



EAST-WEST CENTER

COLLABORATION • EXPERTISE • LEADERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



## Message from EWC President Charles E. Morrison and Interim Board Chairman Richard Turbin



By virtue of its congressional charter, public diplomacy mission, broad regional focus and flexible structure, the East-West Center has a proud 55-year legacy as an agenda-setter, convener and network builder in the Asia Pacific region. At the individual level through educational and professional exchange programs, the Center aims to enhance participants' knowledge, skill sets and leadership capabilities. At the same time, our research and outreach programs strengthen capacity for the people and nations of the Asia Pacific to better understand and address critical issues of mutual concern.

The congressional language establishing EWC in 1960 called for collaborative activities, and the Center has long concentrated on its institutional partnerships, including more than a thousand in 2015. In recent years, much of the Center's work has focused on building a sense of Asia Pacific community and supporting regional frameworks that facilitate cooperation. A vigorous suite of programming addresses pressing challenges such as climate change, social justice, education, economic

development and international security. The range of EWC activities in 2015 included, among many others:

- Publication of more than 75 books, studies and policy briefs.
- Expansion of the *Asia Matters for America* initiative tracking U.S-Asia interactions.
- Engagement with more than 3,000 total participants, including 470 student fellows along with more than 500 seminar attendees in Washington and 2,000 other participants in Hawai'i and elsewhere.
- Nine journalist exchange programs, along with 31 student and teacher exchanges.
- Upwards of 60 public seminars and events in Hawai'i and 23 in Washington, in addition to numerous workshops and research meetings throughout the region.
- The second East-West Philanthropy Summit held in January, and the November launch of the China Global Philanthropy Institute by Bill Gates and others in Beijing.

In the fall, the Center celebrated its 55th anniversary by honoring Nainoa Thompson, who has led the re-emergence of traditional Polynesian navigation, with the Center's Asia Pacific Community Building Award. Nainoa's vision serves as an inspirational reminder of the importance of coming together as nations and individuals if we are to successfully navigate toward a peaceful, prosperous future for the region and the world.



EWC's president and board chair presented navigator Nainoa Thompson with the Center's **Asia Pacific Community Building Award**. "If you're building an Asia Pacific community, the inspiration comes from an Asia Pacific community, and that's what we are in Hawai'i," President Morrison said. "There are a lot of inspiring examples here in the Islands, and we're honoring one of the most inspirational tonight."

## EWC Celebrates 55 Years

*At a gala 55th anniversary celebration in September, EWC honored master traditional Polynesian navigator **Nainoa Thompson** with the Center's Asia Pacific Community Building Award, which recognizes outstanding leaders whose vision and accomplishments exemplify the mission of the East-West Center. Accepting the award "in all humility," Thompson, who heads the Polynesian Voyaging Society and has worked closely with EWC's leadership programs, said: "To me, the East-West Center is a pu'u honua (place of refuge) ... a place of hope, with a fundamental belief that you can bring people together around the Pacific and find that hope of peace." ♦ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4a](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4a)*



Emceed by EWC Foundation Board member and PBS Hawaii CEO **Leslie Wilcox**, the "International Affair" gala drew more than 500 friends and supporters of the Center. As is customary at the event, EWC participants in national dress mingled with guests and shared highlights of their East-West Center experience.

# Significant Events



More than a hundred Hawai'i businesswomen and students joined with international participants in EWC's **Changing Faces** women's leadership seminar in July to discuss and celebrate women's entrepreneurship at a special workshop held in partnership with UH Manoa's Shidler College of Business and other partners. The program featured interactive sessions and "open space" discussions on such topics as bringing local products to larger markets, funding startups and building a personal brand. ♦ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4D](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4D)

**62,000+** international alumni  
and **48** alumni chapters worldwide.



Twenty participants in an EWC-administered leadership program for Southeast Asian university students and recent graduates met with **President Obama** at the White House in June as part of the State Department's **Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative**. During a wide-ranging "town hall" Q&A session, Obama told the group that "Southeast Asia helped shape who I am and how I see the world. And as president, I've made it a pillar of my foreign policy to make sure that the United States is more deeply engaged in the Asia Pacific region ... because your region is critical to our shared future." ♦ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4R](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4R)

# Program Notes

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration awarded more than \$4 million for a new phase of the EWC-led **Pacific Regional Integrated Science and Assessment** program. A collaboration between the Center and several University of Hawai'i, federal and community entities, the Pacific RISA program is designed to help island and coastal communities learn about and cope with the effects of climate change, including the water quality testing project in American Samoa pictured here. ♦ [PacificRISA.org](http://PacificRISA.org)



Accomplished international journalists from a dozen countries traveled together to China, the Philippines and Singapore in May on the **Jefferson Fellowships** exchange to study territorial conflicts, resource issues, environmental concerns and more in the South China Sea. Pictured: Jim Gomez of the Associated Press in the Philippines questions a Chinese naval officer about the two countries' conflicting claims over islands in the region. ♦ [EastWestCenter.org/jefferson](http://EastWestCenter.org/jefferson)

**600** mentions in news reports  
by **530** media outlets in 2015.



**U.S. Ambassador to India Richard Verma** spoke at EWC in September, in advance of a visit to the U.S. by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Verma said the relationship between the two nations has reached “a new level” and is “poised to become a 21st century alliance, based in Asia, working towards the goal of global prosperity.”

◆ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4z](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4z)



**1,139** institutional partnerships  
in **79** countries and **37** U.S. states.



At an **Expert Group Meeting at UN headquarters**, EWC researchers shared findings on how different countries are trying to address low birthrates. The presentation coincided with the publication of ***Low and Lower Fertility: Variation Across Developed Countries***, edited by EWC researchers Ronald Rindfuss and Minja Kim Choe, which explores how various institutions, histories and cultures influence fertility in a diverse range of countries in Asia, Europe and North America. ◆ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4V](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4V)



EWC’s **human rights, international justice and governance initiatives** continued their capacity-building work in Southeast Asia, including development of the Jakarta-based Human Rights Resource Centre, advancing judicial reform in Timor Leste, collaborating with the UN on a workshop in Myanmar on cross-border governance, and helping Indonesia’s courts strengthen anti-corruption law. Pictured: The **Asian International Justice Initiative’s annual Summer Institute** in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights met in Bali to focus on issues of human trafficking. ◆ [EastWestCenter.org/aiji](http://EastWestCenter.org/aiji)

In May, *The Economist* magazine cited analysis in the EWC publication ***New Directions in Asia-Pacific Economic Integration*** as the “most influential” study on the potential impacts of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement. ◆ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4y](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4y)



**31,000** social media followers.



More than 115 graduate students gathered at EWC in February to present their research at the Center's annual **International Graduate Student Conference**. Planned and organized by EWC students, the interdisciplinary gathering is one of the largest of its kind worldwide. Cybersecurity expert Dr. Motohiro Tsuchiya delivered the conference's keynote address.

Policymakers and experts gathered in Honolulu in early October for the 6th annual **Australian American Leadership Dialogue** co-sponsored by EWC. The private diplomatic initiative brings together leaders from government, enterprise, media, education and more to review such issues as security, energy and climate.

◆ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4r](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4r)

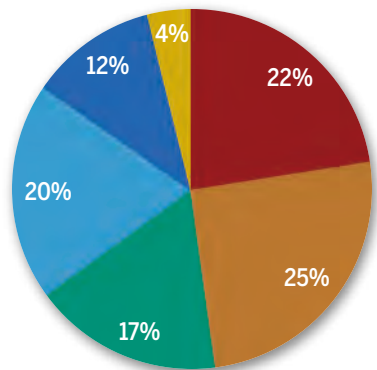
◆ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4K](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4K)

**3,055** participants from **79** different countries and territories, including students, visiting fellows, professional associates and interns.



In September, the East-West Center in Washington collaborated with the U.S.-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins to host a **"Myanmar in a Regional Context"** conference examining the policies of different Asia Pacific regional powers toward Myanmar and their effects on the emerging nation's internal policies. Speakers included then-U.S. Ambassador to Myanmar Derek Mitchell.

◆ [EastWestCenter.org/Z4j](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z4j)



**FY 2015 EWC Student Fellows**  
(by region)

■ East Asia	105		22.4%
■ Southeast Asia	119		25.4%
■ United States	81		17.3%
■ Pacific	92		19.6%
■ South Asia	54		11.5%
■ Other	18		3.8%

**469 student fellows**

from **53 countries and territories** participated in EWC undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate training and scholarship programs in FY 2015.

More than 140 educators attended the annual national conference of the **Asian Studies Development Program** held in the heartland entertainment mecca of Branson, Missouri. Since its inception in 1991, more than 1,600 educators from the U.S. and Asia have participated in the collaborative EWC and University of Hawai'i program aimed at enhancing undergraduate-level teaching about Asia at colleges and universities.

◆ [EastWestCenter.org/asdp](http://EastWestCenter.org/asdp)



**12,000+** people reached through seminars, public events and arts outreach.

## Public Engagement

The East-West Center connects its resources and research with the local, national and international community through **news media and public information services; briefings for visiting officials; and public programs.** In 2015, hundreds of people attended public seminars in Honolulu and Washington, D.C., as well as a broad range of meetings and conferences throughout the U.S. and Asia Pacific region. The Washington-based **Asia Matters for America** project continued to upgrade its user-friendly public data products on a wide variety of U.S.-Asia interactions. And more than 10,000 Hawai'i students and community members experienced **EWC Arts Program exhibitions and performances,** including concerts, school tours and school workshops like the school demonstration shown here by a member of the Music of the Himalayas troupe. ♦ [Arts.EastWestCenter.org](http://Arts.EastWestCenter.org)

## EWC Board of Governors

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 University of Hawai'i  
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### East-West Center Officers

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## Financial Review

For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, the East-West Center had total assets of \$44,357,741, total liabilities of \$3,592,699 and total net assets of \$40,765,042. Revenues and support for the year amounted to \$29,540,952. The revenue sources included: \$16,700,000 from the U.S. government appropriation, which covered most core operating and physical plant costs. Program costs were primarily funded by \$3,615,764 from other U.S. government awards; \$5,479,532 from other contracts and grants; and \$3,745,656 from other sources.

## East-West Center Foundation

The East-West Center Foundation is a private nonprofit organization, established to broaden and diversify private support for the Center. Private contributions, grants, and sponsorship, supplemented by competed funding from governments of the Asia Pacific region and the United States are used to support EWC programs and student scholarships.

An online supplement to this report contains additional information.

Download a pdf file of the supplement at:

◆ [EastWestCenter.org/Z49](http://EastWestCenter.org/Z49)

## East-West Center

For more than 55 years, the East-West Center has been promoting better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue. Established by the U.S. Congress in 1960, the Center serves as a resource for information and analysis on critical issues of common concern, bringing people together to exchange views, build expertise, and develop policy options.

Officially known as the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West, the Center is a U.S.-based independent, public, nonprofit institution for public diplomacy with international governance, staffing, students, and participants.

The Center's 21-acre Honolulu campus, adjacent to the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, is located midway between Asia and the U.S. mainland and features research, residential, and international conference facilities. The Center's Washington, D.C. office focuses on preparing the United States for an era of growing Asia Pacific prominence.



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[EastWestCenter.org](http://EastWestCenter.org)

1601 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96848-1601

Tel: 808.944.7111 | Fax: 808.944.7376

[EWCInfo@EastWestCenter.org](mailto:EWCInfo@EastWestCenter.org)



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