodan of the UCLA School of Medicine and a member of the Asian American Studies Center Faculty Advisory Committee.

The newly-established center will coordinate research, training, education, information dissemination, and technical assistance activities related to the health needs of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans.

Activities will include baseline needs assessment in research priority areas, establishment of a post-doctoral training, coordination of clinical and training programs between academic and community-based agencies, database development, newsletters, and other information dissemination and technical assistance activities.

In addition, the center will develop a specialty area in geriatrics, working closely with existing UCLA programs: Center on Aging, Borun Center for Gerontological Research, and the UCLA Older Americans Independence Center.

Faculty Profile

Professor Paul Ong

Making Our City "A Better Place To Live"

By Kathryn Cho

Professor Paul Ong can be reached by appointment only. But if you're really determined, you might be able to catch him in his office at 9 a.m. sharp—that is, if he is in town!

As Associate Professor of Urban Planning and former Associate Director of the Asian American Studies Center's Public Policy Project, Paul Ong is kept busy with a schedule which zooms him in-and-out of town on a regular basis.

"Although I majored in Math and Physics as an undergraduate, I chose to pursue Urban Planning in order to make the city a better place to live," he explains.

"Growing up in San Francisco's Chinatown," he elaborates, "I realized that I wanted to help empower and preserve the city's unique voice."

A few years ago, his landmark study of economic conditions in Los Angeles highlighted the "widening divide" among this city's residents in terms of jobs, housing, and resources.

Professor Ong's fastidious work has also been the backbone data for many research projects involving Asian Americans in California. In collaboration with research associates Tania Azores, Philip Okamoto and Yen Espiritu, he wrote the following articles and pamphlets:

"Asian Pacific Islanders in California," "Asian Pacific American Awareness and Involvement in Redistricting," "Redistricting and Political Empowerment of Asian Americans in Los Angeles: A Position Paper," "Reapportionment and Redistricting in a Nutshell," "A Practical Guide to the Technical Aspects of Redistricting," and "Asian Pacific Americans in Los Angeles: A Demographic Profile."

"Census analysis can make it possible for Asian Pacific Americans to move beyond racial lines," he states.

In his recently published article, "Asian Pacific Americans in Los Angeles," he predicts that "from now until the end of the century, Asian Pacific Americans in Los Angeles will face a challenge unparalleled in our history."

Driven primary by immigration, a phenomenal growth and diversification of Asian American communities has occurred. Today, more Asian Pacific Americans reside in Los Angeles than in any other metropolitan area in the United States.

"Therefore," Professor Ong proceeds, "Asian Pacifics have experienced dramatic transformations along ethnic, economic, and other social lines. These phenomenal changes have raised concerns regarding issues such as unfair political representation, access to higher education, and a widening divide between the haves and have nots."



Professor Paul Ong has been devoting many hours to crunching numbers from the 1990 Census and formulating policy recommendations based on his analyses.

"Our ability to formulate a coherent social, political and economic response to these problems," he asserts, "rests on understanding the magnitude and nature of the demographic transformation. That is why there is pressing need for timely information."

In one of his recent projects, Professor Ong's task has been to "disseminate 1990 Census data that are currently available only in machine readable format."

One difficulty in this project is dealing with the effects of rapid demographic transformations. The changes makes development of sound public policy for Asian Pacific Americans exceedingly difficult.

Also, in conjunction with analysis of census data, Professor Ong has also worked on projects dealing with reapportionment and redistricting.

In her work, "Reapportionment and Redistricting in a Nutshell," Dr. Tania Azores, a former research associate of Professor Ong's, explained that "unlike those found for African Americans and Latinos, there are no large areas in California with highly concentrated Asian or Pacific Islander populations. Thus it has been easy to fragment Asian Pacific American neighborhoods and communities into two or more legislative districts."

In the 1981 redistricting, almost all

Asian Pacific American communities were segmented. For example, Koreatown was parceled into three congressional, four senatorial, three assembly, and two city council districts.

However, Dr. Azores also explicated the legal developments during the 1980s that have expanded opportunities for minority voters to challenge redistricting plans and to gain increased representation.

Nevertheless, until 1991, Asian Pacific Americans had very little involvement in the redistricting process. Due to Professor Ong's research, Asian Pacific Americans were able to participate in redistricting, and in Los Angeles County to achieve some victories.

Currently, Professor Ong is continuing to study 1990 Census data and to formulate policy recommendations for the growing Asian Pacific American population. In the forthcoming book published by LEAP (Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics), he has two essays: one on national Asian Pacific American population projections for the year 2020, and a second on the implications of this population growth on labor issues in our community.

In these ways, Professor Ong is doing his part to "make this city a better place to live."

(Kathryn Cho is a first-year graduate student in our Center's M.A. program.)

Center Colloquium Series for 1992-93 Academic Year

The Asian American Studies Center Colloquium Series for 1992-93 focuses on issues in the humanities and social sciences, spotlighting work by faculty, fellows, and scholars associated with our Center.

Center colloquia are sponsored in conjunction with various fellowship and research programs, including the Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship Program in the Humanities and the Institute for American Cultures.

For information on time and place of upcoming colloquia, call Dr. Enrique De la Cruz Center Assistant Director at (310) 825-2974.

November 17, 1992

*Diane Fujino—"Heterosexual
Interracial Dating and
Asian Americans"*

Diane Fujino is a Postdoctoral Fellow for the Institute for American Cultures.

January 20, 1993

*Neil Gotanda—"Re-reading
People v. Soon Ja Du:
The Latasha Harlins Case"*

Neil Gotanda is a Visiting Professor with the UCLA School of Law.

February 16, 1993

*Geraldine Padilla—"Quality of Life
among Elderly Filipino Americans"*

Geraldine Padilla is a Professor and Associate Dean in the UCLA School of Nursing

May 18, 1993

*Cindy Yee Bradbury—"Vulnerability
for Psychopathology: Implications for
Asian American Mental Health"*

Cindy Yee Bradbury is a Professor with the UCLA Department of Psychology.

Professor King-Kok Cheung Serving as Center's New Associate Director

Professor King-Kok Cheung of the English Department is serving as our Center's new Associate Director. An authority on Asian American literature, Professor Cheung will assist the Center in expanding its humanities projects. A profile of Professor Cheung will be featured in the forthcoming *CrossCurrents*.

Center Welcomes Six New Faculty

The Asian American Studies Center welcomes several new faculty members who were recruited through joint searches with departments in the College of Letters and Sciences.

Cindy Yee-Bradbury joins the faculty in the Psychology Department; *Jinqi Ling* in English; and *Kyeyoung Park* in Anthropology.

Meanwhile, *Shu-Mei Shih* will join the Comparative Literature Department next year after a postdoctoral fellowship at UC Berkeley.

Also, writer *David Wong Louie*, author of the acclaimed short story collection *Pangs of Love*, is teaching creative writing courses as a joint English Department and Asian American Studies visiting lecturer.

Finally, Professor *Shirley Hune* from Hunter College, City University of New York, has been appointed to a joint faculty-administrative post for this academic year. She is Acting Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.

During this academic year, the Asian American Studies Center will continue joint

faculty searches with the History and Economics departments. Searches in Sociology, Folklore and Mythology, and TESL/Applied Linguistics will resume next year.

According to Center Director Don Nakanishi, there are also plans to initiate a long-range plan for Asian American Studies specialists in various professional schools on campus on a limited basis this year.

Major Policy Book on Population Projections

continued from page 1

School of Architecture and Urban Planning, and Suzanne Hee of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center;

"Civil Rights Policy: Legal and Civil Rights Issues in 2020," by William R. Tamayo of the Asian Law Caucus;

"Affirmative Action Policy: Asian Pacific Islanders and the Glass Ceiling—New Era of Civil Rights Activism?" by Henry Der of Chinese for Affirmative Action;

"Policy for 'At-Risk' Populations: The Case of the Southeast Asian Refugee Community," by Ngoan Le of the Illinois State Department of Public Aid;

"Political Policy: Empowering Our Communities," by Stewart Kwok and Mindy Hui of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California;

"Race Relations Policy: Out of the Melting Pot into the Fire," by Michael Omi of UC Berkeley;

"Language Rights Policy: Language Rights Issues to the Year 2020 and Beyond," by Kathryn K. Imahara of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California;

"Policy for Women: Meditations on the Year 2020," by Elaine H. Kim of UC Berkeley;

"Media Policy: Will the Real Asian Pacific American Please Stand Up?" by Diane Yen-Mei Wong, a writer and editor in San Francisco;

"Policy on New Communities: South Asians in the United States with a Focus on Asian Indians," by Sucheta Mazumdar of State University of New York, Albany.

(For information on ordering this policy book, contact J. D. Hokoyama and John Tateishi of LEAP, (213) 485-1422.)

Prof. Kar Undertakes Health Survey of Indo-Americans

Professor Snehendu B. Kar of the UCLA School of Public Health and our Center's Faculty Advisory Committee is conducting the first-ever California survey of socio-economic conditions within the Indian American community. He is undertaking this project with the National Federation of Indian-American Associations.

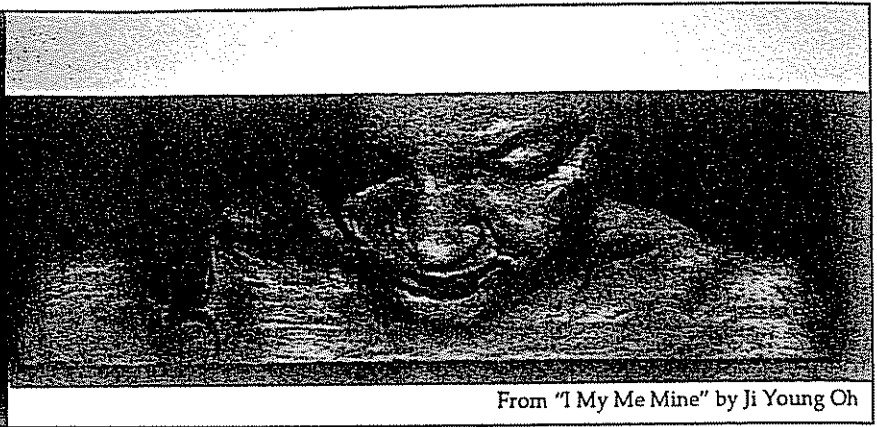
The survey covers various aspects of the overall well-being of the Indian community, including general socio-economic conditions; perceptions and opinions about personal, family and social well-being; health needs and the quality of health care available. The survey also covers issues affecting relations between the older and younger generations.

According to the 1990 Census, Indo-Americans have the highest growth rate of Asian American populations. By the year 2000, Indo-Americans are expected to become one of the largest Asian American communities.

However, while there is a wealth of Indo-American literary, historical and anecdotal materials available, there does not exist a single systematic study which documents the immigration experiences of the community, according to the Los Angeles newspaper *India-West*.

For more information about the project, contact Professor Kar at (310) 825-5156.

Korean American Women "Caught between the Sheets"



From "I My Me Mine" by Ji Young Oh

By Russell C. Leong

In the post-riot muggy August Sunday heat of Los Angeles, my friend, Korean American filmmaker Kyung-Ja Lee and myself, a Chinese American writer, entered the cool whiteness of the Los Angeles Photography Center to catch the last day of Susette Min's "Caught between the Sheets," a multimedia project which brought together 22 visual and video Korean American women artists in this first-ever collaboration (July 14–August 16, 1992.) A video of Kyung-Ja's film, *Halmani*, was part of the video installation in the exhibition. Once inside the space, we separated, each to our own exploration of the exhibition, and of ourselves, in relation to Min's challenge to "constructively criticize traditions by renegotiating them, but not to the point of denying and eradicating culture altogether."

As an Asian American man, I felt unsure as to where to look or step first, surrounded as I was by two dozen or so canvases, installations, and videos by Korean American women artists. Because, as Min had explained, "Caught between the Sheets" referred to the "stereotypes of Asian women as either servile or sexually submissive or as studious bookworms caught between sheets of notebook paper," I decided to forego any preconceived notions and let the images speak for themselves, allowing my eyes and feet to take me between the entangled sheets of Asian American ethnic, gender, and cultural identities represented.

Visually dominating the exhibit, Ji Young Oh's two large (12-foot tall) canvases, "I My Me Mine," and "Eve's Apple," juxtapose different scenes on separate panels, creating a physical three dimensionality, which, in the artist's words "breaks the traditional concepts of flat painting." In "I My Me Mine" a pensive woman looks down upon her own body, rendered in separate panels; in "Eve's Apple," a large portrait of a woman is punctured by a spherical space at the throat. Ji Young Oh was born in Kwang-Ju, Korea and immigrated to the U.S. in November 1980 where she received her MFA at the Claremont Graduate School. She states that her "formal concerns rest within the ability to communicate with the viewer not literally but metaphysically."

Extending communication to text and performance along with the visual image, second-

generation Selena Whang's "Reproduction of the the Sexual" is a series of eight image and text works that deal with issues such as sexuality, feminism, and rape. Sample of a text: "An X chromosome floating in a sea of female seminal fluid. No I have a strong bladder. In red white and blue there is no room for yellow."

Others works in the exhibition are Soo Jin Kim's installation, "Distance," which posited six foot wooden benches covered with Asian cookie fortunes, text about the struggle to learn the English language, and high-heeled red bride's wedding slippers. At the head of the installation is a video work which amplifies on these themes.

Utilizing a popular culture approach, Vancouver-based artist Jin-Me Yoon in "Souvenirs of the Self" has printed postcards of herself standing with white tourists in scenic Rocky Mountain settings. The packets of postcards were for sale on a rack. According to Yoon, "I want to problematize the illusion of cohesive Canadian national identity based on the myth of the 'Two Founding Nations.' Imaged in the 'national symbolic imaginary of the Rockies Mountains, can she/I, as a non-Western woman enjoy a 'naturalized' relationship to the landscape?"

Taking a different approach to women/men/animal vis-a-vis nature, Sunglee S. Lee in subtle landscapes melds animal, human, and vegetative elements into murals in which foregrounding and backgrounding take on unfamiliar casts, such as in "Fishing in a 1/2 Glass of Milk," in which the fisherfolk blend in with the reeds, leaving us half-in, and half-out, of a landscape.

Along with the gallery works are six videos shown in continuous loop including Helen Lee's "Beauty Spot," which deals with Korean and Western conceptions of beauty, and Christine Change's "Displaced Identity" about an immigrant woman's loss of identity. The artists for "Caught between the Sheets" included, besides the ones mentioned, Peggy My-Young Choy, Stephanie Han, Chungni Kim, Serena S. Kim, Kyong Ho S. Ko, Jeeyeon Lee, Nancy MinJae Lee, Sasha Yungju Lee, Sunghae Min, Trina Nah-Mijo, Silvia J.K. Simmons, Hye Sook.

Susette Min, the 24-year-old curator of "Caught between the Sheets," was an intern at Los

Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions and received a UCLA Asian American Studies Center Rockefeller grant in the humanities to do the project. The gallery exhibit makes up only one-half of her vision. At Hollywood's Bardsall park, Min directed a program on July 30-31 by the same name featuring Los Angeles dancer and choreographer Young-Ae Park, comedian Margaret Cho, and performance artist Whang. For the second part of the program, Min wrote a one-act play about a traditional Korean mother and her daughter about to marry an Anglo-American. The play is printed as an open working text in the *Amerasia Journal* 18:2 (1992).

Walking through the exhibit, I pondered Min's questions about the relationship of Korean American women to tradition and to change, in the visual works which she selected as well as in the performance/play part of the program. Her questions resounded in me as they had everything to do with other Asian women—and men—as well. Questions such as, "Why do household chores still remain women's work in cases where women earn more than half the share of a household income? I turned to my friend, a Korean American filmmaker, but she was engaged in Sasha Yungju Lee's painting, "A Rose by Any Other Name," which juxtaposes Botticelli's Venus with Yi dynasty painter Sin Yubok's images of Korean women bathing on a yellow background with terms such as broad, cheesecake, hussy, slut, and babe. Since I knew it was difficult to sustain Kyung-Ja's attentions on any art that she did not find challenging, I also knew that these works spoke to other artists, catching them both aware, and unawares, of facets of their own faces and lives in the maelstrom of post-riot Los Angeles. As we left the gallery, the African American receptionist told us what a pleasure it had been to work with Susette Min on this pathbreaking exhibition of Korean American women artists. I had a gut feeling that he meant it, and that the power and sincerity of these works shown could help bridge racial and gender relations in this city toward the future.

(Russell C. Leong, editor of *Amerasia Journal*, is coordinator of the Center's Rockefeller Foundation Fellows Program.)

Rockefeller Foundation Fellows, 1992-93

Center Welcomes Seven Researchers, Writers and Artists

By Russell C. Leong

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center's "American Generations Program" announces the selection of its fellows and research stipend recipients for the 1992-93 year under the Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellows program.

Selected from across the United States, the scholars, artists, and humanists focus their work on how literature and writing, media, film, and theatre are transforming Asian American identity, culture, and the concept of generation in a multicultural society.

Lon Kurashige, from the University of Wisconsin, will produce an historical text and exhibit on "Los Angeles *Ono*: A Cultural History of Japanese American Ethnicity and the Nisei Week Festival, 1934-1952." Currently working at the Japanese American National Museum, Kurashige is also utilizing the Asian American Studies Center Library and University Research Library for his ethnographic study.

Hanh Thi Pham, nationally-exhibited photographer and former instructor at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, California, is teaching a class on Asian American Identity, Gender, and Culture at UCLA through our Center. Her project will involve capturing the imagery and voices of three generations of Vietnamese women and men, and result in text, photographic essays, and artist's books to be published for Asian American communities.

In journalism, *Andrew Lam*, the associate editor of Pacific News Service in San Francisco, has been awarded a stipend to write a series of four essays on Southeast Asians and Asia, some of which will appear in future issues of *Amerasia Journal*.

Independent researcher *Alice Hom*, a graduate of Yale University and UCLA's Asian American Studies M.A. program, is planning oral history interviews and workshops on Asian American youth, their parents, and issues of sexuality and gender.

To do research on Isamu Noguchi and his father, Yone Noguchi, Professor *Robert Maeda* of Brandeis University will come to the West Coast this spring. The relationship between the Noguchi son and father, sculptor and poet respectively, provides rich material on the development of the artistic imagination and on generation.

International performance artist *Jude Narita*, the artistic director of the Stella Adler Conservatory, will be doing oral history research for her new play which explores the multiple identities of immigrant Asian women. She recently returned from Vietnam, and will be traveling throughout the United States to do further interviews with Asian women.

Born in Korea, *Kyung-ja Lee* is an American Film Institute directing fellow who is directing a

feature-length dramatic film on interrelationships among Blacks, Latinos, and Asians in Los Angeles. Her Rockefeller award has been supplemented by American Playhouse sponsorship and by other funding. Lee's film, "Koreatown Blues," will be produced in the spring of 1993.

The Rockefeller fellows will present the results of their work during the Center's annual series of colloquia scheduled for spring.

A special 1992 issue of *Amerasia Journal* (volume 18, number 2) contains the work of previous Rockefeller fellows Frank Chin, N. V. M. Gonzalez, Darrell Hamamoto, Susette Min, and Haiming Liu. The issue is available for \$7.00 (plus tax and postage).

Building upon the success of the fellows program, the Center is also planning to develop a National Institute for the Humanities and Arts. The Institute will bring together humanist researchers, faculty, graduate students, writers, artists, and media professionals to study the local, national, and international dimensions of the humanities and arts as they relate to Asian Americans. The areas of focus include: critical studies programs; documentary and archival preservation; symposia, exhibition, and performing arts; and publications and dissemination.

The Humanities and Arts Institute will complement other national research institutes affiliated with the Asian American Studies Center.

IAC Fellowships Available

The Institute of American Cultures, in conjunction with the Asian American Studies Center, has available a postdoctoral fellowship for the 1992-93 academic year. The fellowship will be awarded on a competitive basis in support of work in Asian American Studies.

Support for postdoctoral scholars is available in two categories. Those who have recently completed their Ph.D. are invited to apply for an award that ranges from \$23,000 to \$28,000 depending on rank and experience.

Senior scholars are invited to apply for an award to supplement the sabbatical salary provided by their own institutions.

Additional support will be available to both categories of grantees for specific research upon application to the Center. The acceptance of support carries with it the commitment to participate in the programs of the Center. UCLA faculty and staff are not eligible for postdoctoral or visiting scholar support.

For applications and more information, contact: Fellowship Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, (310) 825-2974.

Deadline for applications is December 31, 1992.

Center Assists in Efforts to Build a "New L.A."

Center staff, faculty, and students are actively involved in "Rebuild Los Angeles" efforts, both on and off campus.

Our Center was among founders of Asian Pacific Americans for a New Los Angeles. Representing the Center in APANLA is Meg Thornton, coordinator of Student/Community Projects.

Members of the Center's Faculty Advisory Committee who have been active with community rebuilding efforts are Jim Lubben from School of Social Welfare, Ailee Moon of School of Social Welfare, Paul Ong of School of Architecture and Urban Planning, and Kyeyoung Park of Anthropology.

During Fall Quarter, the Center created a new undergraduate class, "Asian Pacific Americans and Urban Unrest," taught by UC Riverside Sociology Professor Edward Chang and Jae Lee Wong of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission.

The Center will also be initiating several post-rebellion studies, along with a book entitled "Seoul-to-Soul," which features poetry and short stories by local African American and Korean American writers.

Center Sponsors Two High School Students for Summer Work

By Sandra Shin

This past summer, our Center participated in a Summer Youth Employment Program funded by the City of Los Angeles, and administered through the Campus Human Resources office. We were fortunate to receive two students from inner-city high schools: Jenny Leal and Sandra Calderon.

Jenny Leal is a three-year veteran of the program, having worked in such places as Chevy Chase Park and the Griffith Park Nursery before coming to our Center. She is a 16-year-old junior at Marshall High School, and has been a resident of North Atwater for eight years. She hopes to become an elementary school teacher.

When I talked to her about her work experience at UCLA, she replied that it taught her "valuable office skills," such as filing and managing the reception desk. She added: "I'm getting better at typing."

Sandra Calderon says her experience at our Center was "too nice to be my first job." It was not at all like the "tough-boss" atmosphere she expected. As a 15-year-old junior at Crenshaw High School, Sandra has been a resident of Inglewood since she arrived from El Salvador one year ago. Besides being on her high school junior varsity volleyball team, she enjoys the subjects of English and History, and plans to study law or medicine in college.

Sandra described her work experience at UCLA as teaching her discipline and organizational skills, as well as allowing her to become "very social."

We thank Jenny and Sandra for their enthusiastic help during the summer, and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

(Sandra Shin is the Center's curriculum assistant.

She is a UCLA alumna.)

UCLA Asian Pacific Students Rally;

In a time of budget cutbacks and program retrenchment at UCLA, Asian Pacific American students have won an impressive victory: approval of a new, three-year Tagalog language program, with instruction to begin Winter Quarter.

The addition of Tagalog to the UCLA language curriculum represents three years of hard work by the student-led Asian Pacific Language and Cultures Committee (APLCC).

APLCC members have long demanded the expansion of the UCLA language and cultures curriculum to include classes in Hindi, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese. According to APLCC members, UCLA currently offers instruction in more than 90 languages, but only four—Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and the “dead” language of Sanskrit—are Asian Pacific languages.

Due to APLCC efforts, two “intensive” Tagalog classes will be now be taught through the Linguistics Department in winter and spring quarters. The courses will provide six units of credit.

“We have won an important victory in getting Tagalog classes,” said APLCC leader Marojorie Nazareth, a Pilipina American senior. “But we will not stop our campaign until we also get Thai, Hindi, and Vietnamese classes. Our victory demonstrates the importance of coalition-building. Through our unity, we can win more victories.”

The recent victory capped a busy summer for APLCC members.

According to APLCC leader Took Took Thongthiraj, a Thai American, students met with administrators, found university funding for the Tagalog classes, gained the support of the Linguistics Department and its chair, Professor Russell Schuh, to house the program, recruited an instructor, prepared a course syllabus, and recruited 35 students to begin the class this Fall Quarter.

However, the student efforts were overturned by administrators in the College of Letters & Science who argued that students had failed to follow “proper (university) procedures.” Subsequently, administrators approved the Tagalog classes for winter and spring.

Second-year student Michelle Madriaga, a Pilipina American who wanted to enroll in the fall course, expressed mixed feelings about the actions of administrators. “I’m really excited that we’ll be able to get this

“The issue of who has control over curricular decisions comes at a time when student fees are doubling and students are required to shoulder a larger burden of the campus costs. But we (students) are not having a say of what kind of education we are getting.”

– Quyhn Nguyen

Asian Pacific Languages and Cultures Committee

course (in winter and spring), but we put in so much time and effort to get the fall course implemented.”

APLCC leader Bijal Vakil, an Indian American, vigorously criticized the university opposition to the student efforts. “We did everything and they had no response. We have a feeling that the university is not supportive (of diversity).”

APLCC member Quyhn Nguyen, a Vietnamese American, echoed Vakil, arguing that administrators opposed student initiative on curricular issues. “The issue of who has control over curricular decisions comes at a time when student fees are doubling and students are required to shoulder a larger burden of the campus costs. But we (students) are not having a say of what kind of education we are getting,” she explained.

“As student,” she added, “we feel anger and frustration. Despite the positive findings from two faculty task forces (in June 1992) recommending classes in Hindi, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese, university officials—especially Provost Herbert Morris—have yet to voice a commitment to a program in South and Southeast Asian Studies.”

Wendy Yan, director of the campus Asian Pacific Coalition, stressed that the controversy centers on a larger issue of reforming the largely Eurocentric curriculum at UCLA. “We, as Asian Pacific Islander students, will not be ignored. For many years the university has belittled our Asian culture.”

Her sentiments were shared by UCLA student body president Mark Pulido, the first Pilipino American to hold that post. According to Pulido, administrators must respond to several student-initiated curricular reforms efforts, including the APLCC campaign, the demand for a Chicano/Chicana Studies department, the efforts to gain gay and lesbian studies, the demand for Pan African Studies, and the campaign for an undergraduate major in Asian American Studies.

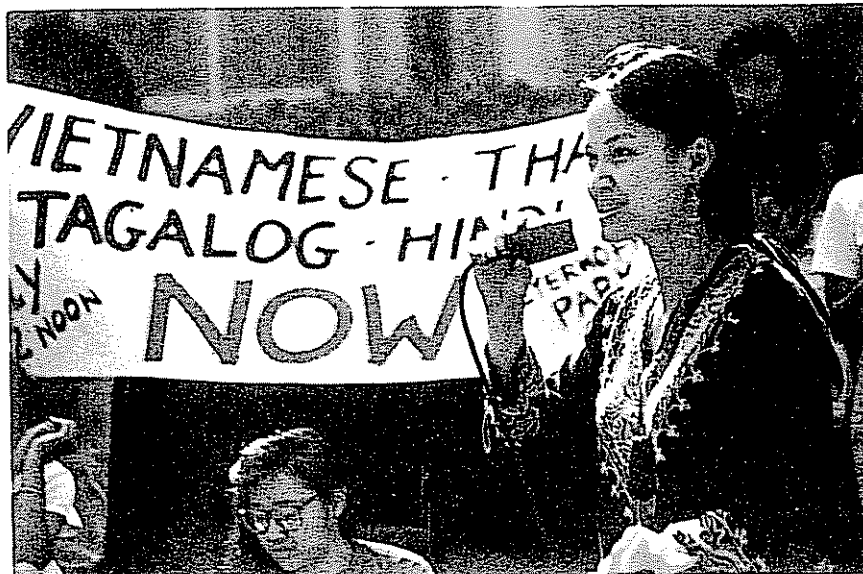
“With all our energies dispersed, we might benefit from coordinating our strategies, yet maintaining respect for our individual causes,” stated Pulido. “These are common ground issues that are interrelated. We have reason to come together.”



“We, as Asian Pacific Islander students, will not be ignored. For many years the university has belittled our Asian culture.”

– Wendy Yan
Director
Asian Pacific
Coalition

Win Tagalog Classes!



For the past three years, the APLCC campaign has been characterized by coalition-building and students coming together to advance common issues. APLCC functions as a committee in the 18-member-organization Asian Pacific Coalition.

The APLCC approach to coalition-building and "common ground" organizing were very evident at a rally held on campus during the second week of Fall Quarter which drew more than 200 supporters. Speakers at the rally included Pilipino, Thai, Indian, and Vietnamese student speakers, as well as leaders from Asian Pacific Coalition, Korean American United Students for Education & Service, Mecha, African Student Union, the Campus Network for Social Justice, and undergraduate student government. At the rally, APLCC members raised five basic demands to the university:

1. UCLA and the College of Letters and Sciences make a definite commitment to develop a program in South and Southeast Asian Studies;
2. UCLA begin instruction of South and Southeast Asian languages and cultures within the next two years by offering
 - Three years of elementary Tagalog beginning with the course already meeting this Fall Quarter
 - Vietnamese, Hindi and Thai languages
 - Courses on the diverse cultures of South and Southeast Asia
3. UCLA actively recruit and hire ladder faculty to teach these courses;
4. These offerings be developed into a permanent interdisciplinary program which is accessible to students and which offers incentives by fulfilling graduation requirements;
5. UCLA bolster existing Asian Pacific and Asian Pacific American studies and other curricular reform efforts.

"Through our unity and coalition-building, we were able to obtain Tagalog classes," explained APLCC leader Lida Poommipanit, a Thai American pre-med student. "But the administration better get used to us, because we are not going away until we win all our demands."

For more information about Asian Pacific Languages and Cultures Committee, call Asian Pacific Coalition at (310) 825-7184.

Congressman Mineta Supports Student Campaign

Congressman Norman Y. Mineta (D.-San Jose) has joined the growing list of Asian Pacific American community leaders supporting the UCLA student-led campaign to establish a South and Southeast Asian language and culture curriculum.

Instrumental in gaining the letter of support was UCLA student Cynthia Dinh of San Jose, who worked as an intern in Congressman Mineta's office this past summer in Washington, D.C.

In his recent letter to Chancellor Charles Young, Congressman Mineta wrote:

I am writing in support of the Asian Pacific Languages and Cultures Coalition and their efforts to establish a South and Southeast Asian curriculum (Vietnamese, Hindi, Thai, Tagalog) at UCLA. Asians are the fastest growing minority in California, with South and Southeast Asians representing one of the fastest growing communities at UCLA, in Southern California, and in the United States. By establishing a South and Southeast Asian curriculum, UCLA meets the changing needs of the communities it serves and benefits from the cultural richness of the people it represents.

I was surprised to learn that out of ninety languages taught at UCLA, only four are Asian. California is the gateway to the Pacific Rim. As South and Southeast Asia becomes an increasingly strategic point of economic and political policy for the U.S. and world nations, U.C. graduates need to be culturally literate and prepared to deal with these Pacific Rim nations. By adding Asian Pacific language and culture classes, UCLA will not only improve the overall quality of its academic life, but it will also make the difference in our nation's competitive posture in world markets. Establishing such a curriculum is key to our own advancement of modern America.

If the United States is to retain its position as the world's economic leader, it simply must possess a pool of human talent that is second to none in its scientific, educational, artistic, and business acumen. I urge UCLA to be at the academic forefront by implementing a South and Southeast Asian curriculum. UCLA could serve as a model for other universities around the nation as well as continue its role as an innovative university committed to diversity. . . .

Our ability to compete and excel in world markets in the next century will depend on the education our children receive now. Therefore, I strongly urge you, and am willing to assist in the overall effort, to integrate these classes into the existing curriculum.

*Sincerely yours,
Norman Y. Mineta
Member of Congress*

Wendy Yan Heads UCLA Asian Pacific Coalition for 1992-93 Academic Term



Asian Pacific Coalition Director Wendy Yan (left) meets with two APC staff members, Alyssa Kang (center) and Le Dao (right).

Wendy Yan is serving as director for the 1992-93 academic year of the UCLA Asian Pacific Coalition.

Wendy is the daughter of Chun and Pui Wah Yan of San Francisco. She is majoring in Psychology with an Asian American Studies emphasis. She has been active with the statewide Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, and has worked with various community groups, including the public relations firm of Imada-Wong and the Asian Pacific Health Care Venture.

APC consists of 18 organizations, and has been described by some long-time campus observers as the most powerful student interest group at UCLA.

This year, the coalition is taking up a variety of issues, including support for curricular reform campaigns, such as the creation of an Asian American Studies undergraduate major and the addition of Hindi, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese language and cultural classes to the curriculum; community projects, such as work with Asian Pacific Americans for a New Los Angeles; and educational awareness, such as forums on hate crimes and anti-Asian violence; and women's programming, such as conferences and workshops.

The coalition also works with members of Asian Pacific Alumni, and in the past has co-sponsored an annual career day for UCLA undergraduates.

Member groups of APC are: Asian Education Project, Asian Pacific Islander Health Corps, Asian Pacific Islander Law Students Association, Association of Chinese Americans, Chinese Students Association, Hong Kong Students Union, Hui O'Imiloa, Indian Student Union, Korean American United Students for Education and Service, Korean Students Association, Korean Tutorial Project, Lambda Phi Epsilon, Nikkei Student Union, Pacific Islander Students Association, Pilipino Recruitment and Enrichment Program, Samahang Pilipino, Vietnamese Refugee Aid Committee, and Vietnamese Students Association.

For more information about APC activities, call the coalition at (310) 825-7184.

Student

Speaks Out

"500 Years of Resistance"

By Took Took Thongthiraj

We are all familiar with the story of how Columbus mistakenly "discovered" the New World when trying to find India. But the European powers could not and did not stop with the New World. Once Columbus' fellow colonizer Ferdinand Magellan sailed around the world, colonization of South and Southeast Asians began and the Europeans discovered that yes, the world really was round after all. The history lesson then was this: Get lost and you will find what you are looking for and more. The historical reality for Third World peoples in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the United States is that while we may be separated geographically, the common threads of oppression, exploitation, and resistance bind us together.

In the 16th century, Spanish conquerors raided and usurped the lands of the indigenous peoples of Northern Mexico, whom they quickly enslaved. Centuries later, the British and French began the economic exploitation of South and Southeast Asia, thereby establishing and perpetuating the same heartless, imperialist mentality seen in the Americas. To completely stop the competition and dominate the cotton industry, the British cut off the fingers of Indian cotton weavers who refused to stop spinning homespun cloth. In Vietnam, the French not only worked the Vietnamese to death, but buried the dead bodies under rubber trees as fertilizer, in order to maintain the French rubber industry at no extra cost.

While these examples graphically depict the horrors of colonization in South and Southeast Asia, cultural imperialism has had similar, or perhaps even more degrading effects. Through educational and religious institutions, the West proclaimed the so-called superiority of its values and degraded "non-western" peoples and their traditions as "backward," "uncivilized," and "savage" . . .

While we painfully recall the ways our people have suffered under the reigns of colonialism and Westernization, we must recognize the ways in which this university colonizes our minds by perpetuating a Eurocentric, racist, sexist, and homophobic curriculum. UCLA's credo is a commitment to student needs and interests. In all my optimism, I don't believe those in power at UCLA respect that credo. Oh, they sure claim to respect it whenever I go to meetings with administrators as a representative of the Asian Pacific Languages and Cultures Committee (APLCC). And I have to tell them, well if that's the case, then I want to see a Chicana/o Studies Department, gay and lesbian studies, a gender and ethnic studies requirement, South and Southeast Asian studies, and a B.A. program in Asian American Studies.

This is a major roadblock APLCC has faced for the last two years as a coalition of mostly students trying to get South and Southeast Asian language and culture courses permanently added to the UCLA curriculum. We have seen how the university is willing to teach Afrikaans, the white racist language of South Africa and a living symbol of colonization. . . .

I've spelled out a lot of grim facts about the realities facing people of color. But we must not forget that we are the bearers of a history of struggle and resistance. We must resurrect the waves of resistance from the Indian and African slave rebellions, and the only way we can do that is to unite in a common struggle against white male imperialism, while not forgetting to affirm our differences.

Since I am a Thai-American coming from a country that has never been formally colonized, people may wonder why I see myself linked to this struggle. I have seen Euro-American encroachment and exploitation of my people in the forms of prostitution, sex tourism, multinational corporations, landlessness, and so-called modernization. In working with APLCC and other curriculum reform groups like MECHA, African Student Union, Asian Pacific Coalition, Gay and Lesbian Alliance, and American Indian Student Alliance, I have heard our voices grow louder, stronger, and more resilient. Our history lesson to the white boys in power is this: Get lost and don't come back. We will not be beaten down and made invisible again.

(Took Took Thongthiraj is a UCLA undergraduate majoring in Women's Studies.)

Mark Pulido Is UCLA's First Pilipino Student Body President

Three Student Leaders from our Center Elected to Student Government Posts



Mark Pulido, Student Body President

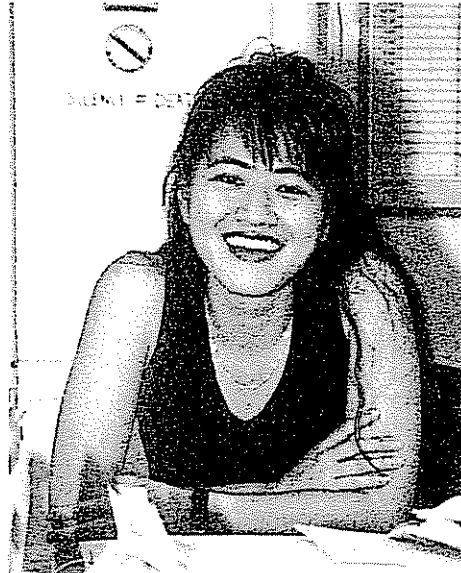
Three Asian Pacific Islander students—with strong backgrounds of work with the Asian American Studies Center—were elected to undergraduate student government posts for the 1992–93 academic year.

Overall, of the 14 student body offices, nine are held by Asian Pacific Islanders.

Mark E. Pulido is the first Pilipino American to serve as UCLA student body president.

Mark is the son of Rudy and Ester Pulido of Cerritos, and ran for president on a platform of "student power."

He is a former student assistant with the Student/Community Projects unit in the Asian American Studies Center, a past design coordinator of *CrossCurrents*, and recently handled book design and layout for *Philip*



Emi Gusukuma, Academic Affairs Comm.

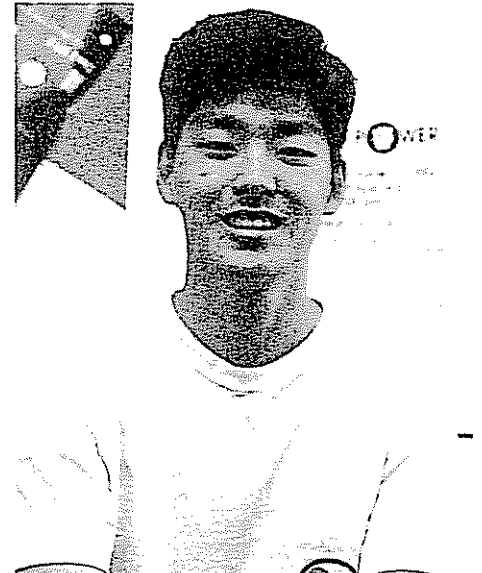
Vera Cruz: A Personal History of Filipino Immigrants and the Farmworkers Movement, published jointly by our Center and the UCLA Labor Center.

Mark is also former president of UCLA Samahang Pilipino and former editor-in-chief of *Pacific Ties*, the *UCLA Asian & Pacific Islander Newsmagazine*.

Emi Gusukuma is serving as Academic Affairs Commissioner.

Emi is the daughter of Seikichi and Yuki Gusukuma of North Hollywood. Her mother is a first-generation Japanese immigrant who speaks Japanese language only.

Emi has been active in the Asian American Studies Center, especially around various campus and community events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the wartime internment of Japanese Americans.



Paul Tsutagawa, General Representative

Emi's major is Political Science with an Asian American Studies emphasis. She is thinking about going to law school and would like to work on civil rights issues affecting Asian Pacific Islanders.

Paul Tsutagawa is one of three undergraduate General Representatives on student council.

He is the son of Seihichiro and Yuriko Tsutagawa of Oceanside.

Paul is a former staff member of Asian Pacific Coalition, and has been active with the Nikkei Student Union.

Paul's major is Political Science, and following graduation, he plans to pursue a career in politics.

Pacific Ties Begins 16th Year of Publication

Pacific Ties, UCLA's Asian and Pacific Islander Newsmagazine, has begun its sixteenth year of publication under this year's co-editors Julie Ha and David Kim.

In its first issue for the 1992–93 school year, *Pacific Ties* features an interview with mayoral candidate Mike Woo and an article about Cambodian refugees.

Pacific Ties is the nation's oldest and largest Asian Pacific student newsmagazine. It is published six times during the school year, and has a press run of 5,000 to 7,000 copies.

For more information, contact *Pacific Ties* at 210D Kerckhoff Hall, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90024; telephone, (310) 825-1004.

Asian Pacific Students at UCLA & USC Plan New Journal

Asian Pacific student editors at UCLA and USC have announced collaboration on a new student literary journal to be published in spring 1993.

The new publication will continue the tradition of "Burning Cane," published by UCLA students in 1991, and "Firecracker," published by USC students in 1992. Both publications carried short stories, poetry, art, and graphics by college and high school students around the nation.

The new journal, staffed by both UCLA and USC students, hopes to reach a wider campus and community audience, and forge alliances between the campuses. "The larger plan is to one day have

an intercampus literary journal with students from not only USC and UCLA, but from Cal State Northridge, Occidental College, and other L.A. colleges," explained editor Grace Hong, a first year graduate student at the UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

Students interested in submitting work should contact: Grace Hong, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 3230 Campbell Hall, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1546; or Howard Hong, Student Union 410, University Park, Los Angeles, CA 90089. For more information, call (213) 747-1435.

Vietnamese Student Conference To Be Held at UCLA in Spring 1993

By Anna Tran

Students in schools across California have come together, with the active and responsive support of the community, to organize a landmark Vietnamese-American Student Conference, "The Vietnamese-American Experience: Reflecting on Our Past, Working Toward Our Future," geared to promoting social and cultural awareness of our community and discovering solutions for issues that face the upcoming generation.

The Vietnamese community in America is one of the fastest-growing Asian Pacific communities. Many continue to focus on "refugee" and "immigration" issues in the community while ignoring other dynamics, such as the coming of age of Vietnamese-American youth, who now comprise a substantial and influential part of the community.

Sponsored by the UCLA Vietnamese Student Association (VSA), the Vietnamese-American Student Conference will discuss the most pressing issues for Vietnamese-American youth as identified by their peers including: health care, model minority myths, education and careers, language and cultural awareness and preservation, Vietnamese history, and current issues in Vietnam.

The conference is scheduled to be held on the UCLA campus during Spring 1993. Although lectures and discussions will be geared for college and high school level students, anyone is welcome to attend. Students from several campuses such as UCLA, UCI, UCSD and USC have been involved in the planning process since late May. These students have been actively pursuing the goals necessary to organize a successful conference.

To make this event a success,

conference planners will seek student organizational support and community sponsorship and advice. Student organizational support will insure that the conference is planned by students for the students. With sponsorship, the conference aims to raise enough funds to hold the event free of charge and to defray the costs of facilities, publicity and printing for brochures, handouts at the conference, and mailings. The knowledge and experience of advisors in the Vietnamese community could assist in communicating with various organizations, finding speakers and lecturers, and providing insight on issues and organizations. These three components of support are integral to the success of the first Vietnamese-American Student Conference.

Interested students and community members can find out more details about the conference, send monetary donations, or find out how they can assist in conference planning by contacting the UCLA Vietnamese Student Association office at:

Vietnamese Student Association
Attention: Anna Tran
409 Kerckhoff Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90024

As people with a common ancestral background, we hope to gain insight about our past to discover more about ourselves and our community. As young people born or raised in a different country, we understand our responsibility as socially conscious, global citizens. And finally, as students, we have a thirst for knowledge that motivates us to create our own forum to discuss and learn about our past and to help form better futures.

(Anna Tran is a UCLA undergraduate.)

Korean American Students Form New Education and Service Organization at UCLA: KAUSES

UCLA Korean American students have created a new organization: KAUSES, or Korean American United Students for Education & Service.

KAUSES formed through a merger of two other groups: Korean Education and Action Congress, a student advocacy group; and Korean American Student Volunteers, an organization formed in response to the Los Angeles uprisings.

KAUSES defines itself as a "political

advocacy and community service group which takes on the task of educating and mobilizing the Korean students here on the UCLA campus."

Issues that the group will address include Korean immigration, reunification of Korea, cultural identity of 1.5 and second generation youth, curricular reform concerns, and community problems.

For more information, call Mee La, (310) 824-7638.

"Ohana" Spirit Marks Asian American Studies Hawaii Summer Program

By Jane Takahashi

Over 80 students from UCLA, other UC campuses, and University of Hawaii at Manoa participated in the first annual collaborative summer program in Hawaii on multiculturalism and Asian Pacific communities this past summer. Students received eight units of credit for an intensive summer of learning under professors Steffi San Buenaventura and Jane Takahashi of UCLA and several University of Hawaii professors.

Through lectures, guest speakers, field trips, walking tours, and internships with community groups and government agencies, students learned about the political, economic, education, and social institutions that have shaped Hawaii into the multicultural "melting pot" or "salad bowl" of today.

Working in *ohana* (family) groups, students produced demographic profiles of communities, collaborated on research, and performed in a farewell luau banquet.

In the process, students developed their own models of multiculturalism and field-tested them in daily interactions with "locals" and "haoles."

Fast friendships developed as students persevered through the intensive program of study, work, and play. Extracurricular activities included hikes, tours, and outer island trips.

Findings from research papers and internship projects were presented at a fall reunion held at UCLA on October 4, 1992.

A similar but less intense and smaller program is planned for summer 1993. Information packets are now available from Dr. Jon Accomando, (310) 206-2134. Students are encouraged to register early, beginning Dec. 2, since enrollment is limited.

Similar to this past summer, each student will receive eight units of credit by enrolling in two classes: AAS 135A, "Asian Pacific American Communities in Hawaii"; and AAS 135B, "Asian Pacific American Community Field Studies."

(Dr. Jane Takahashi holds a Ph.D. from the UCLA Graduate School of Education, and served as principal instructor for the summer program.)

East West Players Donates Archives to UCLA

27 Years of Asian American Theatre

By Suzanne Hee



East West Players, an Asian American theatre group based in Los Angeles, was founded in 1965 by eight inspired Asian American actors that included Rae Creevy, James Hong, June Kim, Guy Lee, Pat Li, Yet Lock, Beulah Quo, and Mako Yashima. The first of its kind, the theatre presented their first production, *Rashomon*, in a small church in Santa Monica. Under the guidance of Mako, the company's first artistic director, East West Players became a

major influence not only in the Asian American community, but also in the community at large. This was the arena that offered Asian American actors, writers and directors necessary support and an opportunity to express themselves and develop their craft as members of the performing arts.

Perhaps even more encouraging was that this company set an example for other cities. San Francisco's Asian American Theatre, New York's Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, and Seattle's Northwest Asian American Theatre were all founded during the 1970s. Other theatres in San Diego, Toronto, and Chicago have also developed in more recent years.

In 1989, however, Mako resigned as artistic director, and Nobu McCarthy, a prominent Asian American actress whose recent films include *The Karate Kid II* and *The Wash*, stepped in and took control. Although East West Players had been a strong organization over the past years under the guidance of Mako, McCarthy did not enter the position without artistic, political and financial responsibilities. She realized that the company lacked multiculturalism in the board of directors and in the staff positions. "We are based in Asian American-ness, but expanding it to outside multicultural experiences," McCarthy says. "We are asking the white theatres to diversify, and it's well for us to keep on doing what we think an Asian American theatre should be doing, but we should also have expansion. . . . Whoever wants to come in, we have to welcome them. The balancing is the key."

Over the next three years, McCarthy made it her goal to expand in terms of multiculturalism and to strengthen the financial liabilities. Getting in touch with the outside community, McCarthy added 14 new people to the board, bringing the total to 34, eight of which are non-Asian. In addition, the general producer of East West players is Tom Donaldson, also a non-Asian. McCarthy was able to raise more funds, not only the grants they received from the National Endowment of Arts and the California Arts Council, but also from outside corporations.

The past 27 years of East West Players history is now being preserved at UCLA as a special collection at the Theatre Arts Library. Negotiations between UCLA, specifically under the guidance of Marji Lee, coordinator of the Asian American Studies Center Reading Room, and the East West Players Board of Directors took place over the past summer. UCLA competed against several other colleges that also bid for the archives.

I went to the East West Players theatre over the summer with Marji and we spent the day boxing up the donated material. At the end of the day, we had over 60 boxes, which included scripts, production notes, summer workshop information, old newsletters, video tape, and budget records. The archive is projected to be completed in the Spring of 1993. This special collection will hopefully provide other students and members of the

community with a history of the nation's oldest Asian American theatre.

Marking the fourth year of McCarthy's hold of the reins, East West Players opened its season with a production of the Tony Award winning musical "Into the Woods" by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine. Director Tim Dang worked with an all-Asian cast, and successfully proved that Asian Pacifics are extremely talented in voice and dance. "Into the Woods" is an enchanting story set "Once upon a time, in a far off kingdom. . ." This musical provides the audience with an examination of the classic American fairy tales: Cinderella, Rapunzel, Little Red Riding Hood, and Jack and the Beanstalk. The music, singing, comedy and drama touches upon the good and bad, light and dark, and the child and adult in all of us.

The cast consists of a wonderful array of talent, with extraordinary voices, including UCLA's own Cindy Cheung who graduated in June 1992 with a degree in Applied Mathematics. The imaginative set design, by Chris Tashima and Christopher Komuro, utilized every possible space in the theatre, which made the performance even more special and intimate.

East West Players has three remaining plays remaining in their 1992-1993 season: "Fishhead Soup" (January 6-February 14, 1993) by Philip Kan Gotanda; "The Rising Tide of Color" (March 17-April 25, 1993) by Vernon Takeshita; and "The Dance and the Railroad" & "House of Sleeping Beauties" (May 26-July 4, 1993) by David Henry Hwang.

From Nov. 10 to 15, the UCLA School of Theatre, Film and Television in association with East West Players presented Wakako Yamauchi's "12-1-A." This performance was part of the 50th anniversary commemoration of Japanese American wartime internment. "12-1-A" was directed by Rodney Kageyama and combined the talents and efforts of both professional actors and students. The cast included East West Players' own artistic director Nobu McCarthy, and Lloyd Kino and Dian Kobayashi. In addition, 17 of the 20 roles were played by UCLA students, many of whom were enrolled in the Asian American theatre class that was offered at UCLA Spring Quarter 1992. The students included: Yau-Gene Chan, Garrett Richard Wang, Melissa Chan, Jeff Liu, Jeremy Lee, Feodor Chin, Mitch Anucha, Sharon Goe, Huyen Friedlander, Joyce Liu, Aaron Goodrum, Tim Shriver, Gary Yee, and Colburn Tseung.

East West Players has made an tremendous impact on the American theatre scene. With the combined efforts and support of the actors, writers, directors and the community, East West Players will continue to be a vital and vibrant part of American society.

(Suzanne Hee is a second-year graduate student in our Center's M.A. program.)

Cinema Caucus Formed; Seeks Members

An Asian/Pacific/American Caucus has been formed within the Society for Cinema Studies, and is seeking additional members.

The caucus will provide a forum to bring together Asian and Asian American film scholars and media artists, as well as scholars studying Asian and Asian American media.

The caucus is especially committed to identifying and recruiting undergraduate and graduate students working in the area of Asian and Asian American media.

For more information, contact: Darrell Y. Hamamoto at UC Irvine, (714) 551-0977; or Marina Heung of Baruch College, City University of New York, (212) 387-1280.

"The View from Within"

Works by Japanese American Artists from WW II Internment Camps at Wight Gallery

"The View from Within: Japanese American Art from the Internment Camps, 1942-1945," at UCLA's Wight Art Gallery from Oct. 13 to Dec. 6 is the first major exhibition of more than one hundred works of art created by more than 30 Japanese American artists. It was critically acclaimed by *Los Angeles Times* art critic William Wilson who lauded its "persistence of grace."

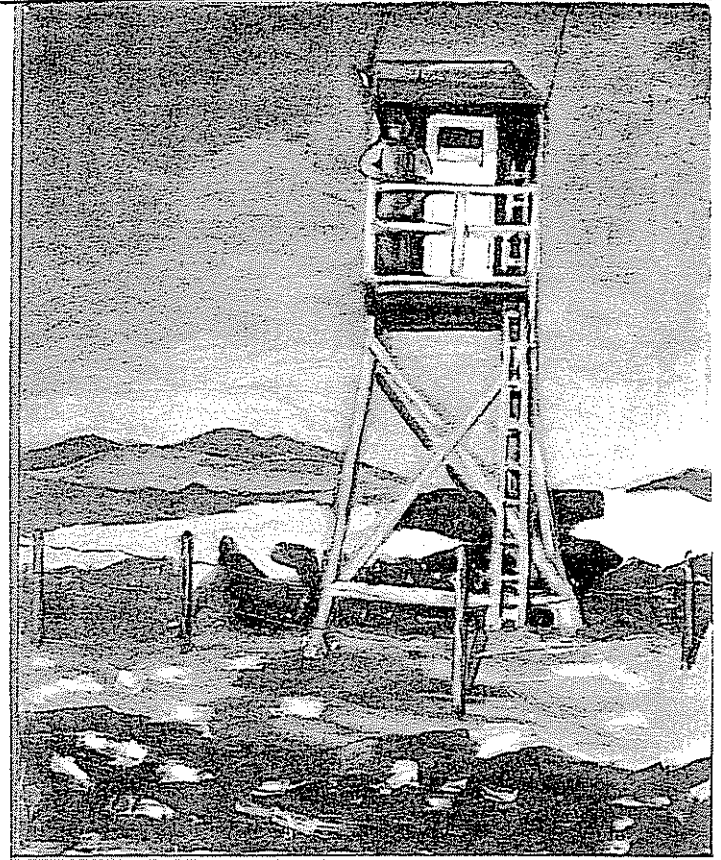
The works, many which have never been on view publicly, include paintings drawings, sculptures and prints created in the ten internment camps by both professional and avocational artists.

Works in the show include those of first generation Issei Henry Sugimoto, second generation Nisei Mine Okubo, and Kibei (American born and educated in Japan) Hideo Kobashigawa.

Many of the well-known artists established formal art schools in various camps. Chiura Obata, a respected artist who served on the UC Berkeley faculty and participated in numerous museum exhibitions before the war, established an art school at Tanforan Assembly Center and Topaz concentration camp. At its peak, more than 95 classes a week were offered in more than 25 subject areas.

The exhibition—organized by the Asian American Studies Center, Japanese American National Museum, and Wight Art Gallery—was curated by Karin M. Higa, and is an integral part of the nationwide, yearlong commemoration of 50th anniversary events of the wartime internment.

Accompanying the exhibit is an illustrated catalogue with essays by Karin M. Higa, Lane Ryo Hirabayashi and James A. Hirabayashi, and Wakako Yamauchi. The catalog includes capsule biographies of all the artists. The catalog can be purchased from the Asian American Studies Center for \$16.00 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling (California residents should add 7.25% sales tax; Los Angeles residents 8.25%).



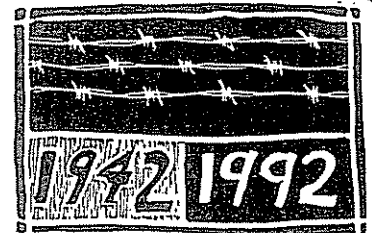
"Watch Tower," an oil on canvas painting by George Matsusaburo Hibi (UCLA JARP Collection)

Support for the exhibit was provided by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Nathan Cummings Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, the UCLA Chancellor's Challenge in the Arts and Humanities, the Union Pacific Foundation, and the UCLA Office of Instructional Development.

Admission to the exhibit is free. For more information, call (310) 825-9345.

Kodomo no Tameni ("For the Sake of the Children")

Japanese American Remembrance Fund Launched at UCLA



UCLA has launched a \$500,000 campaign to establish an endowment to support research, archival acquisition, and educational programs on issues that face the Japanese in the United States.

The Japanese American Remembrance Fund will annually provide undergraduate and graduate fellowships for students who undertake research and other creative projects in Japanese American Studies; research grants to UCLA scholars; funds for the continued acquisition and cataloging of archival materials on Japanese Americans; and major public and campus outreach programs such as community lectures, educational seminars for high school teachers, and symposia for journalists.

The fund will be administered by the Asian American Studies Center.

Co-chairmen of the fund are Thomas Iino of Deloitte & Touche and Vincent Okamoto of Pacific Heritage Bank.

The steering committee consists of Leslie Furukawa, Ken Hayashi, Edwin Hiroto, Ray Inouye, Gary Kawaguchi, Herbert Kawhara, Glen Nakata, Makoto Nakayama, Margaret Shinohara, Ruth Watanabe, and the UCLA Nikkei Bruin Committee.

The advisory committee includes Mayor Tom Bradley, Judge Ernest Hiroshige, Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Professor Harry H. L. Kitano, Congressman Norman Mineta, Professor Don Nakanishi, and Chancellor Charles E. Young.

For more information, contact Professor Don Nakanishi, Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 3230 Campbell Hall, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1546; telephone (310) 825-2974.

Jean Pang Yip: Our "Hidden Ambassador"

By Russell C. Leong

Many may not realize that the elegant, small-boned woman who heads the distribution and sales of Resource Development and Publications brings an international background and perspective to her work. In 1977, just one year after she brought her three children, Sidney, Arthur, and Amelia to the United States from Hong Kong, Jean began working for the Asian American Studies Center. After 15 years, she retired officially this October but will be continuing with us on a part-time basis.

Jean Pang Yip has always been on the move: from Rangoon, Burma, where she was born just before World War II, to Shanghai where she attended junior high school, to Hong Kong after 1951, and to the Royal Sydney Conservatorium of Music in Australia in the 50s, where she was trained in piano teaching. After she moved back to Hong Kong, Jean met her husband and began her family. There, she taught Chopin, Shostakovich, Bartok, Bach, Mozart, and other composers to Asian and Western students. After the death of her husband, Jean moved to the United States in order to pursue the best college education for her three children, two of whom were graduated from UCLA, and the other from USC.

What was it like for this classically-trained pianist to enter the world of books, packing boxes, and to face an Asian American staff, most of whom had lived nowhere else but the U.S.?

Jean laughed: "In Hong Kong, I was part of majority; here, you learn that you're a minority and that makes a difference. But I neither feel like an immigrant nor a Chinese American here. All my life I've been on the move, and the States and the Center are just new places that I've adopted. So my identity and my work have just been my choice, no matter what country I've ended up in.

"Frankly, publications has been okay because I've been taking care of it all these years! Because of my position as manager, I've been the one most in touch with the public's day-to-day expectations and impressions of our books. Our readers expect a lot from us. For example, many times people would write, at the end of their book order, that they'd been looking for a long time for Asian American materials, and they look forward to more things that they need."

During the past 15 years, Jean feels that the Center "has evolved from a period of instability to a period of self-identity and confidence. The word I would use to describe this process is 'perseverance'."

Under her management and expert care, the fiscal, sales, and subscription aspects of publications stabilized and expanded. Multilingual in five Chinese dialects, Jean has also been the resident Chinese-language editor and translator of the Center, and proofreads each issue



of the *Amerasia Journal*. Jean was instrumental in editing Him Mark Lai's bibliography, *A History Reclaimed*, in editing and translating *The Bitter Society*, a 19th century Chinese novel excerpted in *Amerasia Journal*, and in helping to proofread the theses of some of our M.A. students.

In addition to her professional contributions as publications manager and editorial advisor and translator, Jean had developed another role at the Center, invisible except perhaps to those who have worked more closely with her. Jean's third-floor office served as a warm "second home" to many visiting Chinese scholars and graduate students, including former M.A. students Zheng Mei, Yu Renqiu, Joe Fong, Yung Mei, and to scholars Him Mark Lai, Liu Yizun, Zheng Dehua, Marlon Hom, June Mei, Suellen Kwok, and others. She welcomed many of these scholars and students into her home during the holidays, provided

transportation, and took a personal interest in their daily well-being. In this sense, Jean has always been a "hidden" ambassador for the Asian American Studies Center, helping to bridge the cultural and social gaps between the native-born Asian Americans and new immigrants from Hong Kong, Taiwan, the People's Republic of China, and the Pacific Rim.

Actually, this role should come as no surprise, for Jean comes from a family of Christian ministers on her father's side, and Western-trained medical doctors on her mother's. Jean is an offspring of a Chinese generation who believed in a "New China"—an idealistic generation who were influenced by the Republican ideas of western-educated Dr. Sun Yat-sen, founder of the Chinese republic. Indeed, with normalization between the People's Republic of China and the U.S. in the 80s, Jean has revived ties with former schoolmates from her Soochow boarding school, well-known for its western instruction. Of Jean's former classmates, one is now the Chinese ambassador to the United Kingdom, another, the ambassador to Australia. From a single class, so many ambassadors!

After her retirement, Jean plans to travel to visit old friends in Asia, to continue her involvement with the Chinese Christian Alliance Church in Northridge, and to sing Chinese and Western art songs with the Melodia Sinica chorus. She is also involved with the Asian Pacific Islander Council of the San Fernando Valley.

To her friends and colleagues at the Center, Jean will always remain our "ambassador of understanding," reminding us that the meaning of "Asian" and "Asian American" can be understood in more creative, profound, and enriching ways than we ever imagined. Thank you, Jean.

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