

East-West Center Alumni news



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Aloha and Happy New Year from all of us here at the East-West Center! The year begins bittersweet with us remembering our past leaders and introducing new ones. Christina Monroe has been appointed as Director of Alumni Engagement and will lead the now named, Office of Alumni Engagement. Please see Christina's message below to the 'ohana.

LETTER FROM NEW DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Aloha EWCA 'ohana,

It has been a pleasure to meet and collaborate with so many of you since I joined the East-West Center 16 years ago, first as an Asia Pacific Leadership Program fellow, then leadership education specialist (including APLP, PILP and YSEALI), and most recently as the Leadership

January 2021

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- Letter from EWCA President
- Passing of Former EWC Alumni Officer Gordon Ring
- Grant Opportunities for EWC Alumni



Program senior manager. Under my direction, the EWC Leadership Program increasingly involved alumni and alumni chapters as expert resources, especially for programs in the region. It is an honor to now serve as director of alumni engagement. Leaning heavily on Noreen Tanouye’s years of experience and deep relationships and on EWCA President Amanda Ellis’s expertise and commitment, I will lead the current Alumni/Associates Office, now renamed as the Office of Alumni Engagement.

The FY2021 Appropriations bill, recently signed by the U.S. President, includes a \$3 million uptick in federal funding for the Center. Excitingly, President Vuylsteke has included alumni engagement in the set of priorities for fund

usage. We know that alumni are and will continue to be at the heart of the Center. The energy and expertise of alumni is essential not only as a resource to sustain the Center, but as a source of new innovative programming, which is especially important now.

I will need your help to understand the needs, interests and expertise of our diverse alumni ‘ohana. Starting now and continuing until we hear from everyone who wants to share, we will be conducting a listening tour to get your inputs and ideas, specifically in three ways: (1) an all-alumni survey; (2) a series of meetings with the EWCA Board, Chapters and individual alumni; and (3) an “open door” for anyone to contact me directly (MonroeC@EastWestCenter.org / +1.808.944.7645)

We know many of you are eager to hear about and contribute to the 2021 virtual conference and 2022 Hawai’i conference. These gatherings are a top priority for us all and we will be sharing information as soon as possible.

Today we remember Gordon Ring. We will strive to continue his legacy with the enthusiasm and genuine love for the alumni ‘ohana he always exhibited. We will build on the foundation that so many have worked hard to build over 60 years, while bringing fresh ideas and energy needed for the next 60.

Mahalo nui loa,
Christina

LETTER FROM EWCA PRESIDENT AMANDA ELLIS



Aloha and Hopeful New Year fellow Alum.

We are so sad to inform all alumni that former EWC Alumni Officer Gordon Ring passed away on Monday, January 25 with his wonderful wife Milly at his side. Gordon is an EWC institution in his own right and did such an extraordinary job keeping us all connected to the Center. He will be sorely missed. Sincere condolences to Milly. For those who would like to share a message, memory, or story with Milly, please go to <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/yTspA9UM>.

[boards/yTspA9UM](https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/yTspA9UM).

- Pacific Islands Initiatives

- EWC Innovation for Sustainable Fellowships

- Changing Faces Women's Leadership Program Announces #galswithLEI Global

- Virtual Leadership Certificates

- U.S. Presidential Election Reporting Seminar

- EWC Webinar Series

- Alumni News & Achievements

- In Memoriam

- Chapter News

APPLY NOW

The EWCA board was thrilled to formally welcome Christina Monroe at our meeting today. Christina is taking on the role so many of us remember Gordon Ring playing at the Center and across our region, joining Noreen, Sharon, and Patrick to lead the new Office of Alumni Engagement. Congratulations Christina!

We know the world was watching as new U.S. President Joe Biden was inaugurated on January 20, along with the first-ever woman (of color) VP Kamala Harris. After the devastating attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6 it was so uplifting to witness a display of unity and recommitment to international engagement and alliances. Youth poet laureate [Amanda Gorman](#) stole my heart:

*When day comes we step out of the shade,
afame and unafraid
The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be it*

It has been so heartening to see our young alum band together to bring light to others in these difficult times of pandemic. Thank you fellow kiwis, APLP alum and founder of the Pan-Pacific alumni chapter 'Ofeina Manuel-Barbarich and Changing Faces alum Brienne West for your role in collaborating to assist Pacific neighbors. Congratulations to Brienne on her company's product, [Ethique concentrates](#), being named in the *Time* Top 100 innovations as a business saving the planet!

Looking forward to the inaugural collaboration between the Alumni and Leadership programs with our upcoming lecture on January 27 – [please sign up!](#)

Warmest Aloha,
Amanda

PASSING OF FORMER EAST-WEST CENTER ALUMNI OFFICER GORDON RING



It is with heavy hearts that we share the news that Gordon Ring, former East-West Center alumni officer, passed away on Monday, January 25, 2021. His wife Milly and his son Gordon were with him at his bedside.

“Gordon always exerted positive energy, good humor, and total dedication to the Center and especially to its alumni,” says EWC President Richard Vuylsteke. “Gordon and I became close friends in the 1970s; I was best man at Gordon and Milly’s wedding; and one of my most anticipated expectations when I returned to Hawai’i in 2017

was to rekindle our close friendship. Gordon, with Milly’s unfailing support, was a fighter to the end in his battle with Parkinson’s. His humor still surfaced despite all the challenges of the past few years and he loved his conversations and storytelling with EWC friends. Gordon was a model of what unqualified friendship and institutional dedication can mean. We will miss him dearly. May he rest in peace.”

• [Pacific Islands Leadership Program with Taiwan](#) –

deadline:
February 1, 2021

• [U.S. South Pacific Scholarship Program](#) –

deadline:
February 1, 2021

• [The U.S.-Philippines Alliance Fellowship](#) –

deadline:
March 26, 2021

• [Asia Studies Visiting Fellowship Program](#) –

deadline:
April 9, 2021

[EWC Memories, 2nd edition](#)

[SUBMIT your favorite EWC Memory](#)

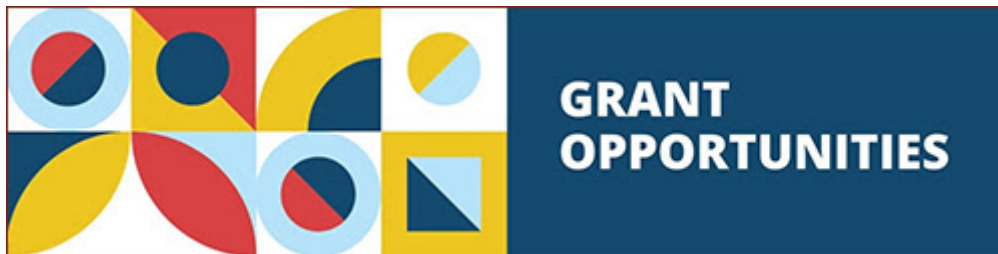
Gordon came to the East-West Center as a degree student. He received an EWC scholarship in 1963 and affably enjoyed the many aspects of EWC student life. He eventually earned his master's degree in Chinese History and stayed in Hawai'i to teach. In 1969, he joined the EWC Public Affairs Office and in 1983, Gordon began a 10-year stint as alumni officer. After a brief interlude away from the Center, he returned in 1999 to retake his position as alumni officer.

Gordon had seen the Center since "before the buildings were built"; he was here during the evolution of the Center from its initial three institutes for students, research, and development to five substantive institutes, and through its many subsequent stages of development. He was here during the Center's incorporation into the collaborative public non-profit entity it is today, and he led and served the alumni through numerous conferences and reunions. He retired from the Center in 2011 and enjoyed his much-deserved retirement with Milly and their cats.

Gordon was beloved by everyone who knew him at the East-West Center and the many alumni around the world. We will miss him!

If you would like to share a message, memory, or story about Gordon with Gordon's family, please go to <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/yTspA9UM>.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR EAST-WEST CENTER ALUMNI



The EWC Office of Alumni Engagement invites alumni to collaborate with the East-West Center on proposals for the following grants from U.S. Department of State and U.S. Embassies. Project activities are determined and led by alumni with the Center providing guidance and increasing competitiveness. Please indicate interest by contacting Christina Monroe (MonroeC@EastWestCenter.org) and Peter Young, EWC grants manager (YoungP@EastWestCenter.org). The earlier your draft proposal is received, the more Center staff can help improve your competitiveness. Note the listed final deadlines below.

Grant Name	Deadline to submit to EWC	Maximum Amount
American Center - Journalism Club (HCMC Vietnam)	02/17/2021	\$10,000
American Social Club (HCMC Vietnam)	02/17/2021	\$10,000
American Center Technology Club (HCMC Vietnam)	04/30/2021	\$15,000
Women's Empowerment Club (HCMC Vietnam)	04/30/2021	\$10,000

[APLP Navigator](#)

[Who are the Humans of the EWC? Find out!](#)

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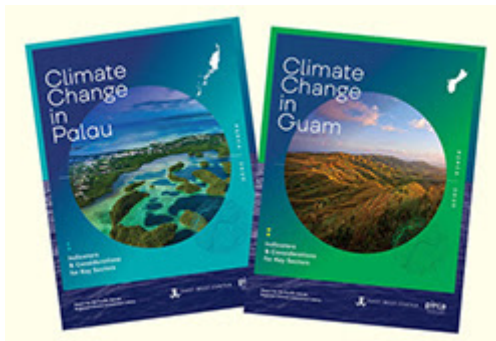
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PACIFIC ISLANDS INITIATIVES: NEW ONLINE SERIES, CLIMATE CHANGE PUBLICATIONS, AND DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH FOR OCEANIA PIPELINE

The Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) launched the world premier of its new flagship production [EWC Insights featuring Pacific Leaders](#), an online event series with Pacific Leaders which provides a platform for important Pacific-oriented conversations, amplifying the voices of the region's leaders to inform, empower, and inspire. In the inaugural show, the president of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), David W. Panuelo discussed the "unified" approach of Micronesian countries on the key issues facing the region: climate change, post-COVID economic recovery, the U.S. role in Micronesia, and the selection of the next leader of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF). If you missed the webinar, the recording is [available to watch on YouTube](#). Additionally, the East-West Wire provides a written analysis of the program: "[Micronesian leaders unified on having an equal voice to other Pacific countries](#)".



The PIDP team along with 30 other technical contributors from a consortium of government, NGO, and research entities contributed to recently released reports on climate change in the Republic of Palau and Guam published by the [Pacific Islands Regional Climate Assessment \(PIRCA\)](#). [Climate Change in Palau](#) lays out the changes such as higher temperatures, stronger typhoons, coral reef loss, and coastal flooding that Palau is already

experiencing and what lies ahead for the island nation. [View a brief summary of the Palau report.](#) [Climate Change in Guam](#) focuses on issues such as threats to human health, risks to fresh water resources, increasing wildfire, and the potential for damage to infrastructure caused by future sea level rise and stronger typhoons. [View a brief summary of the Guam report.](#)

PIDP is proud to be launching a [new graduate fellowship program](#) that aims to address the lack of applied research available on Pacific development issues. This pilot project will support three graduate students working on development issues to conduct field research in the Pacific with a grant of up to \$50,000 in addition to residential academic experience at the East-West Center or another public-policy research institution for writing, networking, and preparing research summaries.

In 2021, the Center looks to strategically strengthen its programs and activities in response to Blue Economy principles expressed across the Asia Pacific region by expanding contributions to local, national, and regional public policy research and analysis, discussions, and decision-making on economic, health, and governance priorities through the Center's programs, communications platforms, and convening power.

About Us

The East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue.

[Short video](#)

Editor:

Sharon

Shimabukuro

EAST-WEST CENTER INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIPS

The East-West Center offers experiential professional development fellowships for members of the EWC striving to achieve sustainable development for their communities. [EWC Innovation for Sustainable Development Fellows](#) (#EWCinnovationfellows) is a ten (10) year opportunity to support young EWC Alumni (under age 40) supported in ten (10) modules striving to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Non-resident fellows co-design and co-deliver innovation initiatives in the health, environment, community resilience, and arts sectors for the EWC within their organization or company.

In recognition of the launch of the UN-declared Ocean Decade (2021-2030) and the 2021 EWC Blue Economy strategic priority, the work of EWC Innovation for Sustainable Development Fellow, **Rafid Shidqi** (Professional Development, YSEALI-Institutes for Natural Resource Managers 2018), is highlighted here.



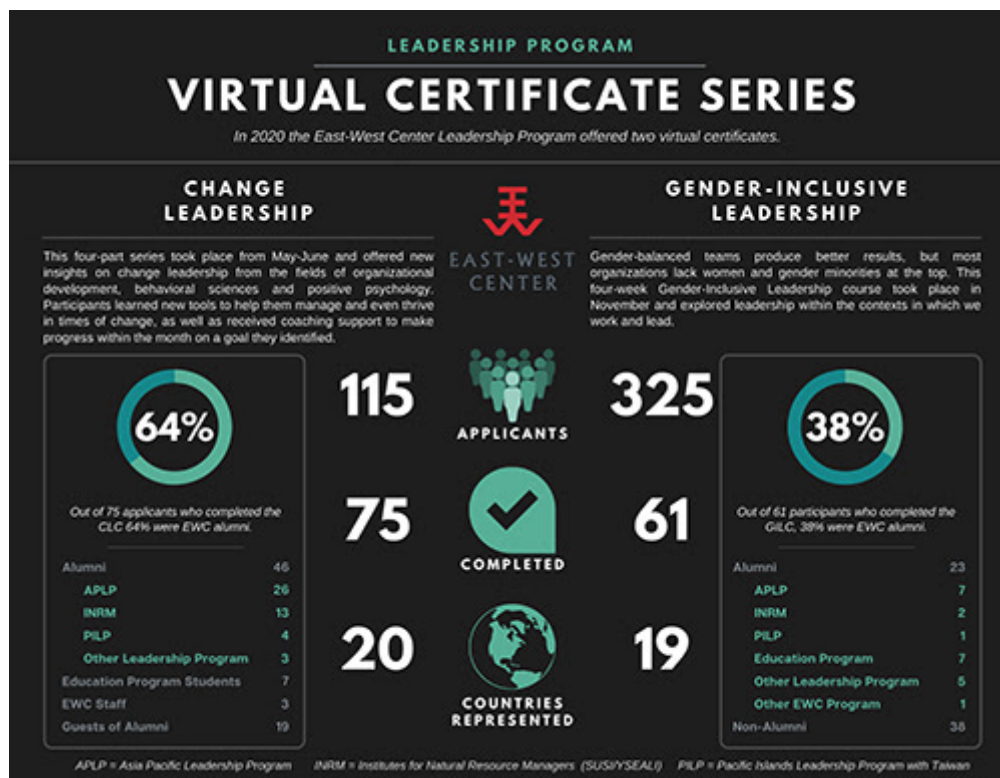
[Support EWC's Coral Triangle Endangered Shark Initiative](#) (end date: January 31, 2021).

CHANGING FACES WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM ANNOUNCES #GALSWITHLEI GLOBAL

The East-West Center is excited to announce #galswithLEI Global as a means of meeting the needs and interests of female alumni. Launching in February 2021, #galswithLEI Global will feature bi-monthly virtual training workshops, webinars, and roundtables designed to address today's critical needs, identify innovative solutions, and build networks of support amongst women business and social entrepreneurs, corporate and non-profit managers, and other community leaders. The Center will be

joined in this endeavor by [Under My Umbrella](#), [The Hub Coworking Hawaii](#), [Blue Startups](#), and the [Japanese Woman's Leadership Initiative](#). More information forthcoming via www.eastwestcenter.org/galswithlei.

VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATES



The Leadership Program held two virtual leadership certificate programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. The four-part Change Leadership series, which took place in May and June, offered new insights on change leadership from the fields of organizational development, behavioral sciences, and positive psychology. 64% of the 75 participants who completed the program were alumni. In November, the Gender-Inclusive Leadership series explored leadership within the contexts in which we work and lead. Gender-balanced teams produce better results, but most organizations lack women and gender minorities at the top. Of the 325 applicants, 38% of the 61 participants from 19 countries who completed the certificate program were alumni.

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION REPORTING SEMINAR



The [2020 U.S. Presidential Election Reporting Seminar](#) (USPres) brought 10 international journalists representing seven countries together for an immersive 12-day, virtual seminar that emphasized long-term knowledge acquisition and understanding of American governmental structures, electoral processes, and civil society engagement. The USPres Seminar began with six foundational sessions intended to enhance participating journalists' knowledge of the U.S. electoral college; federalism and the separation of powers; freedom of speech and the press; electoral demographics; the history and policy platforms of the Republican and Democratic political parties; and campaign finance laws. Journalists then explored seven key election issues from the perspective of three swing states – Florida, Michigan, and Ohio. In addition, journalists engaged with 42 American voters of varying demographics living in Florida, Michigan, and Ohio. Following the election, journalists met virtually with DC-based government officials, analysts and other journalists to discuss the impact of the 2020 presidential election on security relations and international trade as well as the role of traditional and social media in the election. The USPres Seminar was funded by the East-West Center and seven U.S. Embassies in Bangladesh, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Thailand, and the United Kingdom, and has resulted in 87 stories contributed to, produced, filed, and aired.

EWC WEBINAR SERIES

Join us as virtual East-West Center programs reach new audiences.

Distinguished Leaders Lecture Series



The EWC Leadership Program is launching a [Distinguished Leaders Lecture Series](#) in 2021. In collaboration with the East-West Center Office of Alumni Engagement, the inaugural lecture on January 27, 2021 from 3:00-4:00 PM (Hawaiian Standard Time) will feature EWCA president and adjunct senior fellow in the EWC Professional Development Program **Amanda Ellis** (Open Grants, PhD in Political Science 1986-1989). Achieving gender equality requires learning from best international practice and pinpointing areas for improvement. The Gender Equality and Governance Index (GEGI) taps into some of the world's best datasets to analyze gender discrimination on a global scale, using five critical pillars – governance, education, work, entrepreneurship, and violence. Join author and former World Bank lead gender specialist Amanda Ellis as she discusses the GEGI and other tools for accelerating women's empowerment and ensuring equal rights. The session will include an introduction to these tools and their use, examples of global best practice, and the opportunity to ask questions. [Registration is required.](#)

EWC Arts Sunday Spotlight



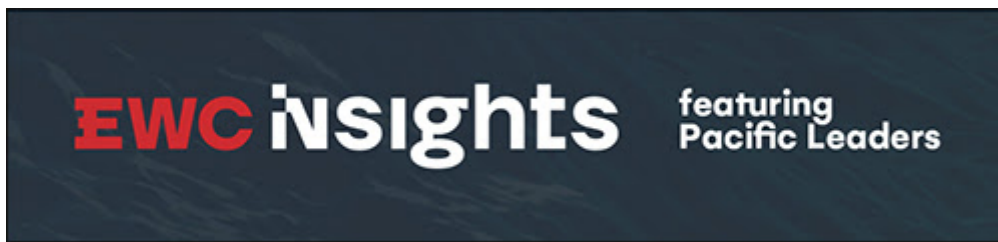
The Arts Program has offered an array of virtual performances, exhibitions, and educational outreach through engaging talks, demonstrations, and workshops by artists and experts in conjunction with the current exhibition. EWC Arts virtual outreach will continue into the new year, and you are encouraged to visit the [EWC Arts YouTube Channel](#) to check out the events you might have missed! EWC Arts will continue to engage with virtual content and programming in 2021 until the East-West Center's Gallery doors reopen to the public. The next EWC Gallery exhibition will feature select works from the EWC Permanent Collection. Be on the lookout for a virtual gallery opening entitled [Beyond the Surface: East-West Center Permanent Collection Works](#) and a featured "Call for Submissions" for the full East-West Center network to participate in an exciting community art project in the spring.

East-West Seminars Live



East-West Seminars and the Journalism Program created [East-West Seminars Live](#), a bimonthly webinar and briefing series designed to inform, connect, and source media stories. It features prominent journalists and experts, discussing hot topics from pandemic policy to democracy under fire.

EWC Insights



[EWC Insights featuring Pacific Leaders](#) is a collaborative series with the Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) that amplifies Pacific voices to inform regional stakeholders and thought leaders from government, business, and civil society about the opportunities and challenges facing the region. It provides a platform for Pacific leaders to discuss policy achievements, highlight critical regional issues, and promote Blue Pacific priorities.

The Exchange (Education Program)



Each semester, graduate students at the East-West Center plan and produce [The Exchange](#), a flagship activity of the EWC Education Program. This year, the 2-hour weekly evening events have been presented virtually, incorporating guest presentations, performances, and activities, into a holistic experience. Filmed and structured so content can be shared with external audiences, they explore pressing issues, histories, challenges, innovations, and vibrant cultures that make the Asia Pacific region unique. Students also give short presentations on their research and

talk-story. It is a chance for students and distinguished guests to share their time and ideas with each other, becoming better informed and better connected. Learn about upcoming sessions and RSVP at [The Exchange](#) .

EWCW's Indo-Pacific Seminars



The East-West Center in Washington, D.C. (EWCW), holds [virtual seminars](#) to advance US-Indo-Pacific relations by creating innovative content, exchanges, and outreach activities. The [60 Minutes for the EWC 60th Anniversary Alumni Seminar Series](#) commemorates 60 years since the East-West Center's establishment by the U.S. Congress in 1960. This special seminar series of one-hour virtual public seminars hosted on the Zoom platform explores the future of the Indo-Pacific region in light of current events in U.S.-Asia relations, featuring policy experts from around the world who have participated in EWCW fellowships, publications, dialogues, and conference programs. EWCW recently hosted a special event, [The United States' Enhanced & Enduring Commitment to the Pacific Islands Region](#), featuring key officials engaged in United States relations with Pacific Islands countries to discuss the expanding presence and engagement in the region from development, military, and congressional policy perspectives. Participants included Congressman **Ed Case** (East-West Seminars, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2018), co-chair of the Pacific Islands Caucus, and Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs **David Stilwell** (Culture & Communication, MA in Asian Studies 1987-1988).

Find upcoming programs on the [Events](#) page on the East-West Center website.

ALUMNI NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



BG Capital Holdings and its CEO, **Saliza Abdullah** (Changing Faces Women's Leadership Seminar, 2010), have been selected first runner up of the UN Women 2020 Malaysia WEPs Awards in the community and industry engagement category. Their work on community empowerment and gender equality in the male-dominated security industry is being recognized at the international level. Related to the social enterprise initiative she presented at the Changing Faces program in 2010, Saliza Abdullah and BG Capital Holdings goes beyond their mission to end violence against women and are giving

them the voice and power to be strong and independent. Guided by the Women's

Empowerment Principles (WEPs), the awards aim to encourage, value, and recognize the efforts of individuals and businesses that promote gender-inclusive business cultures and the achievement of gender equality in the Asia-Pacific. The award was presented at a regional ceremony on December 15, 2020.



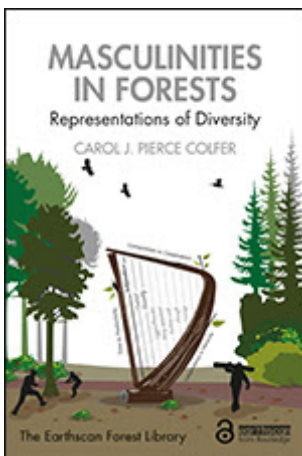
Small Grants Guide by EWC adjunct fellow **Keith Bettinger** (International Graduate Student Conference, 2013) was produced under the auspices of USAID Climate Ready and the Pacific Islands Development Program. This guide is designed to walk the reader through the process of compiling information and know-how into a successful small grants proposal. Although this guide focuses primarily on climate change adaptation projects, much of it is applicable to other types of projects as well. Each chapter focuses on one aspect of developing a proposal. Example questions and criteria taken from actual small grants applications and evaluation forms help address these kinds

of questions likely to be addressed in most proposals.



Shakuhachi master **Christopher Yohmei Blasdel** (EWC/EWCA International Conference, 2008, 2010) has reformatted his long out-of-print *The Single Tone—A Personal Journey into Shakuhachi Music* into an ebook. It is now available on Amazon Kindle for iPads, iPhones, and other electronic devices. Originally published in Japanese to provide an outsider's view of Japanese society, it was awarded the Ren'ryo Award for non-fiction in Spring 2000. A close translation in English with some minor additions and clarifications of circumstances, situations and cultural contexts for the non-Japanese reader was published in 2005. The ebook version contains more photos and many of the original black and white photos have been replaced

with color photos.



Masculinities in Forests: Representations of Diversity by **Carol J. Pierce Colfer** (Communication, 1975, 1977, 1979; Environment & Policy, 1979-1980), published by Routledge in September 2020, demonstrates the wide variability in ideas about, and practice of, masculinity in different forests, and how these relate to forest management. Colfer is a senior associate at the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and a visiting scholar in the Cornell University Southeast Asia Program.



The lockdown in Islamabad allowed **Arjumand Faisal** (Open Grants, MPH 1987-1988), chapter leader of the EWCA Islamabad Chapter and curator of Gallery 6 Islamabad time to engage in his favorite hobby – painting. Since his gallery was closed, he experimented using the gallery platform to auction his paintings to keep art activity alive in Pakistan. The response he received surpassed his expectations to such an extent that the Aloha spirit led him to use the idea to generate funds for daily wage earners who had lost their income due to the lockdown. The idea was presented to the art community and several artists donated their paintings to the cause. Each day, the gallery auctioned 2-3 paintings of an artist at substantially reduced prices (50% or less), attracting art buyers. Daily funds generated could support a three week food ration for 10-20 families. On some days, the funds raised were enough to support 40 families. With members of the Trust managing the House of Light School (an outstanding free school for underprivileged children supported by the EWCA Islamabad Chapter) and substantial support from the Mac Bevan Charitable Trust of UK, about Rs. 4.4 million (nearly US\$22,450) was raised to support 1,700 households within a five kilometer radius of the school with food rations and 400 were given cash support. The lockdown was short, lasting only a few weeks. Once the daily wage earners returned to work, Gallery 6 shifted its focus toward the financially struggling artists. 4-5 paintings of an artist were auctioned daily. The impressive response led to the establishment of an online auction house in Pakistan. An idea that started as an EWC alumnus extending the Aloha spirit to those in need during the pandemic led to (i) supporting underprivileged community households in desperate need, (ii) selling paintings of financially crunched artists, and (iii) developing a new model for keeping art activity alive during the pandemic.



Globally renowned global business columnist and associate editor at the Financial Times and global economic analyst at CNN, **Rana Foroohar** (Resources: Energy & Minerals, 1993), has joined the Board of the Open Markets Institute. She has authored two books, *Makers and Takers: The Rise of Finance and the Fall of American Business*, which was shortlisted for the Financial Times McKinsey Book of the Year award in 2016, and *Don't Be Evil: How Big Tech Betrayed Its Founding Principles — and All of Us*, released in November 2019.



Fairmont State University has named its international student office after emeritus faculty member **Tulasi Joshi** (Institute for Student Interchange, MA in Geography 1964-1966), a professor of geography for 42 years, and his wife - the Tulasi and Marilyn Joshi Office for Education Pathways for International Centers & Students -- in honor of a significant undisclosed donation made to aid in the recruitment of international students. Joshi is a life member and former treasurer of the Association of Nepalis in the Americas, where he has been championing the education cause to empower deserving Nepali students. He has

established scholarship programs for needy students of Bajhang for their higher education in Nepal, and for Nepali students' undergraduate studies at Fairmont State University. He was instrumental in establishing the International Scholarship Program and the ANA-Tulasi & Marilyn Joshi Scholarship Program at Fairmont State, which has benefitted about 50 students. Joshi said he hopes his gift will provide the chance for other international students like himself to seek the dream of education and opportunity and while also providing the university with a broader global perspective.



Recent alumna **Mary Kim** (Education, MFA 2019-2020) has secured a position as an instructor at the National Museum of Korea. Just days after her thesis exhibition opening at the UH Art Gallery, Hawai'i was shut down due to COVID-19. Few people were able to enjoy Mary's creations, and suddenly she was struggling to secure a return flight home to Seoul and shipping issues. Mary considered throwing out her large paintings, as the pandemic shipping costs were incredibly high. The EWC Arts Program staff learned about Mary's dilemma from the Education Program and EWC Foundation staff and, as throwing artwork away was not an option, immediately offered temporary storage space. Mary shared the depth behind her thesis work, and

also how transformative her EWC experience had been, knowing and interacting with a global student community. Through their community network, the Arts Program helped Mary offer works to local organizations. Her paintings are now housed in the permanent collections of the Hawai'i State Art Museum, the City & County of Honolulu, and the East-West Center. Additionally, two of Mary's paintings were donated to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre for its silent auction fundraiser. Mary's remaining paintings were shipped home safely and affordably, using the Arts Program's shipping discount and EWC student emergency funds. The majority of support provided to Mary during this fraught period was not monetary, rather sharing friendship, knowledge, in-house resources, and the power of our EWC networks. Mary's thesis paintings will be featured in the EWC Gallery's upcoming virtual exhibition entitled *Beyond the Surface: East-West Center Permanent Collection Works*.



Zhafira Loebis (Changing Faces Women's Leadership, 2016), Cofounder of Babyloania and three other women entrepreneurs have initiated an online platform and offline community for Indonesian women looking to grow, develop, and learn to achieve their best life. Starting with a support group called the Goal Diggers that met every month for the last two years, they have recently expanded it to launch Stellar Women in December 2020. They have created Stellar Power Accelerator, an 8-week accelerator program that is an immersive educational experience where women can learn, at a high pace in a short and intense period, many of the important skills they need to run their own businesses. Each week, two online classes led by 25 esteemed female leaders will cover such topics as starting up a business, branding, legal, finance, and leadership. In addition to attending weekly online classes, participants are divided into smaller groups for weekly mentoring sessions with 22 female leaders. More than 1,000 applications were received in 3 weeks and 320 participants with various backgrounds were selected — entrepreneurs and executives from all over Indonesia, including Indonesian women living in the U.S., Japan, Amsterdam, and Germany. In addition to the 320 participants selected to participate in the full course, others may purchase tickets to attend individual classes. There were 404 participants on the first night of classes.



Alan Miller (Communication, MA in Political Science 1976-1978), founder and CEO of the News Literacy Project (NLP), was recently honored by the prestigious *Washingtonian Magazine* as one of 12 citizens as a 2020 Washingtonian of the Year. NLP is a national education nonprofit teaching youth how to be smart, active consumers of news and information. It developed [Checkology® virtual classroom](#), a free, rigorously nonpartisan, virtual-learning platform for middle- and high-schoolers that teaches how to discern credible information, bias, and misinformation. It has been used by educators in all 50 states and dozens of other countries. NLP has also

engaged over 7,200 educators in virtual NewsLitCamps, professional development webinars or weekly issues of *The Sift*, reaching more than 500,000 students nationwide. In addition, NLP has other resources for adult learners, parents, and educators. Miller was also a featured guest on C-Span's *Washington Journal*, talking about his [recent column](#) which gave recommendations on how to combat misinformation that's creating "alternative realities" and deepening the country's partisan divide.

Robert Moore's (Education, PhD in Business Administration 2016-2018) dissertation, "[Emerging from War: Public Policy and Patterns of Foreign Direct Investment Recovery in Postwar Environments](#)," has been published in the *Journal of International Business Policy*. The study was inspired by management experience at the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani, during the inter-war period of 2013-2014.



In October 2020, **Paul Pio** (Pacific Islands Professional Tourism Fellowship, 2018; Pacific Islands Leadership Program with Taiwan, 2019), joined South Sea Shipping as its new general manager, taking the lead in operational and commercial management, especially drawing on his experience working with international corporations and domestic and foreign government agencies and leading and mentoring high-performance teams. He is the secretary of the Air Transportation & Tourism Taskforce (AT3), which was endorsed by the Vanuatu Council of Ministers in July 2020 to be the coordinating agency that

will lead all efforts towards the Vanuatu TAMTAM Bubble. According to Pio, "South Sea Shipping is a critical part of Vanuatu's tourism and transportation infrastructure and will be making a strong contribution to the recovery of the country's economy."



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa ethnomusicologist and professor emerita **Barbara B. Smith** (Culture Learning, 19973; Communication 1975) is the recipient of the Eastman School of Music Distinguished Alumni Award. Eastman dean Jamal J. Rossi made the announcement to the 150+ in attendance at the seventh and final panel discussion in the 2020 Barbara B. Smith Webinar Series: A Legacy for Ethnomusicology celebrating her 100th birthday. Beginning on June 10, 2020, her 100th birthday, and on the 10th day of each month through December, her former

students gave live-streamed presentations on current research, representing the work

of thousands of people she taught and inspired. The award is bestowed at the discretion of the Eastman dean upon alumni who embody the essence of the Eastman experience by demonstrating exceptional musicianship, scholarship, and leadership in the arts.



Ethique concentrates, a line of solid products for hair, face, and body-care, has been named in the [Time Top 100 innovations](#) changing how we live. Snap the bar into small pieces, mix with hot water until totally dissolved, and store it in any bottle you already own. The ingredients are environmentally-minded -- they are smaller so they require less packaging, and are sent in compostable material instead of plastic, eliminating the manufacture and disposal of a plastic bottle in a landfill. **Brianne West** (Changing Faces Women's Leadership Seminar, 2016) is the founder and CEO of Ethique.

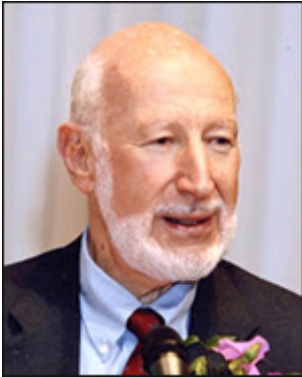
Foreign Policy recently hosted a virtual dialogue on Empowering Leaders for a Global Future: Transforming Education to Meet 21st Century Challenges & Opportunities in conjunction with the launch of Arizona State University's Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory. It discussed how schools can be a catalyst for meaningful societal impacts by incorporating sustainability and inclusivity as underlying principles for effective global leadership. In addition to officials from ASU and the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory, the panel was comprised of representatives from business, policymakers, and the community, including **Aulani Wilhelm** (Research, 2009, 2018), senior vice president of the Center for Oceans at Conservation International. **Amanda Ellis** (Open Grants, PhD in Political Science 1986-1989) served as one of two moderators.



Kourosh Ziabari (Senior Journalists Seminar, 2015) has been selected as one of seven finalists of the local reporter category in the 2020 Kurt Schork Awards in International Journalism sponsored by the Thomson Reuters Foundation and the Kurt Schork Memorial Fund for his coverage of Iran in the Asia Times. His submission included '[Sacred ignorance](#)': [Covid-19 reveals Iran split](#), [Iran's most famous Sufi faces fatwa at home](#), and [Iranians bombarded by scams as US sanctions bite](#). The Kurt Schork Memorial Fund is named in honor of American war correspondent

Kurt Schork to recognize the work of freelance journalists, local reporters and news fixers who often work at great personal risk to report on conflict, corruption, and injustice. Ziabari was also featured as journalist of the month by *International Journalists' Network* (IJN) in February 2018.

IN MEMORIAM



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa professor emeritus of electrical engineering **Norman Abramson** (Communication, 1982-1983) passed away from complications of skin cancer on December 1, 2020 at the age of 88. A father of modern wireless networks, he led a team of graduate students and faculty to create ALOHAnet, an early wireless network designed to connect UH to other colleges and universities to share research. Some of those innovative techniques were used in the development of WiFi and the ethernet and are still in use today in modern mobile, satellite, cellular, and

computer networks.



Dr. Lee-Jay Cho, who served in a number of positions during his 30 years at the East-West Center, including director of the Population Institute, vice-president for Academic Affairs, and acting president, passed away on October 31, 2020. He retired in 2006 as Emeritus Scholar and most recently served as chairman of the Northeast Asia Economic Forum whose secretariat is based in Honolulu. Through the generosity of donors, the Center established the Lee-Jay Cho Endowed Chair in honor of his contributions to improving understanding and rel



Billiana Cicin-Sain (Environment & Policy, 1988) passed away on September 1, 2020. Earlier in her career, Dr. Cicin-Sain served in two US federal agencies: NOAA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development; was a professor of political science at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB); was founder and director of UCSB's Ocean and Coastal Policy Center; and a researcher at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and the East-West Center. She retired as director of the University of Delaware Gerard J. Mangone Center for

Marine Policy and was a member of the College of Earth, Ocean and Environment faculty for 29 years. She was a world leader in the field of integrated coastal and ocean governance and forged international collaboration among all sectors of the international oceans community to advance the global oceans arena.



Gayathri Rajapur Kassebaum (Culture Learning, 1983), a participant in the Symposium on Improvisation, passed away on October 5, 2020. From studying vocal music and learning to play the gottuvadim at the Central College of Carnatic Music in Chennai, to a graduate degree in ethnomusicology, she enjoyed a long, diverse career in India and abroad as a musician, academician, writer, and

teacher. A South Indian master performer, both as a vocalist and performing the gottuvadim, she performed numerous times in East-West Center performing arts programs.



Former EWC visiting fellow **S. Stanley Katz** (Culture & Communication, 1984, 1987; Regional Economics & Politics, 1994-1998) passed away in Sarasota, Florida on November 10, 2020 at the age of 92. He worked for the OECD in Paris from 1962-1965 and was vice president of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Manila, Philippines from 1978-1990. During his tenure at the ADB, annual lending increased from around \$1 billion to nearly \$4 billion and its stature in development finance increased. He was an advisor to the newly-created European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London from

1990-1993 before coming to the East-West Center in 1994 until his retirement in 1998.



Nora Quebral (Communications, 1974, 1977, 1980) passed away on October 24, 2020. She was professor emeritus of the College of Development Communication at the University of the Philippines - Los Banos. In 1975 she was a founding organizer of the Philippine Association of Communication Educators (PACE) and became the second president of PACE from 1980 to 1984. She developed her practice and theory of development communication and is known as the “mother of development communication” to hundreds, perhaps thousands of former students, scholars and professionals all over the Philippines and the world.



Dr. Syed Ataur Rahim (Education & Training, 1995-1996) passed away on Friday, October 2, 2020, at his home in El Cerrito, California, just shy of his 90th birthday. He joined the East-West Center in 1974 as a researcher in cultural communications, analyzing how patterns of cultural and organizational communication within and between societies facilitate or inhibit better relationships. He collaborated with government and academic institutions of renown around the world, as well as in Hawai'i. His family frequently

hosted international students, professors, and university fellows, as well as friends and relatives.



Dennis Richmond (EWC/EWCA International Conference, 2006, 2008, 2010) Denny Richmond, passed away on October 14, 2020 at the age of 84. After graduating UCLA Medical School, he was a Kaiser surgeon for 30 years. In retirement after being widowed, he married EWCA Southern California Chapter leader **Claire Koch Langham** (Institute for Student Interchange, MA in Overseas Operations Program 1963-1964). Together, they attended most EWC/EWCA

International Conferences and chapter gatherings since 2003. He participated with presentations on “Medical Tourism” at the Hanoi (2006) and the Bali (2008) conferences.

CHAPTER NEWS

COVID-19 infections are affecting communities throughout the region in different ways and at different rates. While some countries continue to be locked down due to soaring infection rates, the COVID-19 infection rate is under control in other communities and citizens are able to gather in person.



The **Asian Studies Development Program (ASDP) Chapter** is planning their annual conference on March 4-6, 2021. Originally scheduled to be held in San Diego, the Board recognized the many challenges COVID-19 posed to its success and voted to hold a virtual conference for the first time. The theme of the conference, *Knowing Practices Intersecting*, invites reflection on how ways of knowing develop, intersect and evolve, including the practices of embodied knowledge in traditional healing and martial arts, calligraphy and meditation, but also scientific and historiographical methods, emotional and aesthetic ways of knowing, the interaction of education and neuroscience, and the creation of intelligent technology innovation hubs in Korea and China. Abstracts for panels and individual presentations can be submitted through February 1, 2021. Highlights of the conference include:

- The keynote address on March 4 by Ian Johnson, Pulitzer-Prize winning writer focusing on society, religion, and history, and winner of the National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholars program for his upcoming book detailing China's unofficial history. The keynote address will be open to the public free of charge; information on how to access the address will be forthcoming on the [conference website](#).
- Dr. Matthew Marone, associate professor of physics from Mercer University, Georgia, will lead a Chinese Compass Making workshop.
- ASDP members will be able to submit their books to a virtual book exhibit – a revolving PowerPoint that shows the deep connections between their experiences with ASDP and their scholarship.

A new award titled the Founder's Award, in honor of Drs. Elizabeth Buck, Roger Ames, and Peter Hershock, will be given annually at the conference for best paper and best panel.

Since its inception the Asian Studies Development Program has worked to forge and highlight intersections between Asian and Western traditions. All members of the greater East-West Center alumni community are welcome to join the conference. See information about conference registration.



Ten members of the **Taipei Chapter** met for lunch hosted by Cheng-Hsiung Chen, internationally recognized EWC Resident Artist of 1988, followed by an “Art Appreciation” event at his personal gallery in downtown Taipei. Mr. Chen gave a guided tour of each chamber of special collections and unveiled his artwork, “Rhapsodic Blues”, to be exhibited in Paris, France in 2021. He explained in detail the aspiration of creating each piece of artwork.

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