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CROSSCURRENTS
The Newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center

CROSSCURRENTS

Newsmagazine of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, Vol. 20, No. 2 (Fall/Winter 1997)

End of Diversity at UCLA?

With the end of affirmative action, the 1997 freshmen class may be the last diverse group of incoming students for several years to come

The 1997 UCLA freshmen class is one of the most ethnically diverse groups in the institution's history. However, with the end of affirmative action, it may be the last diverse class for several years to come.

The UCLA Office of Admissions compiles statistics based on the number of freshmen applicants, the number of admissions, and the number of students "stating an intent to register" (SIR). For fall of 1997, 28,026 students applied for admissions, 10,460 were admitted, and 3,844 students stated an intent to register as freshmen.

In terms of ethnic background, the Fall 1997 freshman class is approximately 39% Asian Pacific American, 33% Caucasian, 16% Hispanic, 6% African American, 1% American Indian, and 1% "other." The ethnic diversity of the 1997 entering class mirrors that of recent years.

Among Asian Pacific American, Chinese Americans represent 16% of the freshman class. There are more Chinese American freshmen than the total number of Chicano and Latino freshmen.

Filipino and Pacific Islander applicants had the lowest rates of admission (based on numbers admitted divided by the numbers who applied) among all identifiable groups of applicants — 25% each. There are only 13 Pacific Islanders in the fall 1997 entering class.

According to Filipino American educational advocates, the low admissions rate for Filipino applicants reflects the lingering after-effects of the elimination of Filipino American from affirmative action at UCLA nearly a decade ago.

In contrast to the low admissions rates for Filipino and Pacific Islander applicants, 34% Japanese, 36% Korean, 43% East Indian, and 42% Chinese American applicants were admitted. Overall, Asian Pacific Americans had a rate of admissions of 36% in comparison with Caucasians (36%), Hispanics (41%), African Americans (39%), and American Indians (53%). Overall, 37% of the 28,026 applicants to UCLA were admitted.

"I am afraid this will be the last diverse freshman class at UCLA for sometime to come," said Professor Don T. Nakamichi, Director of the Asian American Studies Center. "With the upcoming implementation of the UC Regents' decision (and Proposition 209) to eliminate the use of race and gender in

Fall 1997 Admissions of Freshmen by Ethnic Group

| Ethnic Group | Apps | Admits | *SIRs | % of class |
|------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------------|
| American Indian | 161 | 96 | 42 | 1% |
| African American | 1,387 | 526 | 231 | 6% |
| Chicano | 2,633 | 1,157 | 449 | 12% |
| Latino | 1,092 | 356 | 146 | 4% |
| Subtotal Hispanic | 3,725 | 1,513 | 595 | 16% |
| Filipino | 1,407 | 349 | 176 | 5% |
| Pacific Islander | 110 | 27 | 13 | - |
| Chinese | 4,476 | 1,862 | 597 | 16% |
| East Indian | 979 | 425 | 151 | 4% |
| Japanese | 673 | 226 | 89 | 2% |
| Vietnamese | 1,163 | 331 | 150 | 4% |
| Korean | 1,966 | 710 | 231 | 6% |
| Other Asian | 720 | 250 | 82 | 2% |
| Subtotal Asian Pacific | 11,494 | 4,189 | 1,492 | 39% |
| Caucasian | 9,733 | 3,506 | 1,267 | 33% |
| "Other" | 192 | 73 | 23 | - |
| Unknown | 1,331 | 577 | 191 | 5% |
| Total | 28,026 | 10,460 | 3,844 | |

* Statement of Intent to Register
Source: Undergraduate Admissions 97F Forecast File

undergraduate admissions, we are anticipating dramatic changes in how the UCLA student body will look in the future."

Studies have predicted that Asian American and white students will comprise between 85-90% of incoming freshman classes, with Asian Americans continuing to have the most applicants, admits, and enrolled freshmen of any group at UCLA.

The current period provides new and important challenges for Asian Pacific Americans. Decades ago, when Asian Pacific Americans were excluded from higher education, they struggled against discriminatory barriers. They were joined in this struggle by others — especially African Americans, Latino Americans, and American Indians.

Today, with the end of affirmative action — and the exclusion of hundreds of qualified African American, American Indian, and Latino students from public institutions such as UCLA — how will Asian Pacific Americans respond?

Learning from the Legacy of the Asian American Movement

By Ellen D. Wu

Whenever I tell people I'm from Indiana, I can sense all sorts of images running through their minds. Corn. Basketball. David Letterman. Farms. Hoosiers. Fuzzy Zoeller. And almost inevitably, the question follows: "Are there Asians in Indiana?" Depending on my mood, I can give a sarcastic reply — "Well, there were six, but I left, so now there's only five" — or a serious one — "Yes, but not many. I went to IU (Indiana University), which is about the same size as UCLA, but there's only 3% Asian Americans there, as opposed to over 30% here." People usually shake their heads, sigh, or just sort of nod slowly.

It's easy to forget that the situation for Asian Pacific Islanders (APIs) in Indiana is somewhat more representative than L.A. of most of the country when you can stroll around campus or walk around the neighborhood here and see Asian faces wherever you look. Regardless of being 3% or 33%, however, APIs everywhere face the same struggles. Social injustice remains rampant nationwide — labor issues, immigration policies, and discrimination in the work place, are not restricted to any one location. APIs everywhere face the same struggles for self-determination and empowerment, but the tools and methods with which they fight are often different due to their surroundings.

Here in L.A., students are fighting to maintain and expand the Asian American Studies programs at their schools. They may look to faculty and administrators who share the common understanding of the need for Asian American Studies for help. At IU and many other schools in the Midwest, South, and East Coast, students are fighting to establish even one or two core Asian American Studies courses. Often there are few or no sympathetic faculty or administrators on those campuses. Instead, they have turned to hunger strikes, sit-ins, and building takeovers to call attention to their concerns.

The differences between the tools and methods used in the struggles result from varying levels of access to and availability of resources. Here in L.A. we are blessed with the most important of all resources: people. With people, you have potential power — politically, socially, and economically. Los Angeles in 1997 is home to one million APIs, diverse in a myriad of ways. There are South Asians, Southeast Asians, Pacific Islanders, East Asians, immigrants, second, third, fourth and fifth generations, queers, working, middle and upper classes, and multiracial APIs. We are of many colors and cultures but we share a space and a place. And here is precisely where our potential strength lies. We have ample human resources to effect positive political, social, and economic change. Our challenge today, as during the Asian American Movement of the 1960s and 70s, lies first in articulating our vision and second in mobilizing our communities to achieve our goals.

A critical scrutiny of the Movement is an important exercise for APIs today as we carry on the legacy of the Movement. For example, we can examine the ways in which activists of the Movement dealt with issues such as racism, imperialism, democracy, gender, violence, sexuality, class, and education in order to learn from their accomplishments as well as their mistakes. We can "cut

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

CrossCurrents is published twice yearly (Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter) and distributed in the community by Center staff. It is also mailed free to all subscribers of *Amerasia Journal*. Others who would like to receive *CrossCurrents* through the mail should subscribe to *Amerasia Journal* (see subscription information on pages 7 to 10 of this newsmagazine).

For more information about activities and programs of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, contact: 3230 Campbell Hall, Box 951546, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546; phone, (310) 825-2974; World Wide Web — www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc

and paste" ideas from the Movement, discarding some and tailoring others to fit the Asian America of the 1990s, so different from the Asian America of the 60s, as we build our mass movement, develop our ideologies, and nurture our own personal transformations.

Hopefully, through dialogue, we can come to a better understanding of how to channel our most valuable resource as Los Angelinos — people! — in order to better serve our communities, both at home and in those far away places like Indiana. All Power to the People!

(Ellen D. Wu is a second-year graduate student in Asian American Studies at UCLA. She delivered this speech at a recent student-organized forum on the legacy of the Asian American Movement for students today.)

Center Receives \$100,000 Grant from California Wellness Foundation to Study Violence among Asian American Youth

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center recently received a \$100,000 grant from the California Wellness Foundation to study youth violence among Asian Americans.

The one-year study will combine the expertise of scholars, community groups and leaders, judges, attorneys, youth counselors, county probation officers and law enforcement professionals.

"The issue of youth violence in Asian Pacific communities has risen to a top level of the leadership agenda of Asian Pacific Americans," said Professor Don Nakanishi, Center Director and the study's principal investigator.

"Like other minority communities, Asian Americans have their share of social problems, and among these is the problem of youth delinquency."

According to Professor Nakanishi, most of the scholarly literature about youth violence and gangs has focused on African Americans and Latinos.

The stereotype of Asians as a "model minority" has contributed to the inattention and neglect that the problem has received among scholars, funding organizations and public officials, he added.

The study will examine how factors such as culture and acculturation and the social processes associated with the development of identity affect the socialization of Asian American youth into violence.

Researchers hope to develop the data about youth violence in California using the subject population — both native-born and immigrants — within the juvenile justice system, the California Youth Authority and the probation departments of San Diego, Los Angeles, Orange, Santa Clara, San Francisco and Alameda counties.

Demographic data will be developed using background information such as family income and geographic location. The study will also examine Asian American gangs.

Previous studies have shown that although violence is not committed solely by youth belonging to gangs, there is increasing evidence that gang members are much more violent than non-gang individuals.

Researchers will assess case files on juveniles and conduct interviews with incarcerated youth and those on probation.

In addition to compiling data from a

"An essential part of this study is the bringing together of academic researchers and community-based professionals and practitioners in the field of youth violence and delinquency prevention. Together, they will explore and develop a paradigm for understanding Asian American delinquency and violence that goes beyond a law enforcement approach and instead takes into account broader social factors and processes."

**- Dr. Enrique Dela Cruz
Center Assistant Director**

variety of statewide resources, the study's investigators hope to organize focus groups with community leaders, representatives from the juvenile justice system, middle and high school counselors who are working with high-risk youth, the Asian Gang Unit of the Los Angeles Police Department and community-based youth organizations throughout Southern California.

"An essential part of this study is the bringing together of academic researchers and community-based professionals and practitioners in the field of youth violence and delinquency prevention," said Dr. Enrique Dela Cruz, Center Assistant Director and project manager for the important study.

"Together, they will explore and develop a paradigm for understanding Asian American delinquency and violence that goes beyond a law enforcement approach and instead takes into account broader social factors and processes."

Other members of the study's academic team include Professor Paul Ong of the School of Public Policy and Social Research and Professor David Takeuchi of Psychiatry, who has also served as Associate Director of the National Research Center of Asian American Mental Health at UCLA. Both professors are members of the Asian American Studies Center Faculty Advisory Committee.

Other investigators working on the study are Nghia Tran, an expert on youth violence in the Vietnamese community; and

Bagele Alsaybar, a Ph.D. student at UCLA who did pioneering research on Filipino American gangs for his M.A. thesis in Asian American Studies at UCLA.

For more information about this study, contact Dr. Enrique Dela Cruz at the Asian American Studies Center, (310) 825-2974.

So. California Asian Pacific Community Directory Now Available

The 1997 edition of the *Asian Pacific American Community Directory*, listing more than 750 organizations in Los Angeles and Orange counties, is now available, according to Meg Thornton, head of the project. The previous directory was published in 1994.

The directory is a project of the Student/Community Projects unit of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center.

New sections in this year's directory are a media section listing Asian ethnic media; a section on academic programs and student affairs pertaining to Asian Pacific Americans; and a section on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender organizations.

"We hope the directory will be a valuable resource and assist people and their organizations in supporting Asian Pacific Islander communities," said Nancy Kim, coordinator of the project.

The directory costs \$15. To order, call Darryl Mar, (310) 825-2968.

1997 CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS/ ENDOWMENTS

Angie Kwon Memorial Scholarship

Juliet Kim
Senior

Major: Study of Religion

Mark Ng
Junior

Major: Political Science

George and Sakaye Aratani Graduate Fellowship

Scott Kurashige
Ph.D. Program, History

Chidroi Aiso Memorial Scholarship

Karrie Segawa
Senior

Major: Chemical Engineering

Philip Vera Cruz Memorial Scholarship

Evageline Evangelista
Senior
Major: Biology

Faith Santilla
Pasadena City College
Junior
Major: Political Science

Royal Morales Prize

Christine Gonong
Senior
Major: Political Science

The George and Sakaye Aratani Community Fellowship and John Kubota Fellowship in Japanese American Studies were not awarded in 1997.

For more information and application forms for Center scholarships/endowments for the 1998 academic year, contact Meg Malpaya Thornton, head of Student/Community Projects, (310) 825-1006.

New Report Highlights Realities and Myths of Asian Pacific American Students

The higher education experiences and needs of Asian Pacific Americans today vary greatly, ranging from the high academic achievements of those in elite institutions to "at-risk" students and those with limited-English proficiency.

This was the main finding of a new report co-authored by Professor Shirley Hune, Associate Dean of the UCLA Graduate Division, and Professor Kenyon Chan, Chair of the Asian American Studies Department of California State University, Northridge.

The study — entitled "Special Focus: Asian Pacific American Demographic and Educational Trends" — was published as a special section to the American Council on Education's 15th Annual Status Report on Minorities in Higher Education.

Using U.S. Census data and past research, the report concludes that the Asian Pacific community should not be considered as a monolith in terms of educational experiences and needs.

On the one hand, more than 55% of Asian Pacific Americans between the ages of 18 and 24 are attending college — higher than that of the general population (34%) and other minority groups.

At the same time, a higher percentage of Asian Pacific Americans compared to the general population has only an eighth-grade education or less.

Moreover, the authors conclude that educational attainment has not resulted in income parity for Asian Pacific Americans with the U.S. population overall.

The study lists several recommendations including demythologizing the model minority myth; recruiting and retaining Asian Pacific American faculty; and building partnerships between K-12, universities and local Asian Pacific communities to develop English as a Second Language intervention programs to help students who would not otherwise succeed in school.

Copies of the 112-page report are available for \$24.95 from American Council on Education, Publications Department M, One Dupont Circle N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

Excerpts of the report were also published in the September 5, 1997 issue of *Asian Week* newspaper.

The special *Asian Week* coverage included brief accounts of the educational experience of five college students of various ethnic groups and backgrounds, including Shingly Lee of UCLA (see story of next page).

UCLA Asian Pacific Coalition Leaders Plan Big Year of Activities for 1997-98



Leaders of UCLA's undergraduate Asian Pacific Coalition, from left to right: Nimoal Sun, Financial Supports; Shingly Lee, Director; Amy Luu, Community Outreach; and Stephanie Wang, Internal Assistant Director.

From War-torn Laos to Fresno Farms to UCLA: Shingly Lee Heads Asian Pacific Coalition in 1997-98

By Eric C. Wat

Shingly Lee could have gone to college in the Fresno area where she grew up. After all, her four older brothers all attended California State University, Fresno. But Shingly chose UCLA after graduating from high school three years ago. She wanted to get away from Central California because she hated farming.

"I still don't like it," she said. "I hated getting up at 5:30 in the morning. I couldn't hang out after school because I had to go home. But whenever I'm home now, I want to help my parents because I know they've been sacrificing for me."

A political science major with a specialization in Asian American Studies, Shingly has begun to appreciate the importance of agriculture to her family. They emigrated from war-torn Laos 18 years ago and settled in Iowa, then Santa Ana, and finally Fresno, where there was much more of an established Hmong community. To support the family, her parents leased an acre of land and grew vegetables. Farming had always been a family affair; everyone, no matter how young or old, helped out in the field.

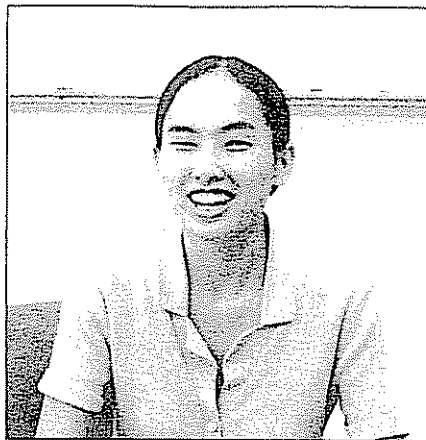
In retrospect, Shingly realizes that all those horrible, back-breaking days actually helped her family stay close and helped her to stay out of trouble.

"I really experienced the opposite of the model minority stereotype," she said. Shingly went to a high school where there were many working-class Southeast Asian refugees or recent immigrants. People thought that Shingly, already a student leader with a good grade point average, exemplified academic excellence. But she said that she was more the exception than the rule.

"My white teachers were surprised that my friends and I were not pregnant or married (by the time we graduated). The model minority myth didn't really apply in Fresno," she remembered.

It wasn't until her older sister went to UC Davis that Shingly began imagining herself somewhere other than Fresno. With a SAT score of less than 1200, she was surprised that she was admitted to UCLA. "I always thought I was a product of affirmative action," she said proudly.

Of course, there were barriers once she came to UCLA. As the sixth of nine children from a working-class family who went to college, she had to support her education herself much of the time. At one point, she held two jobs and worked about 30 hours a week. Having to work while taking a full



"The hardest part of being in L.A. is that no one knows what Hmong is."

- Shingly Lee

load of classes was miserable, but that wasn't the worst.

"The hardest part of being in L.A. is that no one knows what Hmong is," she said. The formation of the Hmong Students Association on campus last year has helped her feel a little less invisible. Before then, she battled her isolation by becoming active in other groups. When she was a freshman, she got involved in the Asian Pacific Coalition (APC), a panethnic alliance of about 20 mostly ethnic-specific student organizations at UCLA. Now as its first Hmong Director, she wants to help strengthen underrepresented Asian Pacific Islander student groups within APC.

"Smaller student groups are different than the more established, larger groups. They don't do big productions like cultural nights or dances," she explained. "They focus more on recruitment, which is more of a problem for underrepresented API communities. They need resources to go to the community and talk to young people. I think APC can help them find resources on campus."

She said that curricular reform is also a priority for today's API college students. "It's good that we do have ethnic studies centers and classes, but these perspectives are not represented in general education or mainstream classes," she said. "In most of the political science classes I took, their views on Third World countries were very patronizing. All of the professors I've had in my major were white males, except two, who

were white females. Only a few classes dealt with diversity."

Her academic experiences have not been without some bright spots, however. She thinks the Asian American Studies classes are much more intimate. "The TAs (teaching assistants) are more attentive to student needs," she said. "There is more of an opportunity to change students' lives. I always thought a lot of students could be motivated to become involved through these classes."

Furthermore, she is encouraged by a recent student campaign to push for an ethnic and gender studies requirement as part of UCLA's general education. UCLA is the only UC campus without such a requirement.

Even though the curriculum is not perfect, Shingly acknowledged UCLA has provided her with many opportunities. "Had I not gotten out of Fresno, I don't think I would've gone beyond the Hmong community and interacted with other people," she stated.

Besides being able to sharpen her leadership skills through APC, college has also opened up her mind to the diversity of people living in California. For example, APC has a long history of working with other student of color organizations. It has been an integral member of a multiracial, progressive coalition that has won control of the student government for the last three years.

One may think that Shingly is one of the lucky few who made it out of Fresno. Ironically, now that she is a student leader on one of the largest campuses in the country, her thoughts keep going back to her community.

"Before UCLA, I thought that I could just concentrate on making as much money as I can, that I could help my community by distributing my wealth," she said. "Now I know that's not how you empower your community."

She is taking the LSAT next year and wants to continue advocating for her community. Her parents agree that she would make a good lawyer; they think she talks too much.

(Eric Wat is the former Assistant Coordinator of Student/Community Projects of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. He is now a graduate student in American Studies at California State University, Fullerton.)

This article is reprinted with permission from the September 5, 1997, issue of Asian Week newspaper of San Francisco.

Smithsonian Exhibit on Wartime Internment and Redress Movement Coming to UCLA Oct. 30 to Dec. 22

The Asian American Studies Center is collaborating with the UCLA Powell College Library in organizing a series of public educational programs that will be held with the only Los Angeles showing of a national Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the United States Constitution." The exhibit, which focuses on the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans and the later successful effort to gain redress and reparations, will be on display in the newly renovated College Library from Oct. 30-Dec. 22.

UCLA alum, *Star Trek* actor, and long-time Center supporter George Takei will be the guest speaker at the Opening Ceremony on Oct. 30, 12 noon, at the library's main entrance. The UCLA Nikkei Student Union's renowned taiko drumming group will perform, and remarks will be made by Don Nakanishi, Center Director, and Diane Zwemer, the principal coordinator of the exhibit from the College Library staff.

During the seven-week run of the exhibit, the Center's faculty, staff, and students will be organizing an array of activities (see accompanying "Calendar of Events") to en-

hance understanding by individuals on campus and in the general public about how such a tragic event could have happened in our democratic society, and the lessons we should learn from it so that it never happens again.

Many of the powerfully moving photographs that comprise the exhibit, "A More Perfect Union," can be found in *Executive Order 9066: The Internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans*, which the Asian American Studies has just republished because of high public demand. It is available for \$13.95 by calling (310) 825-2968.

Noevir Cosmetics of Japan Donates \$10,000 to Center

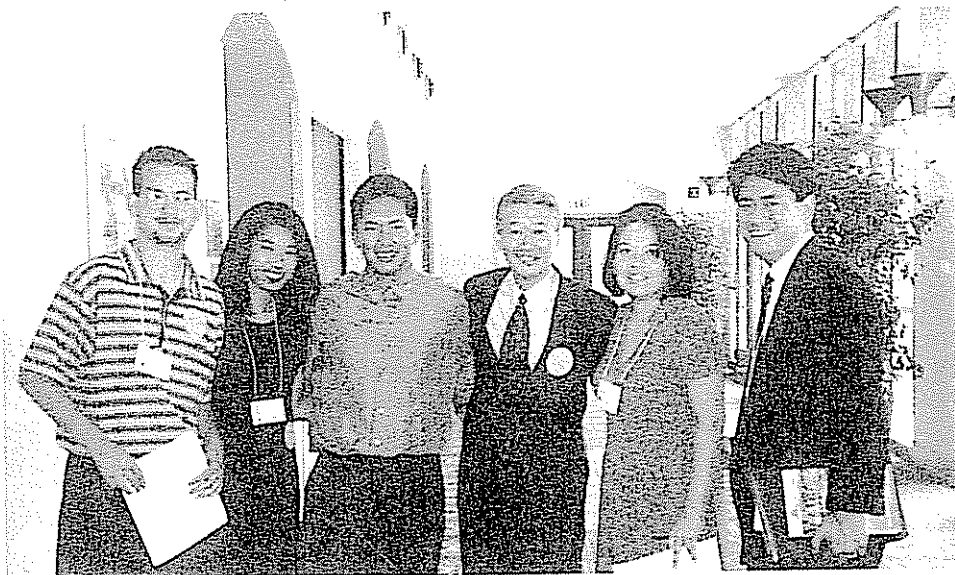
Noevir Cosmetics of Japan has donated \$10,000 to the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. The funds will be used for student scholarships and to support special projects of the Asian American Studies Center Reading Room/Library.

Center Director Don Nakanishi thanked KCBS-TV news anchor and UCLA alumna Tritia Toyota for her efforts in soliciting the donation.

Historic Conference on Japanese American Redress Movement Held at UCLA Sept. 11-13

An historic conference bringing together all sectors of the movement to gain redress and reparations for Japanese Americans for the World War II internment was held at UCLA September 11-13. The conference was organized by Profes-

sors Harry Kitano and Mitch Maki of Social Welfare and Asian American Studies, and Megan Berthold, a doctoral student in Social Welfare. Funding for the conference was provided by the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund.



Members of the Redress Conference Planning Committee meet with Congressman Robert Matsui — from left to right: Aaron Smart, Kim Tsuchida, Sean Mizuno, Congressman Matsui, Susan Nakaoka, and Conference co-organizer Professor Mitch Maki. Photo by David Minai

Calendar of Events

"A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans & the U.S. Constitution"

Oct. 30-Dec. 22

College Library Rotunda

Thurs., Oct. 30, 12 noon

Opening Ceremony, College Library
Featuring Nikkei Student Union Taiko and guest speaker George Takei; Video/newsreel screenings in IML Room 40

Sat., Nov 1 and 8; 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Teacher Training Conference

Featuring guest speakers, films, and workshops to enhance understanding of the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans, and to integrate into K-12 curriculum. Registration fee of \$35 includes breakfast, lunch, and curriculum materials. Cosponsored by Asian American Studies Center, Los Angeles Unified School District, and other groups.

Sat., Nov. 15, 10 am - 12 noon

Workshop: Should Redress Be Extended to Other Groups?

Organized by Professor Mitch Maki, Department of Social Welfare, and featuring panel of speakers; cosponsored by the School of Public Policy and Asian American Studies Center

Sat., Nov. 22, 10 am - 12 noon

Panel: Voices of Internment and Redress: Literature on the Internment Experience

Organized by Professors King-Kok Cheung and Jinqi Ling, Department of English, and featuring guest poets and writers, Hisaye Yamamoto, Amy Uyematsu, and Sesshu Foster; book-signing to follow; sponsored by the Asian American Studies Center

Sat., Dec. 6, 10 am - 12 noon

Panel: Remembering the Internment: Japanese Americans Share Their Memories So That It Will Never Happen Again

Organized by Professors Valerie Matsumoto, Department of History, and Don Nakanishi, Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, and featuring a panel of Japanese Americans, including UCLA alumni, who will share their personal experiences of being incarcerated during WW II; sponsored by Asian American Studies Center

Author / Book Talks Series

Dates to be announced; cosponsored by UCLA BookZone

Video/Newsreel Screenings

Dates to be announced; cosponsored by the UCLA Film & TV Archives and Asian American Studies Center

Amerasia Journal



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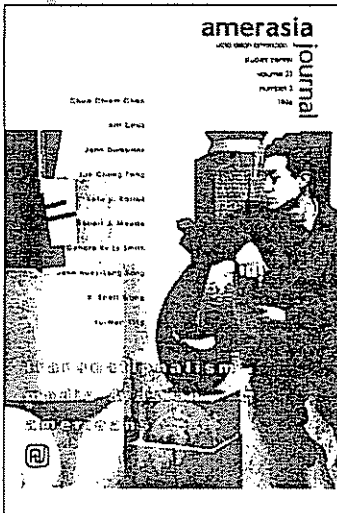
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Dear Teachers, Librarians & Readers:

In the 1990s, Asian Americans have been in the news, cornered uncomfortably between Black and White, squeezed somewhere between Asia and America, or awkwardly "mainstreamed" or "marginalized," lost in the morass of popular Hollywood culture and unpopular xenophobic sentiments. As a concerned teacher, librarian, or active citizen who believes in the multiracial promise of America, you want to know more about Asian Americans—but how do you separate fact and informed viewpoints from media fiction, stereotypes, and misnomers?



For almost three decades, the University of California's Asian American Studies Center has published the *Amerasia Journal*—the foremost, most comprehensive, and intellectually provocative single source on Asian Americans. Two-hundred pages in every issue, book reviews, an annual bibliography and superbly-researched articles—informative and jargon-free—assure you of quality, informed reading. *Amerasia Journal* is a boon and indispensable resource for teachers, researchers, and students.



Amerasia Journal is a forum for the leading Asian American scholars, intellectuals, and writers of our times. And our institutional subscribers within the U.S. and across the world, agree. They include the libraries of the University of California, Harvard, University of Massachusetts, Wellesley, Brandeis, Brown, Phillips Exeter, Stanford, Yale, Rutgers, Amherst, Sarah Lawrence, the City Colleges of New York, University of Pennsylvania, Carnegie-Mellon, Cornell, Swarthmore, University of Wisconsin, Columbia, and many hundreds more. Internationally, *Amerasia* subscribers include individuals and libraries in the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Singapore, Japan, Germany, France, England, Australia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Korea.

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AMERASIA JOURNAL is by far the best periodical in the general field of Asian American Studies. It intends to be a vehicle for the publication of scholarly articles on all Asian Americans as well as a place where creative Asian American writers can publish their latest efforts. Its articles contain information and perspectives difficult or impossible to locate elsewhere. This journal is highly recommended for all academic collections and for large public libraries. —SERIALS REVIEW

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1. What national journal does *Choice*, *American Quarterly*, and *Serials Review* cite as "by far the best periodical in the the general field of Asian American Studies" since 1971? *Amerasia Journal*
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3. What national Asian American publication is superbly designed, researched, and bound as a 200-page quality book and comes out three times a year? (and soon to be on microfilm/microfiche, CD-ROM) *Amerasia Journal*
4. What national journal publishes scholarly research, critical essays, and creative writings both on and by Asian and Pacific Americans and is used to teach nationwide? *Amerasia Journal*

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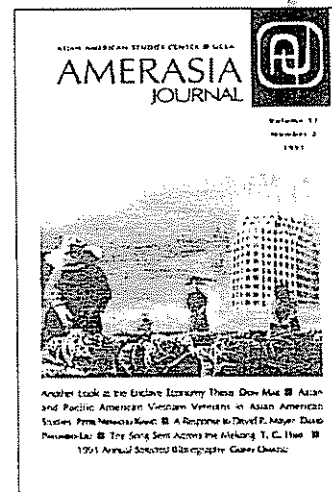
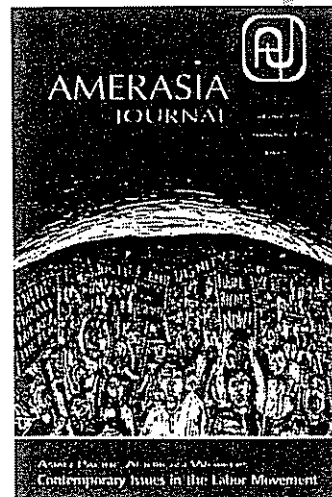
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Article excerpts from AMERASIA scholars and writers (see forthcoming articles and special theme issues on our web page, <http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc>)

Philip Tajitsu Nash on **RACE & MULTIRACIAL ASIANS**

"Any system of classification says as much about the classifiers as the classified. In the case of the U.S. Census, two examples illustrate this point. First, Asian Indians were classified by the United States Census as 'Hindus' in 1920, 1930, and 1940, as 'White' in 1950 and 1960, and as 'Asian or Pacific Islander' since 1970. Second, if Alberto Fujimori, a second generation Japanese Peruvian who currently is president of Peru, decided to move here and become an American citizen, he would find that there is no census niche for people who are of both Asian and Hispanic origin. 'Hispanics,' as an ethnic group and not a race, were reasoned by some to have only European and African roots, not Asian or Native American ones. . . ."

"Will the Census Go Multiracial?"—Vol. 23:1, 1997

Dana Takagi on **WOMEN, FEMINISM & SEXUALITIES**

"While many minority women speak of 'triple jeopardy' oppression—as if class, race and gender could be disentangled into discrete additive parts—some Asian American lesbians could rightfully claim quadruple counting. Marginalization is not as much about the quantities of experiences as it is about qualities of experience. And, as many writers, most notably feminists, have argued, identities whether sourced from sexual desire, racial origins, languages of gender, or class roots, are simply not additive. . . ."

"Maiden Voyage: Excursion into Sexuality and Identity Politics in Asian America"—Vol. 20:1, 1994

E. San Juan, Jr. on **MIGRATION & NATIONAL IDENTITY**

"In the context of globalized capitalism today, the Filipino diaspora acquires a distinctive physiognomy and temper. It is a fusion of exile and migration: the scattering of a people, not yet a fully matured nation, to the ends of the earth, across the planet throughout the 60s and 70s, continuing up to the present. We are now a quasi-wandering people, pilgrims or prospectors staking our lives and futures all over the world—in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, North and South America, in Australia and all of Asia, in every nook and cranny of this seemingly godforsaken earth. No one yet has performed a "cognitive mapping" of these movements, their geometry and velocity, across national boundaries, mocking the carnivalesque borderland hallucinations glorified by academics of color. . . ."

"Fragments from a Filipino Exile's Journal"—Vol. 23:2, 1997

Kyeyoung Park on **ASIAN, AFRICAN AMERICAN, & LATINO COMMUNITIES**

"In the aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles Rebellion, liquor stores have emerged as the dominant symbol of social ills in South Central Los Angeles. . . . A community coalition of African American and Latino residents in South Central has rallied against rebuilding liquor stores. Unfortunately, because many stores were run by Korean immigrant merchants, this issue has become another incident polarizing ethnic communities. . . ."

"The Morality of a Commodity: A Case Study of Rebuilding L.A. without Liquor Stores"—Vol. 21:3, 1996

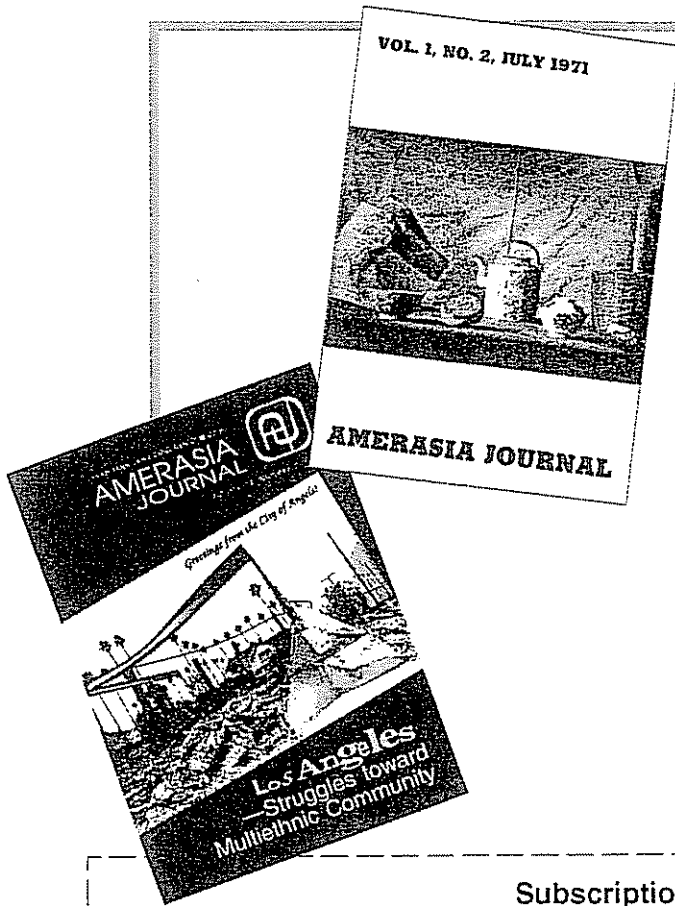
Haunani-Kay Trask on **PACIFIC ISLANDERS, HISTORY & ECOLOGY**

"Native Hawaiians, like other Pacific Islanders, view the ancestral Pacific as the repository of their history, including great genealogies of fearless navigators who made their journeys from island to island and hemisphere to hemisphere with nothing but the stars to guide them. More the children of the sea than the land, Pacific Islanders know their survival as distinct peoples depends on the survival of the Pacific itself. The First World nations must still learn what Pacific Islanders have known for millennia: upon the survival of the Pacific depends the survival of the world. . . ."

"Politics in the Pacific Islands"—Vol. 16:1, 1990

Who writes for AMERASIA JOURNAL? Hundreds of scholars, writers & reviewers include: Meena Alexander, Peter Bacho, Edna Bonacich, Rudy Busto, Sucheng Chan, Edward Chang, Gordon C. Chang, Lucie Cheng, Frank Chin, Rockwell Chin, Thuy Dinh, Thomas A. DuBois, David Eng, Yen Le Espiritu, NVM Gonzalez, Lane Hirabayashi, Alica Hom, Marlen Hom, Evelyn Hu-Dehart, Velina Hasu Houston, Shirley Hune, Yui Ichioka, Lawson Fusao Inada, Snehendri B. Kar, Peter Kiang, Nazi Kibria, Elaine Kim, Domine Kondo, Vinay Lal, Him Mark Lai, Karen Leonard, R. Zamora Linmark, Miriam Chung Louie, Lisa Lowe, Martin F. Manalansan, Pyong Gap Min, Dale Minam, Janice Minkitani, Don T. Nakanishi, Franklin Ng, Gail Nomura, Minh Duc Nguyen, Gary Okniro, Michael Omi, Paul Ong, David Palumbo-Liu, Kyeyoung Park, Saleem Peeradina, Steffi San-Buenaventura, E. San Juan, Jr., Miziko Sawada, Alexander Sexton, Stanley Sue, Dana Takagi, Ronald Takaki, Took Took Thongthiraj, Haunani-Kay Trask, Monique Truong, Daniel C. Tsang, Bonnie TuSmith, L. Ling-chi Wang, Teresa Kay Williams, Sauling C. Wong, K. Scott Wong, Hisaye Yamamoto, David Yoo. . . and many more. Forthcoming: Multiracia: writers from the former Soviet Union, Central & Latin America, and Canada.





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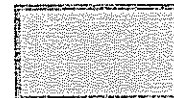
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Amerasia Journal Special Issue Explores Perspectives and Identities of Asian-Descent Multiracial Americans

"No Passing Zone: The Artistic and Discursive Voices of Asian-Descent Multiracials" is the title of the thought-provoking special issue of *Amerasia Journal* exploring the experiences of Asian-descent multiracials.

Guest editors for the special issue are Velina Hasu Houston, a playwright and Associate Professor and Director of the Playwriting Program at the School of Theater, University of Southern California; and Teresa Kay Williams, a graduate of the M.A. program in Asian American Studies at UCLA and currently Assistant Professor of Asian American Studies at California State University, Northridge.

The issue costs \$12 (use order form on page 10 of this newsmagazine; or call Darryl Mar at (310) 825-2968).

The following passage is excerpted with the permission of *Amerasia Journal* from the introduction to the special issue by the co-editors:

"The co-editors, as people who embrace our biculturalism, binationalism, and biraciality, joined together nearly ten years ago to begin a long journey of exploration and discovery about the nature of being Amerasian/Asian-descent multira-

cial in America and Asia. As we celebrate our common ground and explore and attempt to come to terms with our differences, the journey continues. We offer it as an enriching and illuminating addition to the ongoing discourse — emanating from diverse fields — on multiracial identity. . . .

"The co-editors of this volume are Asian-descent multiracials of diverse backgrounds, one of us being of European ancestry and the other of African ancestry. In struggling to move away from the Black-White racial binary that prevails in a majority of U.S. discourse, we decided to take an interdisciplinary approach to this anthology. In so doing, we have included the important and often pioneering ground broken by multiracial artists and literary intelligentsia as the muses inspire them to comment upon multiraciality via means that often impact the general public in a deeper way than scientific discourse may allow. Such an approach to anthologizing multiracial voices is new and, we think, long overdue and necessary in the name of celebrating difference."

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Two Pioneering Books Republished by Center

The UCLA Asian American Studies Center has reprinted two pioneering works: *Moving the Image: Independent Asian Pacific American Media Arts and Executive Order 9066: The Internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans*.

Moving the Image is edited by Russell Leong, one of the foremost analysts of the Asian American experience, and is widely used in film and media classes around the nation. The price is \$25 for the paperback edition.

Executive Order 9066 by Maisie and Richard Conrat was first published in 1971 and republished by the Asian American Studies Center in 1992 on the 50th anniversary of the wartime internment. The price is \$13.95.

To place an order, call Darryl Mar at (310) 825-2968.

Immigration Book Nominated for Award

The Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights in North America has nominated *Reframing the Immigration Debate*, edited by Bill Ong Hing and Robert Lee, for its tenth annual award for the best scholarship on the subject of intolerance. The book is the third major joint policy research report of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and the LEAP Asian Pacific American Policy Institute.

The book is available from the Asian American Studies Center for \$17. Call Darryl Mar, (310) 825-2968.

UCLA Asian American Studies Center Web Page: www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc

Students Gain Online Asian American Studies Degree Check Tool

A student "Progress Degree Check Tool" is the newest feature on the Asian American Studies Center's web page (www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc).

The tool is designed to help students gauge progress toward completion of their undergraduate major and minor in Asian American Studies as well as to facilitate registration for classes for those majoring in the field. The tool is also set up for graduate students in the Center's M.A. program.

Center webmaster Gene Moy explained the workings of the tool: "Like Gaul at the time of the Roman invasion, the screen is divided into three parts — a toolbar at the top, a degree information frame to the left, and a registration and class schedule frame to the right."

UCLA's Four Ethnic Studies Centers Launch New Publications Web Site

The four Ethnic Studies Centers at UCLA now have a web site containing information about the publications they put out. The web address is <http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/esp/>

Listed on the site is ordering information for journals, books, and other important resources developed by the Asian American Studies Center, American Indian Studies Center, Center for African American Studies, and Chicano Studies Research Center at UCLA.

The site contains the table of contents of issues of *Amerasia Journal* published from 1978 to the present.

The site was designed by Gene Moy, a graduate student in Asian American Studies. He is also currently working as the Coordinator of ACON, Asian Community Online Network.

UCLA Ethnic Studies Centers' Publications Web Page: <http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/esp/>

Revisiting Walnut Grove: The Culture of My Past and My Future

By Susan Nakaoka

This July, I told my parents I wanted to go to the annual Walnut Grove Buddhist Bazaar in northern California. "We've never gone before, why do you want to go now?" my father asked. I told him I wanted to take Grant, my two-year-old son.

Growing up, I always felt that Walnut Grove was a hot, boring place to visit. But we went every year. A small town in the Sacramento River Delta, it didn't even have paved streets, much less a movie theater or video arcade. My Dad had grown up in Walnut Grove. He would proudly point out the pear orchards that he worked in as a teenager, the building where he took Japanese school, and the river road where he would speed down in his '68 Ford Mustang on dangerous, foggy nights. My Mom and I would groan at the same old stories that we heard every year.

We would stay in my father's childhood home, a two-story house attached to the storefront that was the family's bait shop. It was spooky to walk through the old store, with broken neon signs lying around the display cases that still contained some fishing gear.

My grandmother would prepare for our arrival for days, making the beds and cooking all night. She would tell us in her broken English, "eat lots, I made this for you, eat lots!"

At night, my Mom and I would be kept awake by loud voices: my grandmother relaying to my Dad all the town's gossip — who moved away, who had died, and whose grandchildren had graduated from college. As one of only a few long-time residents, my Grandma knew all the latest information.

After a few days, we would prepare to leave, and Grandma would inevitably bring out several gifts for us to take home, things she had made herself — a crocheted blanket, umbrellas made of cigarette wrappers, and other homemade crafts. We would say good-bye, not to see each other again for at least another year.

This year I surprised my Dad by requesting the trip to Walnut Grove. We hadn't made the trip to Walnut Grove since my son had been born. It was too hot, and the trip too long for a baby, my Mom thought. My grandmother is getting older, and she only stays at the old house when she has visitors; otherwise, she stays with my uncle in Sacramento. My Dad willingly planned the trip, knowing that he should visit his mother more often now that she is getting older.

I wanted my two-year-old son to experience the Walnut Grove I knew and to spend more time with his great grandmother, a Nisei who was born in the small town but had been

educated in Japan. I wanted him to hear the same boring stories of my Dad picking fruit in the summer, to know of the sacrifices that were made for us so that we would never know the hard work that our Issei and Nisei ancestors had to do. I wanted him to see the town that had once been a Japanese immigrant town and now had only a handful of surviving Issei who would not leave the town until they left the earth. I wanted him to play the games at the 42nd Annual Walnut Grove Bazaar, so that he would be a part of his own history and see the culture that he was born into — before it was gone.

The bazaar was small (by Los Angeles standards) — a few booths of carnival-style games surrounded a larger area where games of bingo were being called. Food was a big draw, and many people were crowded around a small group of tables to eat. A small group of youth performed *taiko* on Japanese drums in front of the temple.

The bazaar provided what I hoped it would. It was a

gathering of community and culture. Men and women who were former residents spent four weekends preparing for the event, building the booths and canopy, preparing the famous teriyaki chicken and sushi to sell to all who would come. Hundreds of community members came back for the bazaar, many of whom now live in Sacramento or surrounding towns. Issei, Nisei, Sansei and Yonsei represented four generations of what was built by the original Issei settlers of the area. They were joined by the newest residents of Walnut Grove, Mexican immigrants who had moved in to work in the local farming communities. Also, the white residents drove across the bridge to purchase some food and play

"I wanted my two-year-old son to experience the Walnut Grove I knew . . . to know of the sacrifices that were made for us so that we would never know the hard work that our Issei and Nisei ancestors had to do. I wanted him to see the town that had once been a Japanese immigrant town . . . so that he would be a part of his own history and see the culture that he was born into — before it was gone."

bingo.

For my family, it was probably the last time we would sleep in the old house. My grandmother has health problems and her memory is fading, so she could not stay up and cook for us this time — although she still insisted that we eat whatever was on the table. My Dad didn't remember who some people were, and my grandmother hadn't been able to talk to many others to get the latest gossip.

But still, the culture of the past and the future did meet in Walnut Grove this year. As I look back on the trip, I remember smiling as I watched my son and my Dad playing the "fishing pole" game — a game I had played while growing up. That is why I wanted to return to Walnut Grove.

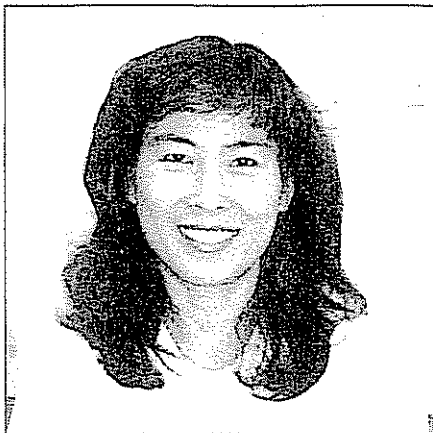
(Susan Nakaoka is pursuing a joint masters degree in Asian American Studies and Social Welfare at UCLA.)

Two More Asian American Professors Granted Tenure at UCLA in 1997

Two more professors who are affiliated with the Center were promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure at the end of Spring quarter 1997. They are Professor Min Zhou, who holds a joint position in Asian American Studies and Sociology, and Professor Ailee Moon of Social Welfare, who has been a member of the Center's Faculty Advisory Committee throughout her UCLA career.

Professor Zhou, who teaches the introductory course on the contemporary Asian American experience (AAS 100B) and graduate seminars on immigration theory (AAS 297), has published extensively on the processes of immigrant community development and acculturation. The author of *Chinatown: The Socioeconomic Potential of an Urban Enclave* (1992), she has completed a book on the education of Vietnamese American youth, which will be published by Russell Sage in Fall 1997.

Professor Moon, an expert on social policy issues relating to the elderly, has been an active contributor to the Center. She has developed an extensive research agenda on issues affecting Korean American elderly, youth, and families, and her publications reflect an innovative integration of social welfare theory and practice, along with an in-depth understanding of Korean American social service needs. Her work on elder abuse in Asian Pacific American and other minority communities is pioneering.



Professor Min Zhou of Sociology / Asian American Studies



Professor Ailee Moon of Social Welfare

Pacific Bell/Pacific Telesis Providing Funding for 1997-1998 Asian Pacific American Political Almanac

Pacific Bell/Pacific Telesis is again the principal corporate sponsor of the 1997-98 *National Asian Pacific American Political Almanac*, which has been described as "the indispensable guide to Asian American political representation and participation."

Through a grant of \$15,000 from its partnership with United Way, the telecommunications company is supporting the distribution of the 200-page political resource book to community organizations and libraries and the creation of an interactive internet site.

James Lai, the senior editor of the almanac, said, "We are extremely grateful to Pacific Bell/Pacific Telesis for their con-

tinued partnership with us in sharing this important information about the status of Asian American politics to the general public and to Asian American communities. During a year in which so many myths and inaccuracies about Asian American political involvement have appeared in the nation's media, we feel it is absolutely necessary to present the real facts about Asian American political representation."

The 1997-98 *National Asian Pacific American Political Almanac* will be available soon. To place an order, call Darryl Mar at the Asian American Studies Center, (310) 825-2968.

Center Announces New Undergraduate Minor in Asian American Studies

UCLA undergraduates now have the opportunity to minor in Asian American Studies. According to Center Assistant Director Enrique Dela Cruz, the new minor was implemented in Fall Quarter 1997. The minor consists of seven classes; students interested in the minor should set up an appointment with an academic counselor at the Asian American Studies Center to discuss specific degree requirements.

"The significance of the minor is that it will give more depth to undergraduates who are majoring in any of a number of fields," stated Dr. Dela Cruz.

The minor also complements the undergraduate major. Currently, the Asian American Studies major is attracting growing interest from undergraduates. Moreover, according to information compiled by Dr. Dela Cruz, more than half of students majoring in Asian American Studies are double majors.

New Joint Masters Degree Programs Proposed

UCLA will soon have two new joint masters degree programs linking Asian American Studies to Public Health and Social Welfare, according to Center Assistant Director Enrique Dela Cruz. The new joint degrees are expected to be approved within the coming year. A third joint degree has been proposed for Asian American Studies and Law.

Dr. Dela Cruz thanked Professor Margorie Kagawa-Singer for her work on the Public Health joint degree proposal. Professor Kagawa-Singer holds a joint appointment in Asian American Studies and Public Health and is also the new book review editor in the field of social sciences for *Amerasia Journal*.

Judy Soohoo Wins Playwright Award

Judy Soohoo, a graduate of the M.A. program in Asian American Studies, won second place in the East West Players New Voices Playwriting Competition. She won a cash award of \$500 for her play, "Refrigerators," a look at women, relationships and food, and the ways people keep parts of their lives locked in cold storage.

Judy received her M.A. in Asian American Studies in 1992 for her thesis "The Failure of Gender Transformations in Bharati Mukherjee."

Currently, she is compiling our Reading Room's Annual Bibliography of research citations in Asian American Studies. The bibliography is available in both print and electronic formats.



Center Welcomes Postdoctoral Fellow Sandhya Rajendra Shukla

Dr. Sandhya Rajendra Shukla is the Postdoctoral Fellow at the UCLA Asian American Studies Center for 1997-98 under the Institute of American Cultures.

Dr. Shukla holds a Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale University. Her dissertation topic was "India Abroad: Ethnic Identities in the United States and Britain, 1947-1990."

She also holds masters' degrees from Yale in Philosophy and African and American Studies and a B.A. from Cornell University.

Dr. Shukla has taught Asian American Studies, American Studies, and Women's Studies courses at University of California, San Diego, Wesleyan University in Connecticut, and Yale University. She was also a Visiting Research Fellow at Goldsmiths' College, University of London, England, in 1994.

As a Postdoctoral Fellow, she will be conducting research for a book project on the Indian Diaspora in the United States and England, based on her doctoral dissertation.

She is also teaching a graduate seminar at UCLA during Fall Quarter, "Transnational Perspectives on Ethnicity."

Prof. Nancy Harada Receives Major VA Research Grant

Professor Nancy Harada, a member of the Center's Faculty Advisory Committee, has been awarded a major grant of \$970,000 from the Veterans Administration on Minority Veterans to investigate "Ethnicity and Veteran Identity as Determinants of VA Ambulatory Care Use."

Professor Harada is a UCLA alumna and holds an appointment at UCLA in Medicine/GRECC.

She is part of the MEDTEP medical research center affiliated with the Asian American Studies Center.

IAC Grants Support Research Projects in Asian American Studies

The Institute of American Cultures (IAC) announced the following grants and graduate fellowships for 1997-98 to support research projects in the field of Asian American Studies.

Faculty/Staff

Shoichi Iwasaki, East Asian Languages and Cultures, "A Sociolinguistic Study of Discourse Organization and Behavioral Patterns among Asian Immigrants"

Clara Chu, Library & Information Science, "Computer Usage by Asians and Pacific Islanders"

Marji Lee, Asian American Studies Librarian, "The Anti-Marcos Movement: A Bibliographic Project"

Russell C. Leong, Editor, *Amerasia Journal*, "N. V. M. Gonzalez: A Story Yet To Be Told"

Predocctoral Fellowships

Alice Yick, Social Welfare, "Chinese Americans and Domestic Violence"

Lynn Itagaki, Asian American Studies, "A Literary Analysis of Cynthia Kadohata's *In the Heart of the Valley of Love*;"

Virginia Kay Dumlao, Asian American Studies, "The Struggle Continues: Lives of Filipino American Veterans"

Graduate Students

Anna Lau, Psychology, "Chinese American Children At Risk: The Impact of Parental Distress, Acculturative Stress, and Child Mistreatment"

Constance Chen, History, "Collecting the Orient(al): Art, Politics, and Modernity in the United States, 1893-1944"

Ayanna Yonemura, Urban Planning, "Planning and the Internment of Japanese Americans: The Hidden History of

Prof. Kyeyoung Park's New Book Focuses on Status of New Korean Immigrants

The Korean American Dream: Immigrants and Small Business in New York City is the title of a new book written by Professor Kyeyoung Park of Anthropology and Asian American Studies.

Professor Park's book is an ethnographic study of Korean immigrants in Queens, New York, and examines how small business activities have redefined Korean immigrants' family and gender relations, interactions with other ethnic and racial groups in America, and views of American society.

The book is available in paperback and cloth editions from the publisher, Cornell University Press.

Planning's Influence in the Creation and Administration of the Internment Camps"

Jennifer Lee, Asian American Studies, "Intergenerational Succession Patterns of Korean American Entrepreneurs"

Mei-Hua Huang, Community Health Science, "Validation of Dietary Assessment Tools for Estimating Usual Intake of Phytoestrogens"

Janet Chang, Social Welfare, "Korean Immigrant Women's Post Divorce Adjustment"

Lynn Itagaki, Asian American Studies, "A Literary Analysis of Cynthia Kadohata's *In the Heart of the Valley of Love*;"

Sue Kim, Nursing, "Health Promotion Behaviors among Korean American Women in Mid-life"

Rosemary Viniegas, Psychology, "'Women and Minorities Are Encouraged to Apply': Dual Stigmatized Status and Reactions to Discrimination"

Virginia Kay Dumlao, Asian American Studies, "The Struggle Continues: Lives of Filipino American Veterans"

Nancy Kim, Asian American Studies, "Gender Demonstrations: Asian American Women in Student Leadership"

Arleen De Vera Wins Fulbright Grant to Do Philippines Research

Arleen de Vera, a graduate student in the UCLA History Ph.D. program, has been awarded a Fulbright Grant for research in the Philippines.

de Vera completed the masters program in Asian American Studies at UCLA in 1990, writing a pathbreaking research thesis titled "An Unfinished Agenda: Filipino Immigrant Workers in the Era of McCarthyism; a Case Study of the Cannery Workers and Farm Laborers Union, 1948-1995.

In 1992, her essay, "Without Parallel: The Local 7 Deportation Cases, 1949-1955," which was based on her M.A. thesis, won the Alexander Saxton History Essay Award and published in *Amerasia Journal* in 1994.

The essay deals with the Seattle-based Alaska cannery workers union during the McCarthy period when union leaders and members were persecuted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. During the late 1930s, Local 7 was one of the most multiethnic unions in America with a membership of Chinese, Japanese, Mexican, Filipino, and white workers. After World War II, however, its membership was composed primarily of Filipino immigrant workers.

Center Welcomes Two New Staff Members

The Asian American Studies Center welcomes two new staff members: Thao Lam and Sefa Aina.

Thao Lam is the Center's new Curriculum Assistant and is now overseeing our graduate and undergraduate programs and grants and fellowships.

Thao received her B.A. and M.A. in English, with an emphasis on Asian American literature, from UC Riverside, where she was also active in the Vietnamese American Students Association. Before coming to our Center, she worked for an internet company.

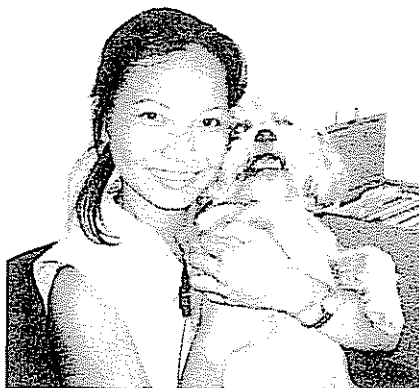
Born in Vietnam, Thao spent a year in Florida, and then grew up in Union City—a small city that she describes as having "only two (freeway) exits."

She considers the San Francisco Bay Area as her home. "I love the Bay Area," she states.

Thao aspires to become a college professor and is interested in Asian American Studies, feminist studies, and postcolonial studies.

In the meantime, she is working at our Center and taking care of two dogs—her own dog, Charley Brown, and another, Toby, that she adopted from a friend because she did not want it to be without a home.

Thao replaces Maria V. Ventura, who has begun a new career as an elementary school teacher in the Inglewood School District.



Thao Lam, Curriculum Assistant, with her dog, Charley Brown

Josefa F. Aina—or "Sefa," as he prefers to be called—is the new Assistant Coordinator of Student and Community Programs, where he is working with student and community groups and advising students who are interested in our various degree programs.

Sefa was born in Honolulu but grew up in San Diego. He is a June 1997 graduate of UCLA, where he served for three years as president of the Pacific Islanders Students Association (PISA). He also worked throughout his undergraduate years at the John Wooden Center.

"I'm not a person who does a lot of theorizing," says Sefa. "I try to answer prob-

lems right away. It's important to see results."

"On a campus the size of UCLA, there are only seven Samoans," he adds. "The feeling of loneliness and isolation is indescribable. Through my work with PISA, we tried to address the issue in the form of massive outreach to Pacific Islander high school students."

During his three years as PISA president, the group expanded its high school outreach program ten-fold and now reaches over 500 students in the greater Los Angeles area.

At the 1996 Pacific Islander Conference at San Francisco State University, Sefa introduced the concept of a network of university Pacific Islander groups, which has since become the Pacific Unity Alliance.

In the future, Sefa would like to return to communities with high concentrations of Pacific Islanders to work as a counselor or teacher.

Sefa replaces Eric Wat, who is completing his masters degree in American Studies at California State University, Fullerton, and preparing for a new career as a writer and waiter.

Dr. Enrique Dela Cruz Elected President of Educational Group

Dr. Enrique Dela Cruz, the Assistant Director of the Asian American Studies Center, has been elected as the new president of APAHE (Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education), the major professional association and advocacy group for Asian Americans in higher education in California.

Dr. Dela Cruz has been long active with APAHE, serving most recently as vice president of the organization, and has testified on behalf of the group at a number of legislative hearings.

Kathy Kim Named First Director of Development for Four Ethnic Studies Centers at UCLA

Kathy Kim, who has been long involved in the Asian American community as well as multiethnic communities of Los Angeles, has been appointed the first Director of Development for the Ethnic Studies at UCLA.

In this capacity, she will assist the four ethnic studies centers—Asian American Studies Center, American Indian Studies Center, Center for African American Studies, and Chicano Studies Research Center—in developing fund-raising strategies, soliciting major gifts, and cultivating projects and volunteers.

"Being a newly created office, there are definitely challenges," she stated. "But I've always enjoyed making things happen from scratch. My number one priority is to make the four ethnic studies centers a visible and integral part of the UCLA Campaign."

Before coming to UCLA, she served



as the Executive Director of Living Literature Colors United, a school-based literature and performing arts organization for the inner-city youth.

Kathy Kim can be reached at UCLA at (310) 825-1151.