

# SNAP!

Sharp ♦ New ♦ Alternative ♦ Perspective

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Winter 2005

## Slugs Build National Coalition

By Alex Lee & Stacy Leung

Three days after the presidential election, over 300 Asian American/Pacific Islander (AA/PI) student activists from all over the nation gathered at University Southern California for the very first National Asian American Student Conference (NAASCon). A series of inspirational speakers from the Asian American Community such as Warren Furutani, Angela Oh, Taz Ahmed, and Glenn Omastu spoke throughout the three-day conference. Besides speakers, the conference was organized into 7 program tracks with 5 workshops for each track. All of these tracks focused on Asian Pacific American (APA) issues that allowed students to learn from activist's experiences and build coalition. The program tracks were Community Empowerment, Public Policy and Lobbying, Building Infrastructure and Maximizing Resources on College Campuses, Student Led Campaigns, APA Issues 101 and Student Activism, and Innovative Strategies.

Over a dozen students represented UC Santa Cruz at the conference and were able to learn about other AA/PI coalitions and experiences. Some attended workshops that explored various aspects of coalition building. They covered a wide range of topics, from the beginning stages of a coalition to working with community groups for social justice.

The first workshop dealt with

*Slugs cont. on pg 4*



Photo courtesy of Vay Hoang

## Got Faculty?

*Judy Yung's retirement leaves gap in American Studies Department*

By Ashley Uyeda

The state of our education is already in jeopardy due to budget cuts. Courses in all departments have been cut back and offered less frequently. The retirement of Judy Yung, American Studies Professor who specialized in Asian American History, has left a huge gap in the department. This has dramatically impacted the Asian American/Pacific Islander (AA/PI) community on campus as well as the education of all students attending UC Santa Cruz. American Studies Department needs to hire permanent faculty

with expertise to teach Asian American Studies courses.

American Studies in UCSC is equivalent to Ethnic Studies Departments in other universities. The department aims to study the "United States and its diverse peoples," and to "gain an understanding of Americans from various social and cultural backgrounds." In order to maintain this goal, both curriculum and faculty need to represent diverse faculty & research interests. Kori Chen, Ethnic Student

*Faculty cont. on pg. 6*

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# KC & the Badminton Club



## Faculty Spotlight: KC Fung, Professor of Economics

By Natalie Chan

He changed his major five times as an undergraduate and traveled to various college campuses around the globe as a visiting professor before he settled at UCSC in 1989. KC Fung, Professor of Economics, is an established faculty member as well as an active supporter of organizations and clubs that promote community on campus. KC Fung earned his undergraduate degree in Economics at Swarthmore College in Philadelphia and later earned his PhD at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Kwok-Chiu, “KC,” sticks with his initials because he was nicknamed by his roommate after the group, KC and the Sunshine Band during his stay at Swarthmore College.

In addition to acquiring a new name, KC was also introduced to his favorite sport—badminton. Until recently, KC had played badminton with the same racket for 30 years, which he received from the friends who first introduced the sport. It is not official, but KC might be the most dedicated member of the badminton team at UCSC. “About six or seven years ago, I started to go play badminton. More than half of the time, no one showed up... just to keep court, I would put up the net and walk around.” Now, whenever he has time, KC enjoys playing badminton with the Badminton Club on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and sometimes even on the weekends.

KC describes Swarthmore College as small but diverse during the time of his attendance. He was involved in a

multicultural organization that would get together weekly to cook and exchange foods. KC remembers participating in competitions in the group to see who could eat the spiciest food.

Aside from his experiences in college, KC spends a lot of time traveling and on the plane. KC’s research interest, international trade relations, has brought him to different parts of the world. The longest plane ride he has been on so far was 22 hours long.

KC Fung enjoys Economics the most out of all the majors he pursued in his undergraduate experience because it is relevant, fun and combines the sciences and humanities. He also likes UCSC the most out of all the colleges and universities he has visited because it is stimulating, there are a lot of different points of view, it’s a great place to live and is a good place to do research. His current research focuses on foreign multinational investment abroad in China and Asia. He is curious and concerned about the rise of China’s economy and its impacts on Latin America.

KC contributes a great amount to the academic arena of UCSC, but also consistently supports the social aspect by attending receptions, events, workshops, and other gatherings sponsored by student organizations as well as the Asian American/ Pacific Islander Resource Center. He supports these organizations because he feels that it is important to have support groups and a place to socialize.

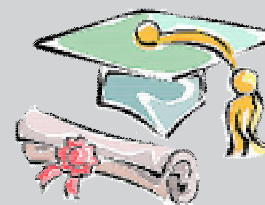
If you want to know more about the

Professor of Economics who likes to eat soup noodles and spicy food, whose favorite family tradition was playing firecrackers in Chinese New Year when he was growing up, and plays foosball at home with his two daughters, you can find KC playing badminton with the Badminton Club on Tuesdays at the East Field House and on Thursdays at the West Field gym. □

Asian American/Pacific Islander

## Year End Ceremony

Help plan the event:  
entertainment,  
food,  
programming,  
publicity,  
emcee,  
and more!



If you’d like to get involved contact:  
AA/PIRC @ 459-5349  
or  
e-mail aapirc@ucsc.edu

# HONK!



*If you love. . .*

## Faculty Spotlight: Renee Tajima-Peña, Professor of Community Studies

By Jean Ho

U CSC is a campus filled with amazing professors. Among all these professors only a small percentage of them are Asian American/Pacific Islanders (AA/PI), and Renee Tajima-Peña is one of them. All I knew of her prior to the interview was that she was a filmmaker, and little did I know that she was such a big part of the Asian American movement. As a film major, I was familiar with her documentaries, *My America (or Honk if You Love Buddha)* and *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* I then learned that she co-founded national organizations and was a prominent figure in the development of the Asian American community. Through protests, filmmaking, and producing, Tajima-Peña developed a voice that spoke out against social injustice. Figuratively, her “voice” is like an 18-wheeler’s honk that gets all the cars around it to surge forward.

Tajima-Peña is a Sansei (third generation Japanese American), who grew up on the north side of Chicago, Illinois, right near Wrigley Field. She lived in a large Japanese American community that was a result of the Internment Camps of WWII. “After the war, a lot of them felt that they couldn’t stay on the west coast, so they all moved to Chicago,” Tajima-Peña reflected. When she was young, she read everything Tennessee Williams wrote. As she grew older, she read a lot of Charles Bukowski and Carlos Bulosan. At age 8, Tajima-Peña

moved to the Los Angeles area where she resided until she went to college at Harvard. There, she participated in numerous protests, one of which demanded ethnic studies courses from the Dean. “We wanted to start learning about our own histories for once, not just European and American histories,” Tajima-Peña stated. While she continued with her studies at Harvard, she co-founded the East Coast Asian Students Union (ECASU) [which is now called East Coast Asian American Student Union (ECAASU)], one of the earliest AA/PI organizations that promoted Asian American student activism, unity, intercollegiate networking, and empowerment ([www.ecaasu.org](http://www.ecaasu.org)).

After completing her undergraduate degrees in East Asian Studies and Sociology, Tajima-Peña started getting involved in community-based media, and was the first paid staff member of Asian Cinevision. Through this job position, she organized the Asian American Film Festival in New York, and boycotted racist films. She also helped start the National Asian American Telecommunications Association, NAATA, where she got involved in media activism. Her film career began in the 1980s and was part of the second wave of Asian American filmmakers to come out of the 60s and 70s. Her influence came from Martin Scorsese, who directed her favorite film *Good Fellas*.



Wayne Wang, a filmmaker who directed another favorite *Chan is Missing*, also influenced her. Her feature-length documentary, *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* is a film that exposed the stark facts of the brutal murder of 27-year old Chinese-American, Vincent Chin. “I read about the Vincent Chin case in the paper, and couldn’t believe the final charges. Then, I just decided to make a film about it,” explained Tajima-Peña. Her documentary was featured in numerous film festivals, won “Best Documentary” in some of them, and was even nominated for an Academy Award in 1989.

Leaving her office, I felt like a deer caught in the headlights of a honking truck. Meeting her left me thinking about my own experiences and contributions as an Asian American, and the opportunities that I may now have because of activists like her. She is a moving and empowering Asian American woman speaking out for social justice. **Three honks for Renee Tajima-Peña! HONK HONK HONK! □**

*Students should take advantage of her lectures and courses in Community Studies. She currently teaches CMMU 100B, Theory and Practice of Media and Social Change, and CMMU 180, Video Production of the Social Documentary.*

### Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month Planning Committee

## NEEDS YOU!

Help to...

- represent the diverse Asian American/Pacific Islander community
- combine our roots with our identities of today

Get involved in

- > creating events
- > organizing events
- > publicizing
- > designing logos and themes



Meetings every  
Thursday  
7:30-9:00pm  
Ethnic Resource  
Centers Lounge


## Feature

*Slugs cont. from pg 1*  
building a coalition, scenarios involving disagreements among various student organizations, and resolving issues with funding and campus administration. Everyone in that workshop worked in small groups and learned from role-playing. This also created a dialogue opportunity for participants who faced the same problems in their respective campuses. In the following workshop, a panel of activists shared their working experiences with labor and student organizations. The next two workshops, student presenters broke

down myths and provided helpful ways of building coalitions with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) and religious communities on campus. The last workshop seemed to be the most helpful. Two students facilitated the workshop that focused on building a coalition among a very diverse Asian American/Pacific Islander community. It slowly became a dialogue where students shared strategies that worked and didn't work. Many of these challenges of coalition building come from different backgrounds and beliefs.

Students came to the conference not only to attend workshops, but also to network. Some of us were able to share experiences, challenges, and success with a student intern of a UCLA Asian American student coalition that has been active for well over thirty years. We were able to learn about their structure and what they had done to build and strengthen their coalition. Some of those techniques could be implemented to strengthen the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition (APIC) at UCSC. ■


Japanese American Student Association  
**DAY of REMEMBRANCE**  
*Cinematic Representation of the Japanese American Internment Experience*



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2005  
COLLEGE 9/10 MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM  
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Contact JASA: [jasaucsc@yahoo.com](mailto:jasaucsc@yahoo.com)

Denise Uyebara  
**Denise Uyebara**  
an evening of excerpts  
and conversation  
with performing artist  
Denise Uyebara



**Maps of city & body**

February 1, 2005  
7:00pm  
Merrill Cultural Center  
Free Admission

**Multicultural Career Conference**  
"Alumni & Students Keepin' it Real - Step by Step"

- **Saturday, February 26, 2005**
- **11am- 5pm**
- **Stevenson Event Center**

ENTERTAINMENT!  
PRIZES!  
FOOD!

e-mail: [mcc@ucsc.edu](mailto:mcc@ucsc.edu)

# Chat Chit Box

## How Do Your Parents Show Their Love For You?



**Ayuri Terada**

“They tell me, and send me lots of care packages.”

**Gombu Sherpa**

“They tell me they do, and are always concerned with what I’m doing.”



**Andrew Ting**

“Well, they just buy me stuff.”



**Caroline Phan**

“They pay for college! and my food and my clothes and my gas.”



**Ana Chow**

“They ask me questions about school and life...they pretty much want to know what’s up.”



### Other Responses Were:

- They ask if I’ve eaten and if I haven’t they make sure I eat something ASAP.
- They ask if I need money to get something to eat..
- They cook something for me and pressuring me into eating it even though I said I was full.
- They tell me to eat a lot but not too much so I don’t get fat.
- How about hardly!

## LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP SERIES

### Organizing An Event

Learn how to make a time line, delegate tasks, and plan an event step-by-step!

*Tuesday, Jan. 25, 12-1:30 pm*

*@ Bay Tree Conf. Rm C*

*Wednesday, Jan. 26, 12-1:30 pm*

*@ Bay Tree Conf. Rm B*

### Facilitation Skills

Want to know techniques to hold an efficient and productive meeting?

*Tuesday, Feb. 8, 12-1:30 pm*

*@ e<sup>2</sup> Lounge*

*Wednesday, Feb. 9, 12-1:30 pm*

*@ e<sup>2</sup> Lounge*

### Chinese Student Association



## LUNAR NEW YEAR

## BANQUET

**Wednesday, March 2**

**6:30 - 10:00 pm**

**Stevenson Event Center**

The focus of the banquet is to celebrate the Lunar New Year and also to bring people from the UCSC community and the Santa Cruz community together for a night of *entertainment, food, and fun.*

Performers include:

- Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) traditional dance troupe,
- the Filipino Student Association (FSA) dance troupe,
- CSA Hip Hop, Lion Dance, Wushu, and many other performances.

*Faculty cont. from pg. 1*

Organization Council Intern expressed, "If the goal of the department is to present this multitude of experiences, there need to be hired faculty members to make sure these experiences of underrepresented groups, that have a rich American history, are taught and heard." The department does not meet its mission when courses specific to Asian American Studies are not offered, and faculty with expertise in Asian American Studies are absent.

Courses are not completely lacking this year. The department did hire a lecturer to teach *Aspects of Asian American Culture* and *Asian American Literature and Culture: Memories of War*. However, foundation courses such as, *Introduction to Asian American Studies*, was not offered. The Introduction class has functioned as a gateway for students and often inspired them to continue in the field or pursue research interests in the area. The unavailability of the Introduction course this year alone denied hundreds of students a primary opportunity to learning about the history, struggles, and accomplishments of an extremely important American population—a population that is continuously left out of American history, or just simply brushed over in the basic education that most students receive prior to college. For many, *Introduction to Asian Ameri-*

*can Studies*, was the first Ethnic Studies class they took because it was not offered in high school, and gave them the opportunity to understand their own Asian American identity. Many felt motivated to further explore their history after the taking the course. Jean Ho, a second year, said, "I became so much more aware of AA/PI historical background in the United States. After taking that class, I felt empowered."

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*"it is extremely necessary to facilitate this role of making sure that students are able to learn about this [AA/PI] history, especially because we are a growing group on the campus"*

\*\*\*\*\*

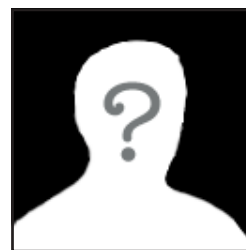
Judy Yung made great contributions to the AA/PI community by being an integral community member. She displayed tremendous support for students and student organizations, actively participating within the community and being a mentor. In addition, she enriched the classroom experience by bringing in vast amounts of experience, knowledge and research in the field, in part due to her tenure status. Furthermore, "it is extremely necessary to facilitate this role of making

sure that students are able to learn about this [AA/PI] history, especially because we are a growing group on the campus," Kori Chen, third year. In 2003-2004, AA/PI students constituted 18% of the college campus, a number that is growing – not only on campuses but also in the nation. Due to this growing population, it is crucial that our university offer courses on and about this population for the benefit of individuals who identify with this community, and also for those who are outside of the community. All students should have access to courses on Asian American and Pacific Islanders because that is the education we are being promised by the University. Therefore, it is significant to hire an Asian American Studies tenured faculty member in the American Studies department. ▣

## Ways To Get Involved...

- Write a letter to the **Dean of Humanities or Chancellor** to express your concern for the current situation.
- Start talking with your friends and professors about this situation.
- Contact the Asian American/Pacific Islander Resource Center @ 459-5349.

## American Studies Faculty



# Winter Calendar of Events

## January

- 11 Leadership Series I: Funding/Budget Proposals Workshop 12- 1:30 pm @ Bay Tree Conference Room C
- 12 Leadership Mixer 4-6 pm @ ERC Lounge
- 14 Leadership Series I: Funding/Budget Proposals Workshop 12-1:30 pm @ Bay Tree Conference Room C
- 19 Community Reception 4-6 pm @ e<sup>2</sup>Lounge
- 25 Leadership Series II: Organizing an Event Workshop 12-1:30 pm @ Bay Tree Conference Room B
- 25 Kinetic Poetics Project: Staceyann Chin 8:00pm @ Porter Dining Hall
- 26 Leadership Series II: Organizing an Event Workshop 12-1:30 pm @ Bay Tree Conference Room B
- 27 Community Unified Student Network (CUSN) Winter Reception 7:30-9:30 pm @ TBA
- 28 Kinetics Poetics Project: Proletariat Bronze - Powerhouse API Spoken Word Ensemble 8:00 pm @ Porter Dining Hall

## February

- 1 Denise Uyehara Performance: Maps of City & Body 7:00 pm @ Merrill Cultural Center
- 7 Japanese American Student Association (JASA) Day of Remembrance (DOR) Workshop 8:00 pm @ Bay Tree Conference Room D
- 8 Leadership Series III: Facilitation Skills Workshop 12-1:30 pm @ e<sup>2</sup> Lounge
- 9 Leadership Series III: Facilitation Skills Workshop 12-1:30 pm @ e<sup>2</sup> Lounge
- 15 Art Exhibition Opening: *Cloth and Culture in Oceania* by Stacey Kamehiro 5:00-7:00 pm @ Women's Center. Exhibition runs through March 13
- 16 Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) Movie Night 6:30-8:30 pm @ Location: TBA
- 17 Japanese American Student Association (JASA) Day of Remembrance 7:00-10:00 pm @ College 9/10 Multi-purpose Room
- 26 Multicultural Career Conference 11:00 am-5:00 pm @ Stevenson Event Center

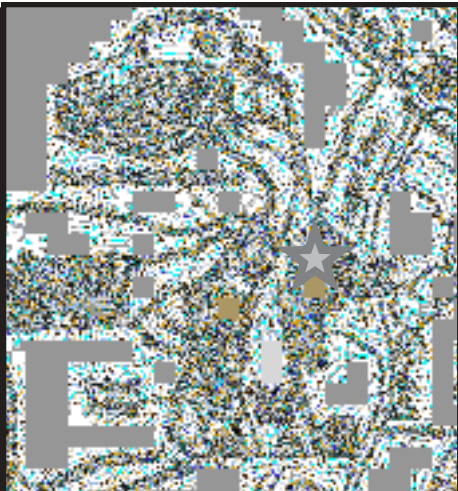
## March

- 2 Chinese Student Association Lunar New Year Banquet 6:30-10:00 pm @ Stevenson Event Center
- 3 Community Unified Student Network (CUSN) Winter Grubb 7:00 pm @ TBA

## Weekly Meetings

- Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month Planning Committee - Thursdays 7:30 -9:00 pm @ Ethnic Resource Centers Lounge
- Ch.U.C.K Study Hours - Monday-Thursday 7:00-11:00pm @ e<sup>2</sup> Lounge
- Community Unified Student Network (CUSN) Core Meetings Wednesdays 8:00 pm @ e<sup>2</sup> Building (next to the Student Union)
- Asian & Pacific Islander Student Association (APISA) Motivation Conference Tuesdays 7:30 pm @ Ethnic Resource Centers Lounge
- Chinese Student Association Core Meetings Mondays 8:30 pm @ Bay Tree Conference Room B

# Map



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