

Contributors

Biographies

Terry M. Ao is the director of the census and voting programs for the Asian American Justice Center (AAJC). A national expert on decennial census and census policy matters, Ms. Ao co-chairs the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights' Census Task Force with the National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials (NALEO) and sits on the U.S Department of Commerce's 2010 Census Advisory Committee as a permanent substitute advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. She is also a leading expert on section 203 of the Voting Rights Act, reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, and election protection. Ms. Ao received her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from American University Washington College of Law and her Bachelor's degree in economics at the University of Chicago.

Mitchell J. Chang is Professor of Education at University of California, Los Angeles and also holds a joint appointment in UCLA's Asian American Studies Department. His research focuses on the educational efficacy of diversity-related initiatives on college campuses and how to apply those best practices toward advancing student learning and democratizing institutions. He has written over 50 articles and book chapters, including a book cited in the 2003 U.S. Supreme Court ruling of *Grutter v. Bollinger*, one of two cases involving the use of race-sensitive admissions practices at the University of Michigan. He obtained his Ph.D. in Education from UCLA, Ed.M. from Harvard Graduate School of Education, and B.A. from University California, Santa Barbara in Psychology.

Yen Le Espiritu received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1990. She is currently Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, San Diego. Focusing on Asian America, her research has sought to challenge the homogeneous descriptions of communities of color and the narrowness of mutually exclusive binaries by attending to generational, ethnic, class, and gender variations within constructed racial categories. In particular, her work has called attention to the ways in which racial-

ized ethnicity is relational rather than atomized and discrete and the ways in which group identities necessarily form through interaction with other groups “through complicated experiences of conflict and cooperation” and in structural contexts of power. Her latest book, *Home Bound: Filipino American Lives Across Cultures, Communities, and Countries* (UC Press, 2003), received two national book awards. Her current research projects explore public commemorations of the Vietnam War and Vietnamese and Vietnamese American transnational lives.

Chi-kan Richard Hung is an Assistant Professor at the College of Public and Community Service, University of Massachusetts Boston. His research focuses on nonprofit organizations, Asian American civic and political participation, and microfinance. He has published in *AAPINexus*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, and *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*. Professor Hung has served on the board of several professional and community organizations. He received his Ph.D. in Public Policy from Indiana University.

Jerry Kang is Professor of Law at University of California, Los Angeles School of Law. His teaching and scholarly pursuits include civil procedure, race, and communications. On race, he has focused on the nexus between implicit bias and the law, with the goal of importing recent scientific findings from the mind sciences into legal discourse and policymaking. He is also an expert on Asian American communities, and has written about hate crimes, affirmative action, the Japanese American internment, and its lessons for the “War on Terror.” On communications, Professor Kang has published on the topics of cyberspace privacy, pervasive computing, social cognitive analyses of mass media policy, and cyber-race. He is also the author of *Communications Law & Policy: Cases and Materials* (3d edition Foundation 2008), a leading casebook in the field. He joined UCLA in 1995 and was elected Professor of the Year in 1998 and received the Rutter Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2007.

Claire Jean Kim is Associate Professor of Political Science and Asian American Studies at University of California, Irvine. She also

holds a courtesy appointment in African American Studies. She is the author of *Bitter Fruit: The Politics of Black-Korean Conflict in New York City* (Yale University Press, 2000) which won the American Political Science Association's Ralph Bunche Award for the best book on ethnic and cultural pluralism. She is also the author of numerous articles on race, social movements, and multiculturalism. From 1999-2000, Kim was a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. She is currently working on a book that explores controversies over immigrant cultural practices.

Marlene Kim is Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Boston, where she specializes in labor economics. She is editor of *Race and Economic Opportunity in the Twenty-First Century* (Routledge 2007) as well as numerous scholarly articles in social science journals. She is the recipient of the first Rhonda Williams Prize from the International Association for Feminist Economics for her work on race and gender discrimination and serves on the Editorial Board of the *Review of Radical Political Economy*. Her current research investigates race and gender discrimination, especially the intersection of these, and the working poor. She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

Taeku Lee is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of *Mobilizing Public Opinion* (2002), co-editor of *Transforming Politics, Transforming America* (2006) and recently completed a co-authored book, *Race, Immigration, and (Non)Partisanship in America*. He is presently writing on a collection of essays about the concepts of "race" and "identity" in social science research, working on a collaborative survey-based study of Asian American politics, and co-editing two volumes, *The Oxford Handbook of Racial and Ethnic Politics in the United States*, and *Generating Genuine Demand for Accountability: Public Opinion and State Responsiveness*. At Berkeley, he is Director of the IGS Center on Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity and Chair of the Diversity and Democracy Cluster of the Berkeley Diversity Research Initiative. He was born in South Korea, grew up in Malaysia and New York City,

and is a product of K-12 public schools, the University of Michigan (A.B.), Harvard University (M.P.P.), and the University of Chicago (Ph.D.).

Pei-te Lien is professor of political science at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her research addresses empirical questions regarding the intersectionality of race, gender, ethnicity, and class by comparing the political experiences of Asian Americans to other major American racial and ethnic groups. She is the author of the award-winning *The Making of Asian America through Political Participation* (2001) and the lead author of *The Politics of Asian Americas: Diversity and Community* (2004). She serves on the editorial advisory boards of the *Asian American Policy Review*, Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, *Journal of Asian American Studies*, and *Journal of Women, Politics & Policy*. Prior to joining the UCSB, she taught at the University of Utah for 12 years.

Monica H. Lin is a doctoral student in the University of California, Los Angeles Graduate School of Education and Information Studies and a research analyst at the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute. Her research interests focus on diversity issues in higher education, Asian American student development, persistence of underrepresented minorities in science and engineering, and higher education policy. She obtained her M.S. in Social Psychology with a concentration in Multicultural Psychology from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and B.A. in Psychology from Carleton College.

Paul M. Ong is a Professor at UCLA's School of Public Affairs and the Department of Asian American Studies, and the director of the UC AAPI Policy MRP (Multi-campus Research Program). He received his doctorate in economics from U.C. Berkeley, and served as the Acting Director of UCLA's Institute of Industrial Relations and the Director of UCLA's Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies. He has conducted research on dislocated workers, racial inequality in the labor market, immigrant workers, urban inequality, health-care workers and welfare-to-work. He was the founding editor of the *State of*

California Labor and AAPI NEXUS: Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy, Practice and Community. He has served on advisory committees for California's Employment Development Department and Department of Social Services, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the Getty Research Institute, the California Wellness Foundation, the Transportation Research Board and National Research Council, and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Julie J. Park is a Ph.D. candidate in the University of California, Los Angeles Graduate School of Education and Information Studies. Her research interests include the campus racial climate, spirituality in higher education, and the experiences of Asian American students. She has been the recipient of fellowships from the Louisville Institute, Spencer Foundation, Harvard Civil Rights Project, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, and National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. She received her B.A. from Vanderbilt University in Sociology, Women's Studies, and English.

Oiyen A. Poon is a Ph.D. candidate in the University of California, Los Angeles Graduate School of Education and Information Studies with an Asian American Studies graduate concentration. She is also a graduate student researcher for the UC Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy Multi-Campus Research Program. Her research interests focus on critical race theory, Asian American educational experiences, and critical media studies. She earned her M.Ed. in Educational Counseling and Human Development with a College Student Affairs emphasis at the University of Georgia and a B.S. in Management from Boston College.

Karthick Ramakrishnan is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Riverside. His research interests include political participation, civic voluntarism, and the politics of race, ethnicity, and immigration in the United States. He is a principal investigator on the first large-scale national survey of Asian American politics (2008), and a project on civic engagement in new growth regions. He has authored several publications on immigrant

adaptation, local governance, and civic engagement. He has a forthcoming volume (with Irene Bloemraad) entitled *Civic Hopes and Political Realities: Immigrants, Community Organizations, and Political Engagement*. Other book publications include *Transforming Politics, Transforming America* (University of Virginia Press, 2006) and *Democracy in Immigrant America* (Stanford University Press, 2005).

Megan Emiko Scott is a Master of Public Policy candidate at the UCLA School of Public Affairs. In partnership with SCOPE, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit that builds grassroots power to eliminate structural barriers to social and economic opportunities for poor and disenfranchised communities, she is currently researching policy strategies to create green manufacturing jobs in Los Angeles. Prior to UCLA, she worked at PolicyLink, a national nonprofit research and action institute advancing economic and social equity, where she provided administrative and research support to the President. She also co-founded and ran the San Francisco Bay Area chapter of Swirl, a national community building and advocacy organization for multiracial individuals and families. Megan is from Oakland, California and holds a B.A. in East Asian Studies from New York University.

Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc. (LEAP)

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Since its founding in 1982, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc.(LEAP) has been intent on “growing leaders” within the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities across the world. A global, nonprofit organization, LEAP is guided by its leadership development philosophy that APIs can retain their unique cultures, identities and values while developing new and vital skills that will make them effective leaders within their own organizations, their communities and the broader society. LEAP works to achieve its mission by: **Developing people**, because leaders are made, not born; **Informing society**, because leaders know the issues; and **Empowering communities**, because leaders are grounded in strong, vibrant communities. Through its mission of "growing leaders", LEAP is uniquely positioned to expand the civic participation, public understanding and leadership development of Asian and Pacific Islanders.

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University of California Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy Multi-Campus Research Program

The University of California Asian American and Pacific Islander Policy Multi-Campus Research Program (MRP) promotes and coordinates applied and policy research on topics relevant to California's growing Asian American and Pacific Islander population. The MRP serves as a bridge linking UC researchers to community organizations, the media, and elected officials and their staff. These activities help the University of California to integrate research, teaching, and community outreach in ways that inform and enlighten public discourse on important public policy issues. The MRP is supported through funds from the UC Office of the President, UCLA's Asian American Studies Center, and other academic units from throughout the UC system. Professor Paul Ong is the Director, and Professor Bill Hing is the Associate Director.

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