

Federal Asian Pacific American Council

Promoting Equal Opportunity and Cultural Diversity of Asian American Pacific Islanders in Government

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NGUYEN

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

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- Feb 19: <u>Career Develop-</u> ment Program Application Deadline
- Feb 19: Leadership Shadowing Program Deadline
- Feb 20 (Webinar): 2021 Lunar New Year Celebration

Find more event details by clicking on the event name above or visit www.fapac.org



Wishing you a most safe, prosperous and healthy New Year. I am humbled and extremely honored to assume the role of President for the next two years. Thank you, everyone for entrusting me with your vote of confidence. I am also deeply grateful to my predecessor, Olivia Adrian, for her leadership and outstanding contributions. I am inspired by her commitment to our organization.

Before sharing some aspirations for my tenure, I believe it is safe to say that this past year has been challenging for us collectively as a nation, and individually as Federal employees and FAPAC members. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we live and work. We are now operating

in a workspace where remote work is the new normal, and employee-employer trust, mobility, training and career development issues, have moved from the margins to mainstream.

Now more than ever, our members need and deserve resources to excel and navigate in our ever-changing world of work. I anticipate that this national crisis will fundamentally alter how we engage with each other, setting the stage for unprecedented opportunities. To seize on these opportunities, you have my commitment that FAPAC will be here to support you every step of the way.

With your support, we will build on FAPAC's mission to promote equal opportunity and cultural diversity for AAPIs within the Federal and District of Columbia governments. We will encourage the participation and advancement of AAPIs in the government workforce by serving as a conduit through which the interests, issues and representation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the Federal, State, County, City and District of Columbia governments are addressed.

We will continue to manage with a forward-thinking view by creating value through stronger partnerships with the public and private sectors to pave the way for our current members and those who will come after us. Here is a snapshot of what you can expect:

- **Increased communication:** In this new virtual workspace, you will be hearing a lot from us through Zoom and other social media outreach.
- Concise information: Leverage our online and newsletter activity to ensure that you are getting information you need.



Become a FAPAC Member!

FAPAC offers invaluable professional development and networking opportunities. Learn more at

> www.fapac.org/ joinmembership

Or feel free to contact our Membership Chair at <u>member-</u> <u>ship@fapac.org</u>

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT NGUYEN cont.

- **Increased membership:** Conduct major membership drives to reconnect or introduce FAPAC to more professionals, educators, and students.
- Expand and develop: Identify unique ways to grow our chapters and help members to potentially progress in their careers. Develop an enhanced student outreach program to feed the pipeline of preparing AAPI college students to consider public service and be the next generation of federal government agency leaders.
- Virtual Outreach: Continuously hold our annual National Leadership Training Program virtually during the month of May, as we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage. For this, we will encourage members to volunteer and be part of the successful event.
- **Networking Opportunity:** It is a wonderful opportunity to learn new skills, meet new people, and network.

I am excited and looking to lead FAPAC toward the next two years with optimism. FAPAC is known for taking care of its members, and it is that kind of care that has sustained us for the last 35 years. I am strong believer that there is a light at the end of this tunnel, and with your support, I am committed and we will continue to do our best to take care of our members and ourselves. Together, we will continue to succeed. I look forward to working with every one of you, and I am so glad that you are part of our FAPAC family.

Sincerely,

Peter Nguyen FAPAC National President



FAPAC's 35th Anniversary and Installation of Officers Event

FAPAC held 1st virtually installation of officers that was attended by over 200 attendees across the USA.

The event opened by Ms. Elaine Keltz, former beauty pageant winner, Mrs. DC and well-known podcast celebrity as the Emcee, followed by the National Anthem and a special greetings and remarks from the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, the Honorable Secretary Elaine L. Chao. One of her memorable remarks is that her involvement with FAPAC since the early 1980s and she recalls the many events that she attended and supported FAPAC. She congratulated the past leaders and the current leaders for the continuous success for the past 35 years.

Ms. Corazon Sandoval-Foley, one the founding members and former FAPAC President 1988-1989, provided the opening remarks. Ms. Linda Miller, former FAPAC President 2004-2005, introduced the Guest Speaker. Mr. Stephen Thom, FAPAC 1st President, 1985 and a founding member was the Keynote speaker. Mr. Stephen Thom, FAPAC 1st President, 1985 and a founding member was the Keynote speaker. His remarks included how volunteering for FAPAC was instrumental to the success of his career and involvement with the Asian Americans Pacific Islanders community and that he is very proud to see how FAPAC grew into what it is now.





FAPAC's 35th Anniversary and Installation of Officers Event

<u>cont.</u>



FAPAC 35th Anniversary and Installation of Officers 2020 Event on **October 23**, **2020**

Olivia Adrian, outgoing President presented the outgoing Leaders with <u>outstanding leadership recognition</u> <u>awards</u> to include the following:

- ♦ 2019-2020 National Board of Directors Appreciation AWARD: Kevin Le, Vice President, Fahmida Chhipa, Vice President of Operations, Jane Yang, Vice President of Financial Management, Peter Nguyen, Vice President of Technology and Media Communications, Rene Lau, Executive Secretary, Marina Milton, Treasurer, and Chuan Ming-Li, Auditor.
- ◆ 2020 National Board of Operations: Program Committee Chair: Phuong Callaway; Public Relations Committee Chair: Kelly Sewell; Nomination and Election Committee Chair: Liqun Wong, Affirmative Employment Committee Chair: Yvette Scott-Butler, Membership Committee Chair: Bharatiben Jamero, Chapter Committee Chair: Katherine Toth, Conference Committee Chair: Peter Nguyen, Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chair: Nanda Gross, Ethics Committee Chair: Gerald Tiqui, Awards Committee Chair: Eva Ngai, Sponsorship Committee Chair: Julie Kelly, Community Outreach Committee Chair: Ailyn Torres Smith, Newsletter Committee Chair: Angel Kwok; Special Events Committee Chair: Hong Hitchings, Strategic and Long-Term Planning Committee Chair: Cailine Kim, and Webmasters Committee Chair: Thong Vu.
- ◆ 2020 FAPAC Chapter's Presidents: Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Sandy Chyatt, LAS VEGAS Silver State, Gilberto Cristobal, Southern Tennessee Valley and Alabama Region (STAR), Angela Newcomb, American Samoa, Theodora Meredith, Southwest California, Chhem Young-Pen, Northern California, Robert Baggett, Department of Agriculture, Edwin G. Yong, Department of Defense, Katherine Toth, Department of Interior, Lena Chang, Department of Transportation, Thanh Trang, Department of Veterans Affairs, Bridget Souza, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Lan

Caohuy-Rifkin, Food and Drug Administration, Nancy Tian, Health and Human Services Parklawn, Kelvin Xu, National Institutes of Health, Xinzhi Zhang, Office of Personnel Management, Mark Lewack, Pension Benefits Guaranty Corporation, John Chen, U.S. Coast Guard, John Santorum

Special Award Recognitions were presented as follows:

PRESIDENT SERVICE AWARDS and STAR Performance Awards: Phuong Callaway, Julie Kelly, Kelly Sewell, Katherine Toth, and Peter Nguyen

FAPAC Lifetime Achievement Award Recognitions were presented as follows:

Honorable Samuel Mok and Major General (ret) Antonio (Tony) Taguba

Followed by the farewell speech by Olivia Adrian, FAPAC past President, Mr. Ravi Chaudhary as the installations officer officiated the swearing-in ceremony of the 2021-2022 National Board of Directors with the acceptance speech of the newly elected President Mr. Peter Nguyen. The event was closed by a closing remark from Ms. Vi Baluyut, FAPAC former President, 1988-1989. Quoted "so, to those outgoing officers, I say, congratulations for a job well done. And for the incoming officers led by Peter Nguyen, I say, and here let me quote the late Senator Ted Kennedy, "The work goes on...The cause endures...The hope still lives...And the dream shall never die"

versary and Installation
of Officers 2020 Event
held on October 23, 2020
at

YouTube: FAPAC NBOD
Installation
or visit www.fapac.org/
event for more info

Watch FAPAC 35th Anni-



NIH FAPAC FSP Closing Ceremony on October 7, 2020

2020 Graduation of 1st Cohort for Future Star Program (FSP)



Olivia Adrian, FAPAC Immediate Past President and Dr. Richard Nakamura, former Director of the NIH Center for Scientific Review and a Co-Chair of the FSP Advisory Board, were invited to provide the opening remarks during the "closing ceremony for the 2019-2020 Cohort of the Federal Asian Pacific American Council's (FAPAC) Future Star Program (FSP). FSP is a tuition-free

program that pairs Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) students with senior government through mentorship. FSP aims to assist next generation AAPIs to identify federal, state, and local government youth internship opportunities, training, or volunteer opportunities; improve their communication and interview skills; and develop a comprehensive leadership experience. FSP hopes to help attract the best and talented young generation of AAPI leaders into the 21st century public service workforce, improve workforce diversity, and to serve the American people. During the ceremony, a video was played that was put together by the FSP Fellow class. This video reflects the feelings of the fellow class and highlights key aspects of their program journey.

Among the distinguished guests are: Dr. Qiao Bobo from the US Food and Drug Administration, Division Director at the FDA, Dr. Dar-Ning Kung, the Assistant Director for Information Assurance at National Institutes of Health, Perry Chan. Perry is a Senior Program Coordinator for the Asian American Health Initiative at the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services main topic was "integrity", Dr. Yihong Ye, a senior investigator at the National institutes of Health, main topic was "community".

Mr. Peter Nguyen, FAPAC newly elected President, presented the Certificate of Completion to the following cohorts: Order of certificates: Jack Bobo, Caleb Kim, Helen Qian, Robert Sun, Hudson Tao, Flora Ye, Paris Ye and Tess Yu. Closing remarks was presented by one of the FSP Program Directors, Kelvin Xu. Kelvin is the President of the Health & Human Services Parklawn chapter of FAPAC.

Call for FSP 2021 Nomination !!!

To submit a nomination, please email your parent-sponsor form, a copy of Curriculum Vitae and a career goal essay (word limit: 200) to fapac.fsp@gmail.com. Deadline to mail the package will be April 30, 2021. Incomplete nominations will not be considered.

2021-2022 FAPAC Future Star Program "Call for Nominations"

In support of Executive Order 13583 on establishing a coordinated government-wide initiative to promote diversity and inclusion in the Federal workforce, Federal Asian Pacific American Council (FAPAC), including NIH, FDA and Parklawn chapters was excited to launch Future Star Program (FSP) in 2019. This will be the second year of FSP to offer individual mentoring and career counseling for high schoolers to promote professional development opportunities and expand the program across all FAPAC chapters.



FSP is open to all Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs) high school students and aims to assist next generation of young AANHPIs for youth internship opportunities, training, and volunteer opportunities in federal, state, and local governments. The FSP program is focused on the development of leadership skills for the individuals and promotes contribution to the community. FSP will help attract the best and talented young generation AANHPI leaders into the 21st century public service workforce, improve workforce diversity, and serve the American people.



2021-2022 FAPAC Future Star Program "Call for Nominations" cont.

The first-year program was successfully carried out from October 2019 through September 2020. We are currently accepting the applications for the second cohort. The program is anticipated to run from July 2021 to August 2022.

program that offers high school AANHPI students pairing with senior government employees (GS14 equivalent or



The FSP is a tuition-free

above) in federal, state, or local government through mentorship. There will be monthly communication with minimum four face-to-face meetings in a year. Fellows are responsible for fulfilling all components of the FSP for successful completion of the program, which includes a community project with all the fellows in the same cohort. Both mentors and mentees should reserve a minimum of 12 hours of individual mentoring sessions. Optional workshops may be provided. The mentor will provide practical mentorship and career development advice for the AANHPI students and assist them in overcoming significant barriers to attain career development opportunities (e.g., internship, summer training camp) in competitive environments. The mentors will also demonstrate typical public service environment to the students, and help the student set higher career goals. The FSP will conclude with a Certificate of Future Star from FAPAC after one year and the opportunity for competing for FAPAC Future Star award presented in May AANHPI Heritage Month.

Topics covered by include the following, but are not limited to:

- How to find a government internship?
- How to communicate effectively?
- How to write & improve your CV?
- How to stand out in an interview?

For more information, please visit FSP website at <u>fapac.org/FSP/</u> or 2019-2020 FSP community project at https://www.covid9teens.org/. For further questions, please contact FSP Executive Officer, Ye Yan at fapac.fsp@gmail.com. To submit a nomination, please email your parent-sponsor form, a copy of Curriculum Vitae and a career goal essay (word limit: 200) to fapac.fsp@gmail.com. Deadline to mail the package will be April 30, 2021. Incomplete nominations will not be considered.

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CDP 2020 Graduation held virtually on November 13, 2020

FAPAC held the first ever virtual graduation ceremony to recognize its 2020 CDP graduates on November 13, given the Covid-19 pandemic that began around March 2020. FAPAC's CDP for High Performers is an effort in support of the Federal government's vision to achieve



and maintain a diverse, inclusive, and high performing workforce. It seeks to provide members and participants with a career development expe-

rience that opens up different pathways of learning and growth within their organizations while encouraging participants to practice their leadership responsibilities and to address their interest for career development through

FAPAC. Fourteen participants graduated from the program

ation

Watch the FAPAC 2020 CDP for High Performers Graduation Ceremony at

2020 CDP Virtual Graduation Ceremony on YouTube

CDP 2020 Virtual Gradu- Dr. Phuong Callaway, Program Committee Chair for 2019-2020 delivered the Opening Remarks, Mr. Peter Nguyen, FAPAC President, 2020-2022, delivered the Welcoming Remarks, the Keynote Speaker was Ms. Olivia Adrian, FAPAC President, 2016-2020, and Mr.

Somnath Bhattacharyya of the 2020 CDP Committee de-

Thong Vu



livered the Closing Remarks. Ms. Fahmida Chhipa, FAPAC Vice President, 2020 2022, served as Mistress of Ceremony for the entire ceremony. Three CDP alumni shared their CDP experience and encouraged the 2020 CDP graduates to stay connected with FAPAC to share their knowledge and skills to support AAPI communities and to network with FAPAC CDP alumni for broadening their career development and advancement opportunities within the Federal government. The virtual event was well attended by the graduating CDP class of 2020, facilitators and training consultants, family and friends of program participants.

Young Leaders for America Summit 2020 series

On October 10, 2020 FAPAC President, Peter Nguyen, joined with other Panelist Members and Vice President of Operations, Katherine Toth, collaborating with Civic Leadership USA (CLUSA) during the webinar "Careers in Government".

Moderated by Alisha Bi.

FAPAC joined with Asian American Unity Coalition (AAUC) on the Young Leaders for American Summit 2020! For more info, visit:

asamunitycoalition.org



2021-2022 National Board of Directors





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Fahmida Chhipa

VP



Katherine Toth

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VP Financial Management



Thong Vu

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2020-2021 National Board of Operations

2020-2021 National Board of Operations



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Tat Shum FAPAC Nominations /Elections Chair



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Caroline Goon FAPAC Community Outreach Co-Chair



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FAPAC Ethics Chair



Kelvin Xu **FAPAC Community** Outreach Chair



Catherine Yu FAPAC Community

Outreach Co-Chair

Bingxin Yu Special Events Co-Chair



FAPAC Webmaster

The FAPAC National Board of Operations for FY 2021 is drawn from FAPAC's various Chapters and federal agencies: DOD, DCSA, VA, USDA, NIH, FDA, HHS, American Samoa, DOI, FBI, DOT, DOJ and NASA. FAPAC is growing so, to assist with each Committee's work we have added several Co-Chairs this year. This also gives opportunities for interested FAPAC members to get involved in the daily operations of the FAPAC organization.



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You can reach the newsletter committee by emailing newsletter@fapac.org with any comments or future article submissions.

View past newsletters at www.fapac.org/ newsletters



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