

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



■ *Karen Knudsen is the director of the Office of External Affairs.*

The Office of External Affairs connects the resources and research of the East-West Center with the local, national, and international community through news media and public information services; briefings for visiting officials; and public affairs, community relations, and public programs. This office also comprises the Arts Program, the EWC Alumni Office, and EWC program representatives in the Asia Pacific region.

External Affairs media and outreach activities were mobilized into high gear on December 26, 2004, with news of the devastation caused by the Indian Ocean tsunami. At the start of 2005, the Center launched a major fundraising effort initiated by the Office of External Affairs, eventually generating more than \$500,000 that was distributed over the year for immediate relief and long-term recovery efforts (*see highlights article on page 10*).

In 2005 External Affairs coordinated the outreach efforts of Dan Berman, President Morrison's Special Representative to South Asia. With the help of EWC alumni, Berman established new alumni chapters and reinvigorated existing chapters, promoted the Center's programs to prospective students, and assisted in organizing the first EWCA South Asia Regional Conference held in New Delhi (*see highlights article on page 8*).

The East-West Center also remained active in service to the local community by supporting Aloha United Way and Hawai'i Public Radio, participating in charitable food and clothing drives, and providing expert testimony to the Hawai'i State Legislature.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Media coverage of the East-West Center continued to expand in 2005, enhancing the Center's capacity to inform policymakers and the general public on issues of importance to the region. The Center and its staff were cited in over 1,300 reports by media outlets worldwide with op-eds appearing in newspapers from Jakarta, to Washington, to Honolulu.

The News and Information section serves as a liaison between the Center and journalists throughout the region by arranging interviews with EWC specialists; organizing media briefings, news conferences and editorial roundtables; writing and editing op-ed pieces for national and international publications; issuing news releases, newsletters and related material; and distributing EWC analysis and commentary on important regional issues.

In 2005, new personnel joined the Office of External Affairs:

- *John Lewis, an award-winning journalist and former CNN Asia Bureau Chief, is the media relations specialist.*
- *Floren Elman-Singh, formerly a non-profit executive director with a background in marketing and public relations, is the public information specialist.*

2005 Publications by the News and Information Section:

EWC Annual Report 2004

Coming Up: bi-monthly advisory on conferences, seminars, and new EWC publications

EWC Observer: quarterly publication featuring EWC news and events, recent publications, and EWC Foundation activities



Karen Hughes, U.S. undersecretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs (left), engaging EWC students in discussion.

U.S. ambassador to Japan, J. Thomas Schieffer (3rd from left), met with (l to r) Terance Bigalke, director of Education; Sheila Smith, EWC research fellow and Japan security specialist; and Nancy Davis Lewis, director of research, during a briefing at the EWC.



His Excellency Enkhbayar Nambar, president of Mongolia, speaking at the East-West Center.

East-West Wire: emailed to approximately 2,000 journalists and other professionals worldwide featuring timely, topical reports covering EWC news, commentary, analysis, and publications on important regional issues

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Integral to its educational outreach effort, the East-West Center organizes community forums and special events designed to increase knowledge about issues affecting the Asia Pacific region. Public forums are held in collaboration with institutions and organizations such as the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council, Japan-America Society, the University of Hawai'i, Society of Professional Journalists, Pacific Forum, and various ethnic Chambers of Commerce. In 2005, the East-West Center cosponsored 24 highly visible public programs including presentations by the President of Mongolia and U.S. Ambassadors to Nepal, Vietnam, and Thailand.

BRIEFINGS

The EWC provided analysis of regional issues to more than 65 government officials, diplomats, journalists, military officers and the general public through briefings and individual meetings with Center staff. Briefings were held for the U.S. undersecretary of state for public diplomacy & public affairs, Karen Hughes; U.S. public affairs officers participating in the East Asia and the Pacific Chiefs of Missions meeting in Honolulu; U.S. ambassadors to Laos, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Japan, Cambodia, Fiji, Singapore, and East Timor; foreign ambassadors to the United States representing the United Kingdom, Mongolia, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka; the commander of the

Pacific Command, Admiral Fallon; Hawai'i State legislators; and several consuls general in Hawai'i.

PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES

The East-West Center currently has Memorandums of Understanding with organizations in 10 countries or geographic areas in the Asia Pacific region including Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. EWC program representatives provide assistance to EWC staff and students with visa applications, make Center materials available to prospective students, publicize in-country programs, and arrange meetings and speaking engagements by EWC visiting staff.



The Bangladesh ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Syed Hasan Amad (2nd from left) and his wife with (l to r) EWC Board Chairman Roland Lagareta and EWC President Charles E. Morrison.

Wallis and Futuna Islands Ensemble performing at Punahou School as part of an EWC residency in July 2005.



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Kaiulani Elementary School students enjoyed an EWC Indonesian mask-dance performance in appreciation for their "Million Pennies" tsunami fundraiser.

FRIENDS OF THE EAST-WEST CENTER

Complementing the Center's outreach effort is the community-based organization, the Friends of the East-West Center. The Friends is a non-profit volunteer organization that provides support for Center activities. It coordinates a host-family program for EWC students, administers the Mary Morgan Hewett Journalism Endowment, provides volunteer assistance for special EWC events, and sponsors a popular community lecture series. In 2005, the Friends held two evening dialogue series in the EWC Gallery in addition to cosponsoring luncheon seminars with the EWC. The Friends also help the Alumni Office coordinate the student mentoring program, matching students with professionals in the community.

ARTS PROGRAM

The East-West Center Arts Program increases understanding of cultures and ethnic groups from the Asia Pacific region through exhibitions, performances, lecture-demonstrations, and hands-on workshops. In 2005, more than 12,000 adults and youth on O'ahu experienced EWC's arts programs, and co-sponsorship enabled additional neighbor island youth to learn from visiting master artists. A recent program initiative targeted 'at-risk' youth with outreach to schools in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods and rural communities.

The Center's growing Permanent Collection has been augmented this year by significant gifts, including a museum-quality collection of 19th century Japanese woodblock prints.

- *William Feltz is the coordinator of the EWC Arts Program.*
- *Michael Schuster is the curator of the EWC Gallery.*

Performances

EWC Tsunami Relief Fundraiser Concert was organized by EWC staff and students within 48 hours of the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. More than a thousand people gathered at the Imin Center to show their support. This event launched a major year-long EWC fundraising effort.

Inetnon Dancers from Inarajan, Guam, a 15-member high school group renowned for their preservation of traditional Chamorro culture, performed at the EWC and schools on the islands of Kaua'i and O'ahu.

Indonesian Randai, the University of Hawai'i production of a traditional musical dance-drama, based on martial arts, from the Minangkabau region of Sumatra, toured Moloka'i island under EWC auspices, reaching 550 youth.

Masters of Persian Music, an Iranian quartet featuring Mohammad Reza Shajarian, drew 700 people, plus 400 students at Radford High School. These events were co-sponsored by the World Music Institute in New York City.

Te Vaka, a Polynesian Ensemble from New Zealand, performed at Leeward Community College Theatre and for more than 300 O'ahu high school students.

Bharata Natyam, a South Indian classical dance performance-demonstration by Izumi Sato in connection with EWC's Arts of Rajasthan exhibition.

EWC Curator Michael Schuster explaining the Indonesian mask tradition to students in conjunction with the EWC Gallery exhibition, "Gods and Demons, Monkeys, and Men: Masks of Southeast Asia."



An EWC sponsored Bon Dance exposes international students to this Japanese tradition.

Bon Dance, led by the Honolulu Fukushima Bon Dance Club, introduced this traditional folk dance to more than 200 international participants. This event was presented in connection with the Japanese Temple Architecture of Hawai'i EWC exhibition.

Wallis and Futuna Islands Ensemble, an eight-day residency by 24 cultural and educational experts with eight performances and demonstrations for audiences numbering over 1,400.

Black Grace, a New Zealand dance troupe of primarily Maori and other Pacific islands backgrounds, renowned for its unique combination of traditional and contemporary dance forms, delivered a public performance co-sponsored by UHM-Outreach College.

Shashmaqam, a traditional Bukharian Jewish ensemble from Central Asia, presented a sold-out concert and three lecture-demonstrations for schools, in connection with the Enduring Threads EWC exhibition. This was the first time music from Uzbekistan was performed in the Hawaiian Islands.

Exhibitions

Neither East nor West: Hong Kong Contemporary Art featured works by seven artists depicting impressions of urban life in Hong Kong. Five of the artists participated in Arts Forums. All events were co-sponsored by the Hong Kong Curatorial and Research Unit. The EWC together with the Hong Kong Arts Development Council co-sponsored the related conference East Meets West: Other Pacific Perspectives, held at Lingnan University in Hong Kong.

Gods and Demons, Monkeys, and Men: Masks of Southeast Asia, illustrated the mask theatre of the region. Guest curator Kathy Foley of the University of California at Santa Cruz delivered lecture-demonstrations assisted by dancers, Irawati Durban from Bandung and Bulan Djelantik from Bali. A video program on the topic, produced by Steve Meyer, was distributed to performing arts educators.

The Palace and the People: Arts of Rajasthan, displayed sculptures, costumes, folk paintings, photographs, and puppets; depicting the inter-relationship between the arts of village and nomadic people and the merchants and nobility of Rajasthan. The artist-in-residence, Kiran Soni Gupta, provided demonstrations throughout O'ahu.

Hope for Renewal: Photographs from Indonesia after the Tsunami, featured an exhibition of photographs taken in Aceh, Indonesia, by Marco Garcia, in the weeks following the devastating earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean. A catalog was published with all proceeds going to the EWC Tsunami Relief Fund.

Japanese Temple Architecture of Hawai'i, curated by Lorraine Minatoishi Palumbo, showcased the photography of Paul Chesley and cultural objects conveying the significance of temple structures in Hawai'i's society from late 19th century to the present. In collaboration with the National Historical Trust, this exhibit, complemented by 20 symposia and guided tours, raised awareness of the importance of historic preservation.

Enduring Threads: Central Asian Embroidered Textiles featured *suzani* textiles from Uzbekistan, provided by The Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art and shown publicly for the first time. Artists-in-residence included Dilbar Khalimova of Bukhara, a prominent Uzbek dye master and embroiderer; and Hermine Dreyfuss, a Washington-based photographer/visual ethnographer specializing in textile traditions around the world. A series of public forums supplemented the exhibition.



Master textile artist from Uzbekistan demonstrating suzani embroidery techniques in conjunction with the EWC Gallery exhibition, "Enduring Threads."



EWC alumni gathering in Brisbane, Australia for the inaugural chapter meeting. Present were: (standing l to r) Alison Carlisle, Wendy Carlisle, Jeremy Webb, Larry Foster, Karen Nunan, Ralph Carlisle, (seated l to r) Peter Nunan, Aline Webb, Iraphne Childs, Edilyn Bajracharya, Bhisna Bajracharya.

EAST-WEST CENTER ALUMNI

The East-West Center Association (EWCA) is an international network of more than 50,000 professionals who have participated in East-West Center programs. EWCA provides many programs and services for its members designed to support the Center's mission to help build an Asia Pacific community and to extend the outreach of the East-West Center.

- *Gordon Ring is the EWC alumni officer.*
- *Larry Foster was elected president of EWCA in 2005.*

New Chapters

Five new EWCA Chapters were officially established in Brisbane, Chandigarh, Phnom Penh, Vientiane, and Rangoon, bringing the number of chapters in the EWCA network to 45.

South Asia Regional Conference

Over 150 EWC alumni from 10 countries and EWC officers and staff gathered in New Delhi for the November conference devoted to Building a South Asia Community in a Global Context. *For more information on the conference, see page 8.*

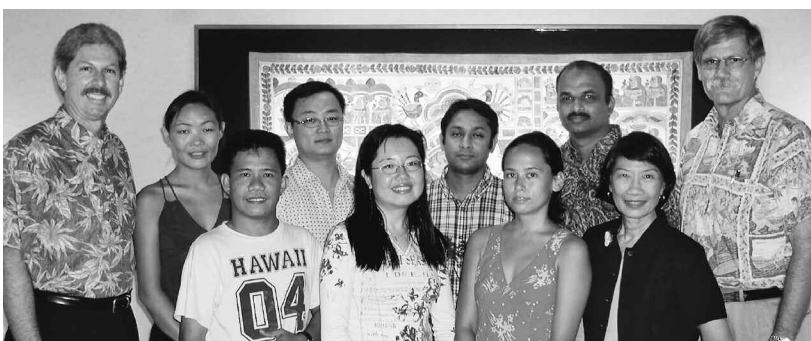
Chennai alumni present a \$5,000 check from the EWC Tsunami Relief Fund to the ROSA Foundation.

Student Relations

Relations between EWC alumni and current participants were strengthened as EWCA scholarships assisted four new and five continuing students, and provided an additional eight travel grants. For the first time, an EWCA alumnus will serve on the EWC Scholarship Screening Committee, which selects new students each year. More than 140 students have participated in the mentoring program, which links returning students with alumni who can assist them in furthering their professional goals.

Alumni Fundraising

EWC alumni from the 1960s raised \$250,000 to build a student scholarship endowment fund. The 150 contributors generously donated \$1,000 or more.



Carl Hefner (left), president of the EWCA Hawai'i Chapter, and Loretta Pang and Larry Foster, officers of the EWCA Board (right), presented travel grants to eight EWC students.



EWCA Chapter Highlights

The Jakarta chapter held seminars on Emotional Intelligence and a workshop on ASEAN, which featured a presentation by EWC Visiting Senior Fellow Seiji Naya.

The Chennai chapter hosted a seminar on disaster management at the University of Madras and presented a \$5,000 EWC contribution to the non-profit organization ROSA in support of their tsunami relief efforts.

The Kathmandu chapter held a musical concert fundraiser generating \$1,500 for the EWC Tsunami Relief Fund.

Over 100 alumni attended the Hawai'i chapter's Annual Meeting in April, which raised nearly \$5,000 to support EWC students. Dan Berman was honored with the chapter's Outstanding Service Award.