



Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I look forward to ALA Annual in Anaheim this year my term, as APALA President will come to and end. During this past year as your president, I have had the honor and pleasure of working and meeting with many of you at various functions and especially through emails. The APALA President plays an important role in the organization as it directly impacts the professional lives of those who belong to an organization. This past year, we have had many successful events. The success of any organization is due to

its membership and those who serve in positions of leadership. I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who helped me achieved my goals as APALA President.

I thank members of the Executive Board with whom I worked closely during my term. Their hard work and dedication greatly helped me during my term. They include Michelle Baildon, VP/President-Elect; Suhasini Kumar, Secretary; Sherise Kimura, Treasurer; Florante Ibanez and Sandy Wee, Members-at-Large; Ben Wakashige, Immediate Past President and Gary Colmenar, Executive Director. The chairs and members of the different committees did a wonderful job with their specific tasks and assignments. The chairs include Thaddeus Bejnar (Constitution and Bylaw), Dora Ho (Literary Awards), Michelle Baildon (Membership), Suhasini Kumar and Gary Colmenar (Newsletter and Publications), Ben Wakashige (Nominating), Angela Boyd and Maria Carpenter (Publicity), Alanna Aiko Moore (Research and Travel Awards), Laura Park and Ganga Dakshinamurti (Scholarship), and Holly Yu (Web). This year, we added several Ad Hoc committees which I hope will become a part of the APALA's standing committees in the near future. Thanks to the following chairs and their committees, Sherise Kimura (Finance /Fundraising Committee and Mentoring), Cecilia Poon (Mentoring), Michelle Baildon (Planning), and Gary Colmenar (Social). APALA was also represented at different councils and committees, Michelle Baildon and Joel Bangilan at Diversity Council and Florante Ibanez and Alanna Aiko Moore at JCLC 2012.

At the end of ALA Annual in Anaheim, Michelle Baildon will take over as your new President. Michelle has worked effortlessly as VP/President-Elect this past year. I worked with Michelle closely on many APALA programs this year and I know that she will do an excellent job as your new president.

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2008 APALA Annual Conference Program – Anaheim, CA

TITLE: Asian/Pacific American Leaders in Libraries: A Rare Commodity.

ABSTRACT:

Library directors, deans, deputy directors, and managers from ethnically diverse background are somewhat limited. It is even extremely rare that there are only a handful of them who are of Asian/Pacific American background. This program will showcase Asian/Pacific American leaders who made it in our profession as dean of library school program, director or deputy director, and managers in both academic and public libraries. Each will tell the rewards and challenges of reaching the top of the profession. They will also provide insights and strategies on navigating the road to leadership; what worked for them and how they faced various hurdles that they faced along the way. They will also give a general sense of where most Asian/Pacific American librarians would be in the managerial positions when the top position seems unreachable.

LOCATION: Anaheim Convention Center, Room 201C

DATE: Sunday, June 29, 2008, 10:30 am - noon

SPEAKERS:



Ling Hwey Jeng
Director, Library and Information Studies
Texas Woman's University
Denton, TX



Patricia Wong
County Librarian
Yolo County Library System
Woodland, CA



Ben Wakashige
System Director of Learning
Resource Centers
National American University
Albuquerque, NM



Heawon Paick
Branch Manager, Junipero
Serra Branch Library
Los Angeles Public Library
Los Angeles, CA

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President's Message *continued.*

I hope to see many of you in Anaheim, CA. I invite all of you to our programs, meetings, and receptions that APALA is hosting. As in previous years our organization will again have a strong presence in this year's annual conference that only reaffirms my belief in APALA's goals of serving the needs and interest of APA librarians and the APA communities whom we serve.

Some of these programs and receptions include:

- Diversity and Outreach Fair, 6/28/2008 Saturday 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Literary Awards Reception 6/29/2008 Sunday 08:00 am - 10:00 am ACC 201 C
- Asian / Pacific American Leaders in Libraries: A Rare Commodity 6/29/2008 Sunday 10:30 am - 12:00 pm ACC 201 C
- Religion, Ethnicity, and Gender in the Arab and Muslim World 6/29/2008 Sunday 04:00 p.m. -

05:30 p.m. ACC 211 B

- APALA members & Hawaiian librarian's reception, ALA President Loriene Roy's Suite at ALA Annual 6/29/2008 Sunday 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Little Saigon Bus Tour & Lunch, 6/27/2008 Friday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (RSVP required - florante.ibanez@lls.edu).

Please check our homepage for additional APALA events at <http://www.apalaweb.org>.

Thank you again for all your help and assistance during this past year. Please continue to encourage your colleagues to join APALA and help us to grow and provide professional library assistance to our organization. If you have any questions, please contact me by email bbasco@mail.ucf.edu or my cell phone 407-921-9619. Lastly, on behalf of APALA I would like to congratulate Camila Alire on winning the ALA Presidential election for 2009-2010.

Ven

The Newberry Library's Collection of Philippine Materials

By Augusto Espiritu

Associate Professor, History & Asian American Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

I was fortunate to be among the 10 members of the Association of Asian American Studies who went on the AAAS-sponsored tour of The Newberry Library in Chicago, April 18, 2008. The one-hour tour was coordinated by Gary Colmenar with the help of his colleague Anne Barnhart. Anne Barnhart is the Latin American Studies librarian and Gary Colmenar is responsible for the Asian American Studies collection at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

The tour was conducted by John Brady, the Library's Bibliographer of Americana & Director of Reader Services, a knowledgeable and eager guide to the Newberry's fine collection, especially of the Philippine historical and cultural materials, as well as of the Library's Map holdings, the two topics that concerned the group the most. Before taking us around, Brady explained the need to examine the hardbound guides to the Philippine collections as well as the card catalogue system, both of which contain sources not entirely covered by the recently developed online catalogue.

Brady shared three essential write-ups that any Philippines researcher should have—the online description of the Edward E. Ayer Collection (Ayer being the principal

entrepreneur and collector of Philippine materials), <http://www.newberry.org/collections/ayer5.html>; the “Newberry Materials on the Philippines and Philippine-American history: A Preliminary Survey” (1997), written for the Library by Paul Kramer; and “The Philippine Collection in the Newberry Library” by John Leddy Phelan, *The Newberry Library Bulletin*, vol. 3, no. 8 (March 1955). All three provide excellent descriptions and bibliographic information on the collection, which is rich in the late Spanish colonial period in the Philippines, the Filipino nationalist revolution, the Philippine-American War, and the era of US colonial rule from 1898 to 1946, with much additional material on ethnological photographs, Philippine linguistics, and travel literature.

The group had the distinct pleasure of touring the temperature-controlled vaults, which gathered much material that had us all excited about doing research. The Newberry Library has numerous fellowship opportunities for all kinds of researchers that all those interested should check out <http://www.newberry.org/research/felshp/fellowshome.html>.

Asian Pacific Studies Conference at Michigan State University

By Anchalee (Joy) Panigabutra-Roberts

Catalog & Metadata Services Librarian & Multicultural Services Team Member,
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries . E-mail: aroberts4@unl.edu



This April, I attended the second annual Asian Pacific American Studies Conference at Michigan State University (MSU) in East Lansing, Michigan (<http://www.msu.edu/~apaspec/conf/>). The timely theme, Asian Pacific American Intersections, compared the lives of Asian Pacific Americans with other ethnic minorities. I enjoyed the keynote speaker, Dr. Vijay Prashad, with his lively presentation style and thought-provoking messages. He cautioned us not only to focus on cultural celebrations vis-à-vis multiculturalism, but to continue teaching about racism and the supremacy of whiteness as our cultural norm.

I also enjoyed a panel by Michigan State University's undergraduate researchers. Their topics ranged from Asian American women and their images in the media, to Asian American art, to the racialization of Senator Barack Obama in the media. In addition, I learned about the Asian Pacific American Collection at the Library of Congress from the librarian, Ms. Reme Grefalda. More details on the collection can be found at: http://www.lcasianfriends.org/story/APAConference_PressRelease.

For future conferences to attend, I highly recommend this conference at MSU. You will learn about new scholarship and enjoy the great hospitality of the conference host.

The SLAIS Multicultural Committee By Allan Cho

On January 11, 2007, a group of library school students started an initiative to increase multicultural awareness in the curriculum at the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies (SLAIS) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver by requesting a meeting with faculty and administration as well as library professionals. The meeting that day would set the stage for the creation of the SLAIS Multicultural Committee. In many ways, the initiative was unique in North America, with library school students, professional librarians, academic faculty, and LIS faculty collaborating to form a working group.

The committee's mission is two-fold: (1) to raise awareness about multicultural librarianship, and (2) to foster a tradition whereby future students who enter SLAIS would feel comfortable participating and contributing their ideas about issues in multicultural librarianship and information science in an open forum. In creating a wiki (<http://slais.pbwiki.com>), the students wanted not only to keep track of their progress, but also to use Web 2.0 technology to collaborate, share, and promote information with a broader audience.

Although the SLAIS Multicultural Committee is still being developed, the discussions and the challenges that arose during the meetings offered a lens into the current context of cultural diversity in the profession and the discipline. Not only did the term "multiculturalism" provoke mixed responses among participants, interviews with students as SLAIS revealed that although there has been a deficiency of cross-cultural awareness in their studies, "ad hoc" efforts from unofficial groups from the grassroots level exist as a response to cultural isolation.

In August 2008 at the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) pre-conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, the four students who started the initiative, Allan Cho, Leah Pearse, Candice Fong, and Woan-Jen Wang, will present on their findings and the work of the SLAIS Multicultural Committee. Their presentation will be a case study into the field of cultural awareness in library and information science in a Canadian context, and presents the successes and challenges that the SLAIS Multicultural Committee faced in its first year of existence. In so doing, they hope to bring forth concerns that are often neglected in LIS curricula when it comes to culture and diversity by using the SLAIS Multicultural Committee project as a "lens" into the profession and discipline from LIS students' viewpoints.

One such group interviewed is the Chinese Canadian Library Weblog (<http://weblogs.elearning.ubc.ca/jingliu>), a social gathering of Chinese Canadian library professionals and SLAIS students, which conducts communication virtually across North America. On March 8, 2008, the group held a formal meeting together at UBC's Asian Library, while two members participated virtually via Skype.

The next step for the SLAIS Multicultural Committee is to formulate plans for creating a student chapter of IFLA at UBC SLAIS. If realized, this would be the first student chapter of IFLA to be established in a North American academic LIS department.

Presenters:

Allan Cho (allan.cho@ubc.ca); Tel: (604) 827-5833

Allan Cho is a reference librarian in the Humanities and Social Sciences Division, responsible for the subjects of Social Work, Asian Studies (non-Asian language), Women's Studies, Family Studies, and Lesbian and Gay Studies. His educational background includes a BA and MA in Chinese history as well as an MLIS.

Candice Fong (cefong@gmail.com)

Candice Fong is a second year student and MLIS candidate in the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. Her educational background includes a B.Comm and an LLB.

Leah Pearse (leah.pearse@gmail.com)

Leah Pearse is a joint MLIS and MAS (Master of Archival Studies) third year student in the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. Leah a Graduate Academic Assistant at the Humanities and Social Sciences Division at Koerner Library.

Woan-Jen Wang (eb702005@interchange.ubc.ca)

Woan-Jen Wang is an MAS candidate in her first year at SLAIS. Woan-Jen had experience in multicultural work in libraries before entering SLAIS. She was responsible for cataloging Chinese Canadian historical materials for the Historical Chinese Language Materials of British Columbia digital database <<http://burton.library.ubc.ca/hclmbc/>>. In September 2006, she began work on a website project focusing on Chinese Canadian views of the 1907 Anti-Asian riots, incorporating archival newspaper collections from all over the world. Woan-Jen translated them into English and designed an accessible website. Information about the SLAIS Multicultural Committee can be found at: <http://slais.pbwiki.com>.

What can ALA-APA do for you?

By Jenifer Grady, MSLS, MBA



Before I introduce you to and remind you about ALA-APA, let me thank all of you who have supported ALA-APA in so many ways, with your ideas, by telling others about the organization, by serving on committees, and by making donations. Still, there are

so many library employees who don't know what this association can do for you, so this brief orientation may help.

Within ALA-APA, there's something for everyone! You know that ALA's mission is to promote the highest-quality library and information services and public access to information. You might not realize, however, that ALA created an organization to **raise librarian and support staff salaries and status: the ALA-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA: <http://www.ala-apa.org>)**. It is housed in the ALA offices in Chicago, IL.

ALA-APA can help you to improve your salary, status and career opportunities!

- Attend our salary negotiation workshop *every year* at the ALA Annual Conference – It works! Learn what's negotiable, practice negotiating and let us know what happens once you put your new skills to the test. If you don't attend the conference, there are instructions and examples in the Better Salaries and Pay Equity Toolkit: <http://www.ala-apa.org/toolkit.pdf>. We also host management and professional development programs.

- Are you a public librarian who wants to be a manager or a manager who wants to fill in a few learning gaps? Consider the Certified Public Library Administrator Program. CPLA offers courses in the skills you need most, like personnel and building management, marketing, and budgeting, culminating in certification. Participants report that the program is changing their work lives, giving them confidence, better understanding, and relevant knowledge

right when they need it. One participant said, "These courses were a god-send and I am anxiously awaiting the start of my next class, which is on Planning and Management of Buildings (just in time, as the heat went off in our building today!). I wish I could express to you how much I am enjoying these courses. For years I contemplated enrolling in a doctorate's program, but I honestly was looking for something that was more ingrained with everyday tasks (and headaches) facing public librarians. Our Regional Library published an article in their monthly newsletter about the CPLA program and I thought, "This is just what I am looking for." Applications are reviewed quarterly. Find about deadlines and more at <http://www.ala-apa.org/certification/cplaapplication.html>.

- If you are quirky or have an interesting background or a unique skill set, you can be featured in a spotlight or write for our monthly e-newsletter, *Library Worklife*. A subscription to *Library Worklife* is a free member benefit for ALA institutional members and \$35/year for individual ALA members: <http://www.ala-apa.org/newsletter/4nspecial.html>.

- Use our data to research and identify trends in librarian and support staff salaries. We survey public and academic libraries each year and report salaries for more than 65 positions. The reports are available in print and in a database that allows you to run reports by library types, state and region: <http://www.ala-apa.org/salaries/alaapasurveys.html>.

- Are you entrepreneurial, enthusiastic, experienced, and/or eager to break into committee work? Serve on one of our exciting committees. Even if you already serve on three ALA committees, you can still serve with ALA-APA:
 - ◆ Salaries and Status of Library Workers
 - ◆ Publishing
 - ◆ Fundraising

- Nominate someone or yourself for the SirsiDynix Award for Outstanding Achievement in Promoting the Salaries and

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Feature Article

What About a Ph.D.? APA LIS Doctoral Students Research, Experiences and Perspectives

Interviews with Liladhar Pendse, Elisabeth Rodriguez, and Vivian Wong (Part 2)

By Clara M. Chu

“Something needs to be done in terms of recruitment of minority faculty... Increasing cultural diversity in our schools is essential in an information society in which minorities are becoming the majority.”
—Dr. E.J. Josey

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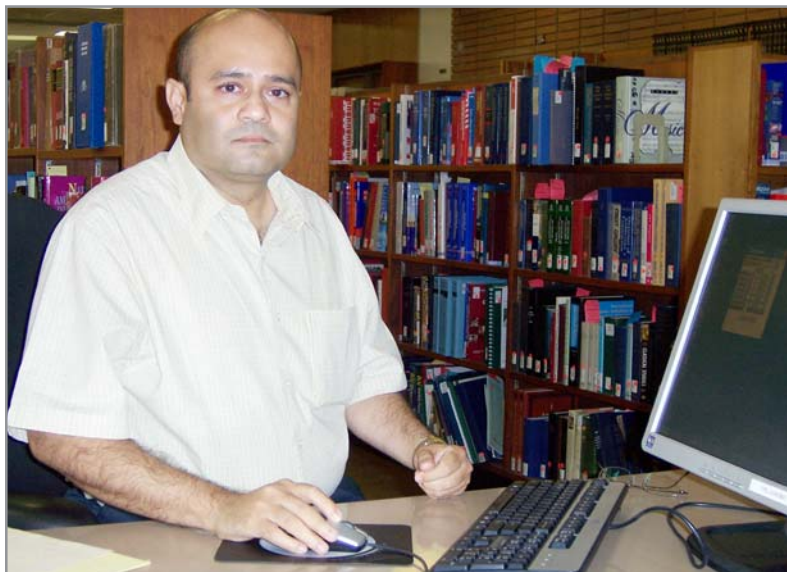
In order to make cultural diversity integral in the fields of librarianship, archives, and information, we need our faculty to be diverse. Dr. Josey highlights this point in his quote, which is prominently featured on the ALA Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship website. <http://www.ala.org/ala/diversity/spectrum/phdfellowship/fellows.cfm>. Modeled after the ALA Spectrum scholarship program, which provides financial support to students pursuing library and information science (LIS) master’s degrees or school media certification, the doctoral equivalent is a fellowship program designed to recruit and provide full tuition support and stipends to LIS doctoral students for four years of study. After a decade, the ALA Spectrum Scholarship program has provided scholarships to over 400 students, and is recognized as one of the profession’s most significant diversity recruitment efforts. The same success and vital contribution to diversifying LIS faculty and scholarship are expected of its fellowship program. The inaugural Spectrum Doctoral Fellowships were awarded in 2007 to six students as the scholarship program celebrated its 10-year anniversary. This article introduces the three inaugural APA fellows. They share with us their insights and experiences in transforming library, archival, and information research, education, and practice.

1. What drew you to do a Ph.D. in LIS?

[Pendse] After completing my MLIS and MA in Latin American Studies, I wanted to pursue my doctorate, but I was unsure about the choice of field in which I wanted to pursue it. My decision to pursue a Ph.D. in LIS was reached after several brain-storming and information-gathering sessions with my three mentors and several practicing librarians in the field. These mentors were Dr. Anne J. Gilliland, Professor and Chair of Information Studies, UCLA, Dr. Clara M. Chu, Associate Professor of the same department, and Dr. Susan Parker, Deputy University Librarian, UCLA. I am also thankful to colleagues Eudora I. Loh, librarian for Latin American Studies, David G. Hirsch, librarian for Middle Eastern Studies, and Pat Hawthorne, director of library human resources, who shared their valuable time, advice, and insights

with me. The UCLA University Librarian Gary E. Strong deserves credit here as he affirmed his support of my pursuance of a Ph.D. in LIS. I cannot thank him enough for the chance he has given me to do so while working full time in a professional capacity.

I consulted with Area Studies librarians, as I was initially considering pursuing a doctoral program in one of many subject disciplines like Latin American Studies, Portuguese or Slavic Studies. After several considerations, I realized that as a practicing librarian for Slavic/Eastern European, South Asian and Southeast Asian Studies (interim) in Collections, Research, and Instructional Service, I was extremely interested in conducting research about marginalized “boundary” communities, colonial experiences in South Asia and its effect on South Asian American Diaspora. I am



Liladhar Pendse

interested in looking at minority language culture preservation within a hegemonic linguistic milieu. One case that comes to mind is that of the Russian Far East. The Russian Far East is the part of Asia that was colonized heavily by the Russian Empire during the 17th century. The gradual Russianization of the region has led to the noticeable loss of the cultural and linguistic heritage of certain ethnic groups like Evens, Buriats, Yukagihrs etc.

Since the nature of my research is interdisciplinary and oriented towards the role of information in the community, I thought that a Ph.D. in LIS at a prestigious program like that at UCLA, with a world-class teaching faculty that conducts cutting-edge research, would be the best possible choice. As well, the UCLA Library offers, in my opinion, the best possible access to information sources that are needed for conducting research on the complex issues that are mentioned above. The geographic location of Los Angeles on the margins of the Pacific Rim with a huge APA population affords the chance to look at the process of inter-community interactions in diverse information environments. The sustainability of cross-cultural dialogues across APA communities can be observed relatively easily in Los Angeles. Besides, being interested in pursuing a scholarly research

agenda in LIS, I am also interested in teaching in an LIS program. Some of the themes that I am interested in teaching are cultural informatics, trans-cultural dialogs, and boundary objects within the archives, issues of APA access to information, and community sources.

[Rodriguez] A number of factors drew me to pursue a Ph.D. in LIS. Initially, it was my desire to pursue an administrative career within academic librarianship.

However, once I became a practitioner, I realized that I was drawn more towards instruction versus administrative duties or topics. In addition, I felt that my LIS educational experience was lacking something, and that was professors of color. I wanted to be that professor that I didn't have during my Master's level education. Lastly, I wanted to develop better research skills in

order to produce scholarly research.

[Wong] We live in interesting and exciting times as the nature of information, the way we understand, see, and use it, is constantly evolving. I want to be engaged in this period of change; and I feel LIS offers me an opportunity to gain an understanding and become involved in this developing information environment and digital world as a scholar and educator.

2. Your research interests focus on APA information issues and communities. Please describe why you chose this area of research, your particular interests, and the topic of your dissertation.

[Pendse] I believe that examination of information issues that are related to APA communities pose certain challenges to the interested investigator. First, the amount of diversity that characterizes Asian Pacific Islander communities is simply mind-boggling. Besides, being diverse in its linguistic and ethnic composition, the issues that are faced by APA's, with continued influx of new migrants to these communities, pose new sets of challenges in acculturation and trans-cultural transplantation in their new milieus. This case is

certainly to be seen in the South Asian community around Los Angeles. Having just finished my first quarter of school, it is too early to crystallize one particular topic for my dissertation. I am still in the learning phase within the program. I anticipate to have finalized my dissertation topic once I take my qualifying examinations in two years.

[Rodriguez] My mother is from Taiwan, so I grew up with the knowledge that cultural understanding is key to communication. My research addresses this type of cultural understanding in information literacy instruction, with an emphasis on Chinese Mainland students. I decided that I wanted to focus on Chinese Mainland students because of the complexity that arises in their cultural perspectives related to copyright.

[Wong] Much of my current research interests come out of my experience as a filmmaker, both from making my own films and the community media work I do at UCLA and within the larger Asian American community. I work a lot with digital media technology, and I am interested in how such technologies, as well as the representations they offer individuals and groups, have informed and impacted and will change practices within LIS and the archives. I am also interested in exploring how these practices are translated and applied in the Asian diaspora and Asian American communities as they document, collect, preserve, and disseminate their own histories, cultures, and experiences in formal institutions and local organizations, as well as how these practices flow in the global sphere and private and personal spaces.

3. What are the pros and cons of being APA and conducting research on or about your own community?

[Pendse] I believe that one of the advantages that I have is knowledge about the cultural, historical, literary, and religious traditions of South Asian American communities. Besides subject expertise in the field, I have language expertise—knowledge of several South Asian languages will aid me in my research enormously. Being considered an insider has the potential to make examination of certain aspects of community practices a bit trickier to the extent of trivializing some issues or being overly sympathetic. The question of identity is one of the important questions that

I face when dealing with South Asian American communities. Trying to “commute” among the world of South Asians and South Asian-Americans is a challenge that I love when it comes to examining critical information theory issues and problems with respect to my community.

[Rodriguez] Since I have only completed two semesters of my program I have yet to meet any difficulties within my research. However, as I continue my research I do anticipate possible difficulties.

[Wong] I don’t necessarily look at conducting research about one’s own community in terms of “pros” and “cons”; or at least, I don’t let the negative aspects, if they are any in a situation, deter me, although I try to

make efforts to be aware and sensitive anytime I engage any community or group regardless if they are ones I would claim as my own. Instead, I see it as there being a need for work to be done in and about the Asian American community and who better than the community and members from that community to define, engage in, and be a part of that work.



Elisabeth Rodriguez



Vivian Wong

4. Since there is little empirical research on APAs in LIS, has this been an issue in developing your scholarship?

[Pendse] No, little empirical research on APAs has been, on the contrary, motivation to pursue research. This lack of extensive empirical research on APAs should not be construed as a hindrance, but as a critical stimulus to proceed with this research.

[Rodriguez] I think that the lack of scholarship on APAs within LIS is problematic. Though this lack has not affected the development of my scholarship at this point, I do foresee it as a problem in the near future. As a potential LIS instructor who is interested in teaching courses that address the history of library services to ethnic Americans, I am concerned that this lack of literature on APAs perpetuates the idea that there are no

issues. This is why it is so crucial that more LIS research is published that addresses APAs.

[Wong] See #3.

5. Do you see an increase in APAs entering doctoral studies? Why or why not?

[Rodriguez] Most Asian students I see are international students. I think that academia is not seen as a traditional profession for many APAs, so the encouragement to pursue studies in areas, especially in LIS, isn't seen as an option.

[Wong] I don't know if I've been in the field long enough to see change either way, but I certainly hope more APAs will consider doing doctoral work in LIS. There is a need regardless of the numbers being up or down.

6. How are you finding your experiences as a doctoral student?

[Pendse] Since I work full-time as Librarian for Slavic/East European and South Asian Studies and Librarian for Southeast Asian studies on an interim basis, it is quite a challenge to keep up with all of the required and essential readings for the classes. I find that the readings are well-written and challenge us to think independently. Also, it has been challenging to balance work and study.

[Rodriguez] I am truly enjoying my Ph.D. experience. The amount of support from my institution (University of Pittsburgh) and the incredible opportunity provided by the ALA Spectrum Fellowship to pursue my studies have been a true blessing for me.

[Wong] I think my experience is very much like any first-year doctoral student, and certainly similar to those I've met and talked with who are in various programs and at various points in their programs. The experience is one of transition, adjustment, and much learning about oneself and the field while also grappling with one's own research interests. But I think all these things come with defining your work in any environment, so that education and learning constitute a continuing process regardless of what you do and where you do it.

7. What are your plans after graduation?

[Pendse] ¡Solo el tiempo dira! [Only time will tell!]

[Rodriguez] After the completion of my studies, I hope to teach in an LIS degree program.

[Wong] I hope to continue in academia, teaching and doing research.

8. If others wish to pursue a doctorate focusing on APA information issues and communities, what advice would you offer them?

[Pendse] Patience, Perseverance, Consistency, and Collegiality are a few important terms that should be practiced on a regular basis, besides full-fledged participation in all aspects of the program. I believe that working full-time and studying full-time in such an intensive doctoral program is quite challenging. If one can afford to solely do the doctorate instead of working and studying, that is greater utility. Fostering academic relationships require persistence and diligence, and as a student, one should focus on building these relationships with a hope of developing networks of professional connections.

[Rodriguez] The number of Ph.D. students within LIS is very small, so the likelihood of being around others with the same research area is very slim. So, if you find yourself in an environment where your research is not seen as useful, don't be discouraged because you seek information for a greater audience than just those around you.

[Wong] I don't know if it is advice per say or more of just having an awareness that doctoral studies and work in the community both involve commitment. While both ask much of yourself, both are rewarding and give you as much in return, if not more, as your efforts give to them.

9. How do you see APALA as a resource for you as a doctoral student and how might doctoral students be a resource for APALA?

[Pendse] APALA as an organization is vital to the process of informed doctoral research in the field. As asked, earlier, we know that there is a perceived lack of extensive empirical research in the field of information services to APA community. As a doctoral student, I would rely on seasoned members of APALA to serve as a "definitive resource." I am confident that the members of APALA will be able to contribute to my research with their insights and suggestions.

APALA continues to proactively engage Asian Americans and others who are interested in APA issues to think in critical terms about the role played by information in communal practices, decision-making processes, and in community-

Continued on page 10

What can ALA-APA do *continued.*

Status of Library Workers. This \$5000 annual award honors those people or institutions that have made a significant difference in staff salaries: <http://www.ala-apa.org/salaries/sirsidynixaward.html>. Nominations open again in October, but we will meet the 2008 winners at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA, at the Networking Breakfast on Sunday morning. The breakfast is also a forum for finding out more about unions in libraries (no, ALA-APA is not a union).

■ Let us know if you are hosting a great idea that will elevate the status of our profession. We are also happy to come speak about salaries, certification, stress management, personal advocacy, and more.

■ Finally, celebrate National Library Workers Day (NLWD) on the Tuesday of National Library Week. The theme is “Libraries work because we do,” and we have ideas on the NLWD site (<http://www.ala-apa.org/about/ideas.html>) for how to remind your communities, administrators and colleagues that you are valuable. If your library provides exceptional options for improving workplace wellness and work-life balance, let us know.

Contact me at any time for more information about any of these opportunities.

Jenifer Grady, MSLS, MBA
jgrady@ala.org; 800-545-2433, x2424



SirsiDynix—ALA-APA Award Winners and Jury

Front row: Barbara J. Ford (jury), Connie V. Dowell (winner), Theresa McMahan (winner); back row: Sol Hirsch (winner), John Jesse (jury), Peter McDonald (jury); Jim Wilson (sponsor).

What about a Ph.D. *continued.*

building. I believe that this leads to the following qualitatively new research paradigm: APALA, community, user, and information specialists: Fostering interactions, dialogue on practice-based research.

[Rodriguez] Within this field the more people you know the better. APALA is a community which to collaborate with other like-minds regarding issues related to APAs.

[Wong] Speaking for myself and those of us who come into this field without an LIS background or experience in the LIS profession, I see APALA as an organization that could educate us in those areas. As a doctoral student, I would like to know how I can be a resource for APALA instead of prescribing the kind of resource I could be to them; I hope there will be opportunity for continued dialogue between us.

This two-part series on APA doctoral students and research has been about connecting our future scholars and faculty with APALA members because collectively, all

aspects of the LIS field can be enriched, and APA issues can be addressed. We need knowledge based on the real world (i.e., community), which requires research that will seek to understand communities of color and others underserved, the information they need, and the technology and information resources that will address those needs. APALA members are invited to walk the path with our APA doctoral students in support of their academic journey. Together their work will be meaningful, and collectively, we will make inroads in LIS education, research, and practice.

Member News and Announcements

Vivian Wong - PhD Information Studies student at UCLA and **Florante Peter Ibanez**, of Loyola Law School - Rains Library, have organized a panel presentation for the Society of American Archivists (SAA) 2008 Conference being held in San Francisco for this coming Labor Day weekend - "Creating Memory & Representing Identity: Archives in the Asian American Community".

Florante Peter Ibanez just completed his first year of teaching two Filipino American studies classes at Loyola Marymount University under their Asian Pacific American Studies Program.

Jade Albuero is one of ten recipients for the 2008 EBSCO/ALA Conference Scholarship Award. This award, consisting of \$1000 for actual expenses, is designed to enable professional librarians to attend ALA Annual. The recipients will be featured in a photographic exhibit near the registration area at the Anaheim Convention Center and will be hosted at an EBSCO Breakfast on Sunday, June 29. In July, Jade will begin working in her new position as the librarian for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Clara M. Chu is the recipient of the Achievement in Library Diversity Research honor. The Office for Diversity began awarding this honor in 2004 as part of its ongoing support for the dissemination of library-based diversity research. She has been selected to present 2008 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecture at ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. Her lecture entitled, "Dislocations of Multicultural Librarianship: A Critical Examination for a Liberatory Practice" will explore the library's responsibility to provide equity of access to information and services

Patricia M. Wong is Yolo County Librarian, Yolo County Library.

Ken Yamashita as Deputy Director of Library Services Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library.

Allan Cho has recently been hired as Program Services Librarian at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at the University of British Columbia.

Richard Le received his MLIS degree from San Jose State University in May 2008. Combined with his other master's degree, Richard is looking for career opportunities in both public and academic librarianship in the San Francisco area.

Keeping Up With APALA

APALA members: Please keep us up-to-date!

Send us your news to share with colleagues through the APALA Newsletter. Email announcements to Gary Colmenar <colmenar@library.ucsb.edu> and Suhasini Kumar <skumar@utnet.utoledo.edu>, co-chairs of the Newsletter and Publications Committee.

Keep yourself updated on APALA news: Join the APALA listserv!

The APALA listserv, available to all members, is an information-sharing resource and communications link for committee work, time-sensitive bulletins, etc. Job announcements are also posted on the Listserv.

To join, or for all listserv-related questions, contact the APALA Executive Director, Gary Colmenar <colmenar@library.ucsb.edu>.

To post job announcements to the APALA website <<http://www.apalaweb.org/>>, please email Holly Yu <Hyu@exchange.calstatela.edu>, the APALA Webmaster.

Northern California APALA *Social Events*

By Sandy Wee, Janet Tom, and Sherise Kimura

APALA's Northern California group got together for another social at Mekong Restaurant. We let our fearless vegan, Janet, do the ordering, as the restaurant had a nice selection of vegan dishes. We tried most of them and everything was good. Overall, we had a great time and were the last to leave the restaurant. Aside from our passion for books and Asian American films, we found out many of us are frequent visitors of Trader Joes' and started comparing notes. Our next social will take place in July 2008. If you live in the area, please join us! We talk shop and eat well.



SoCal APALA Dinner/Mixers

By Florante Peter Ibanez

Photos 1, 2 & 3 were taken on Feb. 16, 2008 at Asian Noodle in Chinatown, Los Angeles. About 20 APALA members and friends came to enjoy a good selection of Filipino dishes and exchange contact information. Alerted by Susan Minobe (UCLA) some even when out to see the remains of a satellite fly overhead in the night sky. For a first time SoCal APALA Dinner/Mixer, attendees were pleased with the event and decided to plan another (see below). Librarians came from LA Public Library, UC Riverside, UCSB, UCLA, Cal State Channel Islands, Loyola Law School, and even as far as Univ. of Ill, Urbana-Champaign (Sarah Park is actually finishing up her Ph.D. dissertation back home in LA). for more photos see: <http://www.pixagogo.com/3796594107>

Photos 4, 5 & 6 were taken on April 12, 2008 at Oiwake in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles. We came expecting to hear APALA librarians “Karaoke” the night away, but were disappointed because the promised DJ didn’t show up on time to set up the machine. However, a splendid time was spent talking about the new UCLA portfolio requirements, cataloging and other “important” library related issues, but really mostly introducing new folks and drinking beer and going back to the Japanese buffet while waiting for the DJ. It was brought up that APALA events and programs were planned for the upcoming ALA Anaheim Conference and that all were invited to a Little Saigon Bus Tour, hosted by APALA. It was agree to plan more of these local events too. For more photos see: <http://www.pixagogo.com/0806034180>.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 6: **Paula Yoo** (left) and **Dora Ho** (right).

Yoo was the 2004-2005 Honorable Mention for Illustration in Children Literature for her book, *Sixteen Years in Sixteen Seconds: the Sammy Lee Story* (New York: Lee & Low Books, 2005). Her latest book is *Good Enough*.



Photo 4



Photo 5

**Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association
Affiliated with the American Library Association**

MEMBERSHIP FORM

DATE _____ Please check one: ___ NEW MEMBER ___ RENEWAL
(APALA Membership year is from January 1 to December 31)

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Indicate, in order of preference, the committee on which you wish to serve APALA

(See lists of committees in APALA Directory at <http://www.apalaweb.org/committees/standingcomms.htm>)

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** Donation to APALA is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law **

Please mail the completed form with check (payable to APALA) to:

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