



# apala

asian/pacific american librarians association

NEWSLETTER

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome Back, APALA!

I am honored to work with all of you this year. I would like to thank the 2014-2015 President, Eileen K. Bosch and Executive Board for their leadership. I also commend the committees, task forces and representatives for the incredible dedication, camaraderie and good cheer in accomplishing great things, most notably the Symposium to celebrate APALA's 35th Anniversary, "Building Bridges: Connecting Communities Through Librarianship & Advocacy," on June 25, 2015, in San Francisco. I want to recognize the planning co-chairs, Gary Colmenar, Florante Ibanez and Jade Alburo, for their bold leadership and vision, from its inception two years ago to its celebratory manifestation. It was their good humor, dedication and tenacity in mobilizing all the committees that made this symposium the historic event that it was. What an inspiration for looking forward to the next one!



Among the many accomplishments from 2014-2015 was the revision of the APALA Officers Manual. Under the leadership of Paolo Gujilde and Sarah Jeong, the manual was significantly updated and is already proving its utility.

I am excited to work with the 2015-2016 Executive Board: Eileen K. Bosch (Immediate Past President), Ven Basco (Executive Director), Lessa Pelayo-Lozada (Vice President/President-Elect), Dora Ho (Treasurer), Anna Coats (Secretary), Melissa Cardenas-Dow (Board Member-at-Large), Paolo Gujilde (Board Member-at-Large), Ariana Sani Hussain (Board Member-at-Large) and Brian Leaf (Board Member-at-Large). We meet monthly to discuss issues pertinent to APALA and accomplish our work.

The Executive Board oversees:

- Programs: Midwinter and Annual meetings, programs, and socials.
- Projects: Emerging Leader projects.
- Awards: literature awards, scholarship and travel awards.
- APALA representation and partnerships: National and international organizations

*(Continued on page 2)*

apala executive board  
2015-2016

### President

Janet H. Clarke

### Vice President/President-Elect

Lessa Kanani'opua Pelayo-Lozada

### Immediate Past President

Eileen K. Bosch

### Secretary

Anny Coats

### Treasurer

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### Members at Large (2014-2016)

Melissa Cardenas-Dow

Paolo Gujilde

### Members at Large (2015-2017)

Ariana Hussain

Brian Leaf

and causes, such as ALA, Ethnic Caucuses, literacy, diversity, and social justice initiatives.

Policy development and administration.

This year, we will work on the following priorities:

- Redesign APALA's website using assessment findings from 2014-2015 Emerging Leader project.
- Consolidate Publicity, Web, and Newsletter/Publications Committees into one to streamline communications, branding, and effort.
- Launch a membership campaign to increase APALA's vitality and relevance to library professionals.
- Increase APA advocacy and social justice programming by strengthening our partnerships with Ethnic Caucuses and other diversity initiatives regionally and at Annual Conference programming.
- Develop a new strategic plan to address new short- and long-term goals and future directions.

Already, our committees are busy. Lessa Pelayo-Lozada, Vice President/President-Elect, and Melissa Cardenas-Dow, Communications Coordinator, are drafting APALA's Emerging Leaders project proposal to submit to ALA. Our project will be to develop a marketing and communications plan. This EL project will dovetail nicely with our plan to revamp our communications and publicity structure.

Michelle Baildon and Eugenia Beh are heading the Midwinter Local Events Task Force, and are already well under way with some delightful ideas for our meeting in Boston in January.

Looking forward to next year's Annual meeting in Orlando, Lessa Pelayo-Lozada and Peter Spyers-Duran have begun meetings with their Program Planning Committee. As local experts, Peter Spyers-Duran and Buenaventura Basco are scouting out events and social activities (other than Disney World!) with the Annual Local Events Task Force.

I am also excited to report that we have two APALA representatives on the newly incorporated Joint Council of Librarians of Color (JCLC) Steering Committee, Sandy Wee and Lessa Pelayo-Lozada, as they begin planning for the next JCLC conference. They will work with Kenneth Yamashita, past APALA president, and Dora Ho, APALA Treasurer, who are members of the Board of Directors. This is an excellent example of APALA's leadership at the national level.

These are just some examples of the work that has already begun on our committees and task forces. We've created a master calendar for all working groups to share for greater communication and transparency. The next Executive Board meeting is September 18, 2015, where we will review budget requests and timelines for all committees and task forces.

Our committees and task forces are as follows:

*Committees:*

2016 President's Program Planning  
Constitution and Bylaws  
Family Literacy Focus  
Finance and Fundraising  
Literature Awards (Adult fiction, Adult non-fiction, Young adult fiction, Children's literature, Picture book)  
Membership  
Mentorship  
Newsletter and Publications  
Nominating  
Publicity  
Scholarships and Awards  
Web

*Task Forces:*

2016 Annual ALA Diversity & Outreach Fair  
2016 Annual Local Arrangements-Orlando  
2016 Midwinter Local Arrangements-Boston  
Archives & Handbook  
Strategic Planning

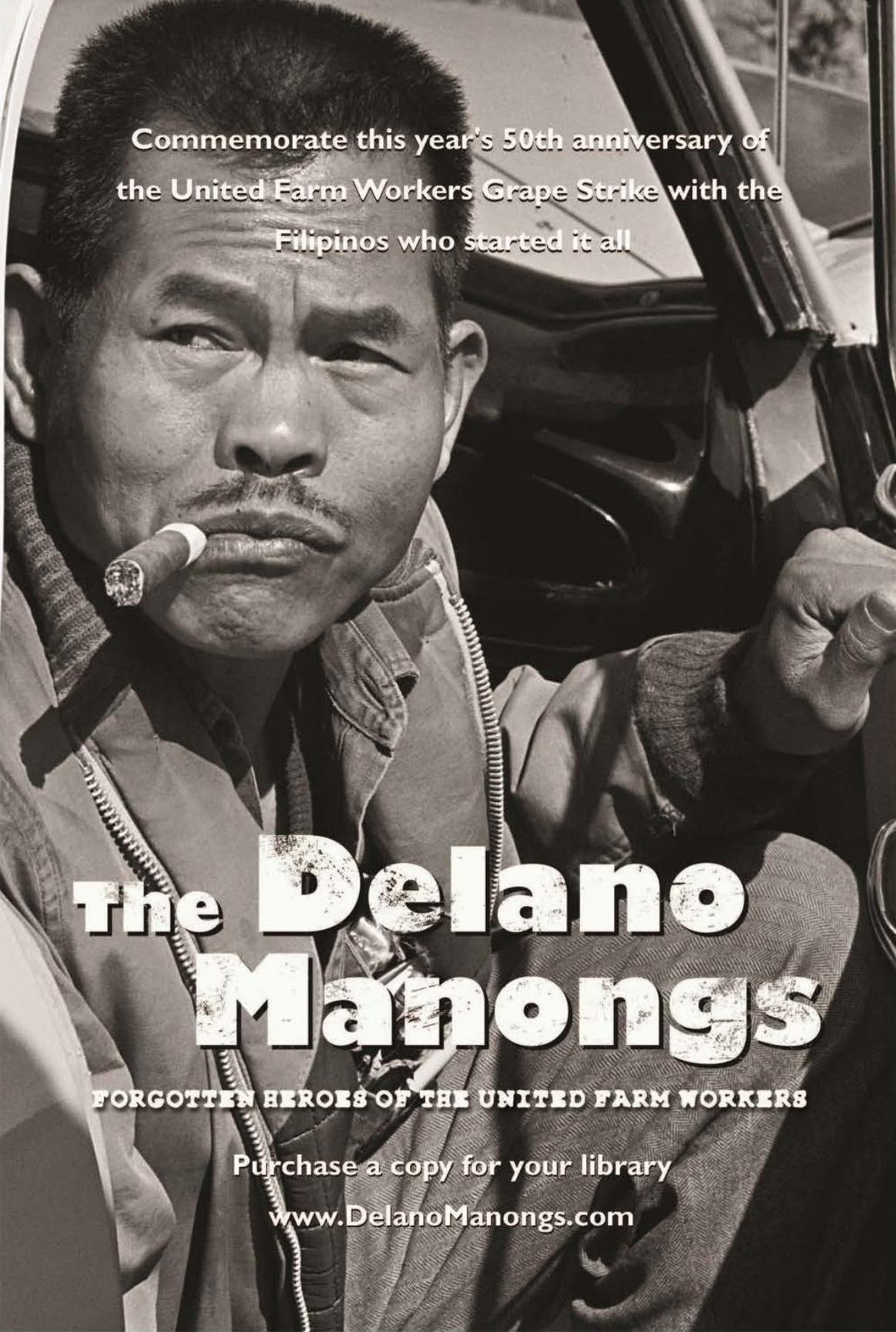
*Representatives:*

ALA Committee on Library Advocacy  
ALA Digital Content Working Group (DCWG)  
Diversity Council  
Joint Council on Librarians of Color (JCLC)  
Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (TFEDI)

For full committee membership, please visit the [APALA Committee](#) page. Thank you all for serving APALA and making it a vital professional organization! We look forward to working together to achieve our goals.

I welcome your feedback and creative ideas for improving APALA's relevance for your professional needs. Please reach out to any of the Executive Board members with your ideas and concerns.

Sincerely,  
Janet Hyunju Clarke  
President



Commemorate this year's 50th anniversary of  
the United Farm Workers Grape Strike with the  
Filipinos who started it all

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## APALA 35TH ANNIVERSARY AND SYMPOSIUM: KEYNOTE SPEAKER VALERIE KAUR

By Molly Higgins

Valerie Kaur is a lawyer, filmmaker and Sikh activist. During her talk, Kaur shared how Grant Din, an archivist working at Angel Island (who was present at the Symposium), reached out to her to share the records of her grandfather's time at the immigration center. For Kaur, learning that a white lawyer stepped forward to help her grandfather navigate the immigration proceedings helped complete the story she already knew about her grandfather looking after the farms of his Japanese American neighbors while the US government interned them during WWII. It became a longer narrative of kindness across communities begetting kindness across communities. Kaur went on to explain how narratives like this give her strength and courage to do her advocacy and activism.

Stories can give us strength and courage for our own advocacy and activism. They can also help us build connections between communities. Comparisons have been drawn between the shooting in Charleston and police brutality against black Americans. Kaur drew another comparison, between the shooting at the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek in August 2012, and the shooting at the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, only a few weeks before the Symposium. She shared a video, "Oak Creek: In Memoriam", that recapped the shooting and the community's response. (If you want to see or use the video, it's available at <<https://vimeo.com/user3583721/videos>>. I'll be using the video this fall for one of my LibGuides, as an example of documenting and disseminating Asian American community histories.)

Lastly, Kaur touched on the importance of net neutrality. Net neutrality "is the concept of online non-discrimination. It is the principle that consumers/citizens should be free to get access to -- or to provide -- the Internet content and services they wish, and that consumer access should not be regulated based on the nature or source of that content or service. Information providers - which may be websites, online services, etc., and who may be affiliated with traditional commercial enterprises but who also may be individual citizens, libraries, schools, or nonprofit entities - should have essentially the same quality of access to distribute their offerings" (ALA, 2015). For those of us who work to increase diversity in literature or to make the histories and knowledge systems of underrepresented groups more visible, net neutrality is important because it guarantees that our stories have an equal chance, technologically at least, of being heard. Kaur thanked ALA for fighting for a free and open internet, where all people have a fair chance of hearing, being heard and connecting to each other. You can

watch her video on Net Neutrality at [https://youtu.be/sc\\_thn-vdvw](https://youtu.be/sc_thn-vdvw).

Valerie Kaur's keynote speech was definitely a highlight of the APALA 35th Anniversary and Symposium for me because I work for social justice as a librarian. Linking stories to strength, and the work of librarians to the work of activists was very inspiring. I saw several packs of tissues being handed around the crowd and plenty of Twitter action. You can read more about the attendee's reactions by searching for #apala35 or #apala35th on Twitter. I'd like to thank Kaur for speaking with us and all the APALA members who worked so hard to make the event come together.

ALA, 2015. Network Neutrality. <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/telecom/netneutrality>. Accessed on July 22, 2015.

Molly Higgins is a librarian at Stony Brook University in New York.

## EMBRACING THE JOURNEY FROM THE OBSCURE TO EMPOWERED: A LIBRARY PEDAGOGICAL PROGRAM - A LIFETIME ENRICHED & TRANSFORMED

By Evelyn Shimazu Yee

In June 2015 APALA members traveled to San Francisco to attend the American Library Association Conference. The theme this year was Transforming Our Libraries Ourselves. Also in conjunction, at University of San Francisco, strengthening that theme, APALA held its festive 35th Anniversary Celebration and Symposium, "Building Bridges: Connecting Communities through Librarianship and Advocacy." These provided attendees with a powerful focus on learning, networking advocacy and transformation.

As part of the 35th Anniversary celebration in San Francisco, Janet Tom, local San Franciscan and APALA member, made excellent arrangements for APALA members to participate in a delightful, culturally transformative and educational tour of historical San Francisco's Chinatown. The event was intriguing and culturally enlightening. We embraced the hidden stories from that of our collective cultural past. "Bridging" these into life has caused those of us who attended, as Asian Pacific Americans or supporters of the same, to pause and reflect on the past. Inspired by our tour guide, we are energized to continue to advocate for the preservation of Asian Pacific American history.

### Ernie Ng, Docent, Tour Guide/ Local Historian

It was against the backdrop of the blue San Francisco sky, complemented with white clouds and bay breezes, that we held our Chinatown tour. It was a perfect San Francisco summer morning when

we met Ernie Ng. He introduced himself as a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and a former microbiologist for the State of California, now retired. He was our illustrious Chinatown tour guide.

"Incredibly...", explains Ng, "...I have been a volunteer for City Guide tours for over 31 years." Ng is also a Docent at Golden Gate Park and has enjoyed giving tours of Victorian architec-



Ernie Ng, Air force Veteran, former microbiologist for the State of California, San Francisco State University Alumnus

ture, sacred places such as churches and temples and in other historically cultural locations, such as Japantown.

His excellent tour included the history of the Chinatown plaza, where our group congregated for the beginning of the tour. Ng explained that before the discovery of gold in California, a Captain by the name of Montgomery traveled to the middle of town to what was believed to be this plaza site and, in July of 1846, planted the American flag and claimed it as part of the United States.

Today, in the same plaza, elderly Chinese men can be found enjoying the sunny outdoors playing a serious game of chess, while other men and women (mostly seniors) can be seen congregating with friends for a chat or gathered in organized groups practicing their morning Tai-Chi exercises all in unison. Small shops owned by Chinese business owners surrounding the plaza sell popular Chinese bakery items. One can catch the aroma of coffee, tea and Chinese baked goods.

### The Forgotten Chinese Contribution:

We learned from Ng (Ng & City Guides, 2015) that it has only been approximately 25 years ago that the question began to surface: Who was responsible for building the physical infrastructure of San Francisco and surrounding areas to support the building up of the land, draining the marshes, setting up dikes and levees? Based on the evidence, the structures of granite which were indicative of Chinese style building. This seems to point in the direction of the Chinese. There were no slaves in the West and because the Mexicans were mostly rancheros (cowboys), Ng extrapolates that these clues bring us to a conclusion that it must have most likely been the Chinese laborers whose great contributions to the building of the city were sadly forgotten over many years' time. Because of the hardship many of the laborers endured without wives to support them, life was difficult. Also because many Chinese laborers then did not read or write English fluently, they would have less opportunities to keep records of any historical contribution.

We also learned that in 1882 there was a "racial" Exclusion Act that was passed that forbade the Chinese from 1) becoming naturalized citizens and 2) prevented them from further immigration until 1942 ( Ng & City Guides, 2015) . In 1942, when the U.S. declared war with Japan and the U.S. needed an Asian ally, that was when the Chinese were allowed to citizenship. Similarly, exclusionary racial laws were also passed against those legal permanent immigrants of Japanese ancestry, excluding them from citizenship and owning property until a decade later. (Lambert, Yee, 2012).

### **Connecting Communities: City Guides, a Visionary Library Pedagogical Program**

Ernie described how his tour guide training began. It involved the public library. One day he picked up a flyer he found at the public library inviting interested parties to join the San Francisco Library's training program, *City Guides*. Ernie joined this public speaking training program. It transformed and revolutionized his life. The library City Guides program training helped to transform (what he described as) a "shy introvert" into what we now recognize today as an articulate, well-informed and well-sought-after local historian and city tour guide.

### **A Vision: Bridging Ethnic Asian American History for Posterity**

While receiving training, Ng learned about the Victorian architecture that has been well preserved in San Francisco. He eventually also began conducting the Golden Gate tours. The more he learned about the history of his town, pride in his own family's cultural history, as well as that of San Francisco's history, grew. He recognized he had found his niche. He discovered that his family's story and those like them ran parallel to and was indicative of the stories that reflected the historical building of the city of San Francisco.

The patriarch of the Ng family, Ernie's father, arrived in the U.S. in 1908 when his father was only 18 years old. He came over as a "paper son" of a Chinese man who was here legally. Ernie was born in Chinatown and was one of nine children in the Ng family. His Mother was a picture bride. Ernie Ng shares, "I now realize how important it is for a Chinese American in San Francisco to tell the story of our Chinese American heritage. Americans [in general and] even younger Chinese Americans know so little about the struggles that our forefathers had to endure to have a place in this country. We are also unaware or have forgotten the contributions the early Chinese made to our country and to our state" [of California] (Ng, July 16<sup>th</sup> 2015, personal communication).

Ernie Ng continues to conduct tours and is fully retired from the Alameda County Health Department and Kaiser Permanente. He is a graduate of San Francisco State University and resides in a suburb of San Francisco.

Evelyn Shimazu Yee is an Associate Professor at Azusa Pacific University and is the new Acting Curator of the Asian American Mission Archive, University Libraries, Azusa Pacific University in California.

### **References:**

Ng, E & City Guides ( June, 2015) APALA Chinatown Tour, San Francisco  
Ng, E (July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015) personal conversation  
Lambert, S., Yee, E.S., Lambert, C. and Yee-Sakamoto, I. (2012, March). *Dietrich Bonhoeffer and integrative themes: denouncing human injustice and promoting human dignity*. Finding a common thread in the root cause of the holocaust, the internment of ethnic Americans during WWII, and the phenomenon of bullying in the schools. Finding solutions to promoting human dignity. C AP Studies International Conference. Washington DC.

## LACUNA: WRITING FROM THE GAPS

By Paul Ocampo

“Walang hiya! No shame,” I remember my uncle once said to me after I told him I wanted to become a writer. I was in the fourth grade. With that, the dream would be dismantled at such a young age and replaced with a pursuit for a more traditional, lucrative career in the medical and legal profession. For most Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, the pursuit of the literary arts, in particular, remains elusive and daunting as we find a lack of support and faith not only from our families and communities but also the publishing and literary communities that uphold a monolithic whiteness in literature. It is against this struggle that Lacuna Giving Circle and APALA collaborated to bring “Lacuna: Writing from the Gaps” that was held on June 27, 2015 at the I-Hotel Manilatown Center in San Francisco, during the American Library Association conference.



From left to right: Paul Ocampo, Lysley Tenorio, and Viet Thanh Nguyen discuss struggles of AAPI writers at “Lacuna: Writing from the Gaps.”

“Lacuna: Writing from the Gaps” brought together two AAPI writers who recently published their first books: Viet Thanh Nguyen and Lysley Tenorio. Viet Thanh Nguyen is the author of the acclaimed novel *The Sympathizer*, which chronicles the adventures of an unnamed double agent who spies on former Vietnamese government officials who fled to Los Angeles during the fall of Saigon and who are scheming to try to recapture the home they had lost. Lysley Tenorio is the author of the collection of stories titled *Monstress*, about the loneliness that haunts the lives of Filipinos in the diaspora. It was fitting that the event was held at the historic I-Hotel Manilatown Center, the very site that is the setting of Lysley Tenorio’s short story “Save the I-Hotel.” So as not to give away any plot points of the works of our writers, the discussion at the event focused on the struggles in becoming

a writer and in publishing first books. In the discussion, Viet, Lysley, and I found a connection deeper than our AAPI identities: We were all mentored by Maxine Hong Kingston, author of the *Woman Warrior*, when we as Berkeley students took her creative writing course.

A novel or a collection of short stories are written in isolation, but it is through the support of the community that an artist thrives. For myself, it was Maxine Hong Kingston’s course and the friends I made in that class that have sustained my dream to write. The community thus is a significant, if not necessary, ingredient in any artistic ambition. Our event reflected this light. In fact, “Lacuna: Writing from the Gaps” emerged from a partnership between APALA, Lacuna Giving Circle, and myself for a grant from the San Francisco Arts Commission. Our event is supported through the Individual Artist grant that I received from the SF Arts Commission to continue writing a novel, tentatively titled *Rizal in America*, that chronicles the Philippine national hero and novelist Jose Rizal’s relatively unknown journey through America. We write from the gaps and tell our stories.

Paul Ocampo assisted Maxine Hong Kingston in editing *Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace*, which includes his short story “Butterfly.” He was a former editor of *Hayden’s Ferry Review* and is a recipient of the SF Arts Commission Individual Artist Commissions grant.

## IFLA REPORT FROM A FIRST TIMER

By Raymond Pun

This year the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) annual conference was held in Cape Town in South Africa from August 16-21, 2015. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend, present and serve as a delegate in the conference. This piece will explore my experiences in IFLA and will give you some ideas on what to expect in next year's IFLA conference, which will be held in Columbus, Ohio.



A View from Table Mountain

I am grateful for the speedy responses from APALA's leadership team to draft a memo for a delegate grant to attend the conference. The IFLA committee accepted the letter and they waived the registration fee. I was invited to deliver three papers in this conference as a first timer and it was very interesting to see how this conference is set up compared to ALA and SLA. I have never been to IFLA and Africa before and it was perfect timing for me to attend and explore the conference and the city of Cape Town.

Since 1927, IFLA has been recognized as an international organization that sponsors the annual event of the "World Library and Information Congress" (WLIC). Many papers, presentations and activities were delivered in this conference's theme "Dynamic Libraries: Access, Development and Transformation." I delivered one presentation on gaining professional development opportunities while working abroad, another one focused on geospatial literacy and another one focused on providing public services to the marginalized communities such as the incarcerated and the

mentally challenged. They were very different from one another, which made it easier for me to deliver and they were focused on different parts of my career too.



A presentation about various standards and best practices of knowledge management

I also attended many sessions on big data networks, genealogy, library extension programs, innovative reference services and knowledge management and the values of research libraries. In particular, the values of research libraries gave me a lot of ideas on how to "measure" value in different standards and how I could share the values that libraries can provide to the community: intrinsic, cultural, institutional and instrumental values. They are all different but important values that the library can pursue and measure as well.



A panel discussion on best practices in genealogy research from Asian and African Libraries

One of the great opportunities of attending such an international conference is the network: it is huge. There are librarians from Europe, Africa, Australia, Asia and South America. I was meeting so many types of professionals working on innovative and collaborative projects. Many of them have never been to IFLA or any kind of library conference so it was nice to hear about their thoughts on libraries in their home countries. I highly recommend being social and attending as many functions as possible so you can connect with other librarians or think about implementing similar projects or collaborations.

The conference also had an expo – not as large as ALA’s but it was small enough where you could actually visit every booth and hear what they are offering. There were over 50 posters displayed in the back of the expo that allowed members to see many of the research projects and library programs from all over the world: there were posters from Taiwan, South Africa, Germany and the U.S. One could gain many new service ideas from just browsing through these posters: some discussed outreach programs with hospitals and others focused on building digital library programs or e-book services. They were eclectic and informative.



The Cultural Event in IFLA: Librarians Partying Hard

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Next year’s conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio. There are going to be about 100 scholarships for U.S. librarians and library students to attend the conference. There will also be various pre-conferences held in the U.S. including in Chicago, Cleveland, Chapel Hill, Washington D.C. and more! If you can attend next year’s conference, take advantage of the location and make sure you try to volunteer for the conference too because you can meet many different librarians and help them navigate their way inside the convention center. The

registration fee gets waived too! Also do not miss out on the Cultural Event, which is often held at night where plenty of food and drinks will be served with loud music. It was quite a scene in Cape Town and I imagine it will be the same in Columbus too.

In this conference, it was announced that the 2017 conference will be in Poland. This will also be an excellent time to plan ahead and get ready to try some amazing Polish food too. Unfortunately for this conference, I only gave myself a couple of days for sightseeing, but I was able to visit the important sites: Table Mountain, Robben Island where former South African president, the late Nelson Mandela, was held as a prisoner for 27 years, and the city itself: Cape Town. Overall, there were many networking and learning opportunities at IFLA – it’s like any other conference you may have attended except there will be more people from around the world!

Ray Pun is a librarian at California State University, Fresno.

## ANNUAL REPORT FROM PRESIDENT EILEEN K. BOSCH

*The following is an excerpt of Eileen Bosch's final annual report as she completed her presidential term. The full report is available from the APALA website [www.apalaweb.org](http://www.apalaweb.org)*

Wow! What an amazing 2014-2015 year for APALA! We ended this past year on a high note – celebrating its 35th anniversary with a daylong series of workshops designed to share Asian Pacific American (APA) stories, highlight successful library programs and feature new partnerships and advocacy efforts in building coalitions to meet the needs of APA communities. The “Building Bridges: Connecting Communities Through Librarianship & Advocacy” 35th anniversary symposium was a big success! We had an unprecedented number of librarians, speakers, library leaders, community activists, writers/artists/filmmakers, students, volunteers and corporate partners coming together to celebrate this milestone. The symposium took place on June 25, 2015 at the University of San Francisco's McLaren Conference Center.

I could not emphasize enough my sincere **THANK YOUs** to everyone who have contributed in helping me shape and create a shared vision for APALA during 2014-2015.

**THANK YOU** to my unbelievable 2014-2015 Executive Board: Vice-President/President Elect Janet Clarke, Secretary Sarah Jeong, Treasurer Dora Ho, Member-at-Large Melissa Cardenas-Dow, Member-at-Large Anna Coats, Member-at-Large Paolo Gujilde, Member-at-Large Annie Pho, Immediate Past President Eugenia Beh, and Executive Director Buenaventura (Ven) Basco. Thank you for the great teamwork spirit, enthusiasm, constructive feedback and guidance during the past year.

**THANK YOU** to the APALA 35 Committee Chairs, members and volunteers, especially to all the attendees, speakers and guests.

**THANK YOU** to our sponsors and individual donors.

More **THANK YOUs** go out to many-many people! It takes an entire community to make incredible things happen! Here is a list of accomplishments and highlights during 2014-2015:

### FUNDRAISING

- APALA's fundraising campaign surpassed our initial fundraising goal of \$10,000 for the APALA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As a result of APALA's fundraising initiatives and the hard work of several members, APALA secured the sponsorship of many individuals and corporate sponsors supporting the APALA 35 Symposium and Literature Award Banquet. Our sponsorships and individual donations fully covered our expenses during the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.
- A “Fundraising Toolkit” was created to help and assist future committee members to keep doing the work.
- Launched [APALA AmazonSmile](#) account to benefit our Scholarships & Awards fund and our Family Literacy Focus project.
- Created a membership drive campaign before new membership fee increases for 2015-2016 beginning in August 1, 2015. Members were also offered a one time only lifetime membership special by making 4 monthly payments of \$100 before December 31, 2015.

### SUCCESSION PLANNING & STREAMLINING

- Completed the APALA Operational Manual. This manual will serve a much larger purpose than simply stating expectations; it will provide a definitive source of reference for EB officers and committee chairs on how to do their committee work and provide a better understanding of the organization.
- Planned and developed an orientation session to returning and incoming EB officers at ALA Annual.
- Appointed Melissa Cardenas-Dow to serve as Communication Coordinator to streamline communication processes between the standing committees, EB, and membership.
- Encouraged the appointment of two co-chairs in all standing committees to begin succession-planning work within committees.

## VISIBILITY & PROMOTION

- Actively promoted our organization via our social media outlets.
- Published 6 articles: 3 Minnesota Institute Early Career Librarians article; 3 advocacy fatigue mini-series articles; 1 APALA founder/library leader article; 3 APALA 35<sup>th</sup> focus piece.
- Continued to support and encourage APALA representation at ALA national level: Working Group on ALA Advocacy Coordination, Diversity Council, and JCLC Executive Board.
- We increased our membership numbers from 350 (ALA MW) to 372 members (ALA Annual).
- Organized our first national symposium, [APALA 35<sup>th</sup> Symposium & Anniversary](#) with over 100 attendees and planned several programs and events co-sponsored with other divisions and units at ALA Conference.
- Organized [APALA President's Program](#) featuring a dynamic discussion between Dr. Catherine Ceniza Choy, a professor of Ethnic Studies at UC-Berkeley and Maria Taesil Hudson Carpenter, the City Librarian of the Santa Monica Public Library System. They examined the issues raised by Geographies of Kinship: International Asian Adoption, a new film by award-winning Berkeley-based filmmaker Deann Borshay Liem, in the larger context of international adoption and reflect on universal questions of identity, assimilation, family, community, and advocacy. Excerpts from the film and a personal introduction especially produced for this program by Deann was shown. The APALA President's Program was co-sponsored by APALA and ALA Video Round Table (VRT) division.
- Sponsored a record number of programs at ALA Annual. For a complete list of events, please see the [annual ALA conference list](#).
- Continued to seek opportunities to collaborate and strengthen partnerships with other ALA ethnic caucuses and divisions throughout the year. APALA participated in the [REFORMA JALAPENO CHALLENGE](#), CALA 2015 ["Partnership Beyond CALA: Training Leaders of Color for Action,"](#) APALA/AILA 2015 [Talk Story: Sharing Stories, Sharing Culture](#) family literacy grant program, EMIERT ["Librarians of Color: The Challenges of "Movin' On Up" \(Part 2\)"](#), RUSA ["Connecting Communities: Documenting and Sharing Asian American Heritage,"](#) and more.
- Website redesign – Assigned four ALA [Emerging Leaders](#) (EL TEAM B: Xiaoyu Duan, Isabel Gonzalez-Smith, Ximin Mi, and Jennifer Nabzdyk) to work with Web Committee on the redesign of the APALA website. Even though Emerging Leaders members presented the results of their work at the EB Annual Meeting, the Web Committee has not yet finalized this ongoing project.

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- Melody Tsz-Way Leung was recipient of our [Scholarship Award](#).
- Shanna Shiah received our [Travel Award](#).
- Cynthia Orozco was recipient of Emerging Leaders Scholarship.
- Clarksville-Montgomery County Public Library (TN), Kenton County Public Library (Kentucky), Native Village of Eyak (Alaska), Oceanside Public Library (CA), Pacific Islands University (Guam), Palms-Rancho Park Library (CA), Red Lake Nation College (MN), San Juan College (NM), Sonoma County Library (CA), and USD 497 Native American Student Services for Lawrence Public Schools (KS) are recipients of our [Family Literacy Focus: Talk Story Grants](#). Each one was awarded \$600 to complete a Talk Story grants.

## PROFESSIONAL & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- 8 Mentors & Protégés were paired.
- APALA 35<sup>th</sup> Symposium offered several workshops addressing professional development and outreach.
- 4 ALA Emerging Leaders were able to work closely and be mentored by Web Committee and Executive Board throughout their EL project.

It has been an honor to serve as the President of APALA over the past year. I look forward to working as the Past Immediate President with the new Executive Board in 2015 as we strive to achieve our new strategic directions under the leadership of incoming President, Janet Clarke, Vice-President/President Elect Lessa Pelayo-Lozada, Secretary Anna Coats, Treasurer Dora Ho, Member-at-Large Brian Leaf, Member-at-Large Arianna Hussain, Member-at-Large Paolo Gujilde, and Member-at-Large Melissa Cardenas-Dow. APALA is lucky to have such a talented board and membership!

**THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF THIS YEAR'S APALA 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

Eileen K. Bosch

APALA President, 2014-2015

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The APALA Newsletter Committee is always looking for submissions. Please send us your articles, stories, letters to the editor and announcements. Stay tuned for the next deadline for submissions.

Submissions to the APALA Newsletter may be made by any current APALA Member or APALA affiliate. Please send your submissions electronically in one of the following formats: MSWord, RTE, PDF, or plain text pasted into the body of an e-mail. We ask that submissions be kept to a length of 500 to 1,000 words. Graphics are encouraged. Please submit images as separate files along with a list of file names with corresponding captions. If using images that are already on the Internet, the URL of the image and a caption or description may be added to the text of the submission.

Submission for book reviews should be sent to Newsletter Editor, Gary Colmenar at colmenar(at)ucsb.edu. Submissions should be sent electronically in MS-Word format or a Word-compatible format. Reviewers should keep their reviews to 300-500 words. Any length much shorter or longer should be discussed with the reviews editor prior to submission. Reviewers should avoid conflicts of interest. Full disclosure should be made when appropriate.

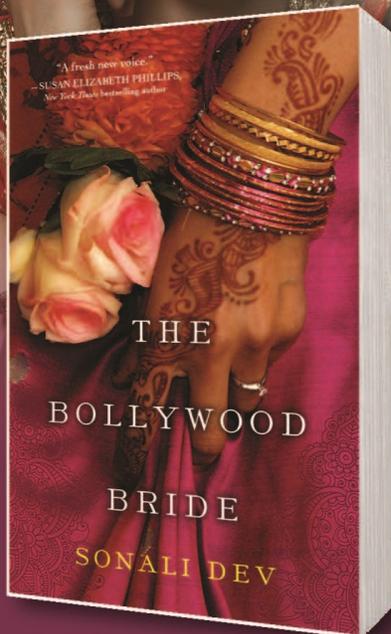
## PUBLICATION INFORMATION

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