

MOMENTUM

Fall 1991, Vol 1., No. 1



Tule Lake Pilgrimage participants climbed to the top of Castle Rock to view of the camp site from the point where a large memorial cross stands. (Photo courtesy of Bruce Akizuki, Unity Newspaper)

A Chapter of Japanese American History

On September 27, 1991, nearly 400 people boarded buses in Northern California and began their journey. The ten hour long bus ride took the participants of the 1991 Tule Lake Pilgrimage further and further North through the hauntingly quiet landscape of Northern California. We finally stopped close to the Oregon border at Tule Lake, the former in-

ternment camp site where Americans of Japanese descent were interned during World War II. For many of us it was our first time to Tule Lake, but for the former internees who made the trip, it must have brought back memories of a very similar journey each of them made nearly fifty years ago.

In 1942, President Franklin

Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. As a result, 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forced to board guarded trains, bringing with them only what they could carry, that would take them off to the 10 concentration camp sites which would become their homes for the next 3-4 years. Tule Lake, out of all the camps, was a special camp - a

segregation camp populated by the so-called 'disloyal.' Those who ended up in Tule Lake answered 'No-No' to questions #27 and 28 of a Loyalty questionnaire. The questions first asked, would the internee be willing to serve in the U.S. military and second, would the internee forswear all allegiance to the Emperor of Japan. These questions were difficult to answer. Those who answered No-No and ended up in Tule Lake, the reasons varied. For many, the prospect of serving in the military for a country that had unjustly interned them was unthinkable. As for the Issei, or first generation, since they could not become U.S. citizens,

they felt that answering no to question #28 would leave them without a country.

The Pilgrimage was not only a time to reflect on the camp experience, but also a time to draw strength from the lessons that we have learned from the Redress and Reparations Victory. After a 10-year long struggle, Japanese Americans won an apology and \$20,000 in reparations for being wrongly interned during World War II. Many who worked on the campaign did so because it was the right thing to do and wanted to ensure that nothing like this would ever happen again.

Please see Tule Lake, Page 4

UCSD's Asian American Studies Profs

Have you ever taken a class in Asian American Studies? Ethnic Studies Professors Yen Le Espiritu and Professor Lisa Lowe, are the only two professors, at UCSD, who teach Asian American Studies on a consistent basis. Many students in high school were never taught about the contributions Asian Americans have made in this country. In their high school education, Professor Espiritu and Professor Lowe were not exposed to Asian American history either. So how

did they become interested in Asian American Studies?

Professor Espiritu first became interested in Asian American Studies her senior year at UCSD after taking a class about the plight of refugees. She also taught writing to Southeast Asian high school students in UCSD's

Early Outreach program. She then went to UCLA and wrote a Ph.D. thesis about the various aspects and levels of Asian American identity.

Professor Espiritu feels that Asian American history is important for all students to learn about because you can't learn a

full and rich American history without it. Next quarter Professor Espiritu will be teaching a four unit course on contemporary Asian American immigration. This course will look at the period of immigration from 1965, the year of the Nationality and Immigration Act, to the present. This time period

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"The bottom line," states Professor Lowe, "is that I teach Asian American literature because I think it is important that all students have access to the material and be aware of the rich tradition of Asian American writers."



Profs. Lisa Lowe and Yen Le Espiritu (right)

WHY Do you become involed with student organizaitons?



"I got involed because as a Korean American Student, I felt a need for an organization which dealt specifically with both the social and cultural aspects of Korea. I can have fun and also celebrate diverse cultures" -Robert Lee, KASA



"It's a good way to meet a lot of different people. I feel Japanese culture is diminishing. These clubs keep everyone in touch with culture. Become involed... it's really a learning experience." -Nami Kuroda

Asian & Pacific Islander Calendar



"To network with people who come from a similar background... with people who I can relate to and who can relate to me." Jose Tacloban, APSA



"It's good to have a sense of unity and cooperation among your peers and student organizations are a way to do this. Educationally, it's good to learn about working together and relative student issues." Rudy Martinez, MeChA



"I just want to contribute something to the school. I want to help students be aware of their culture." Vu Tuan, VSA

Asian & Pacific Islander Student Alliance

1991 UCSD-UPAC Holiday Food Drive
 APSA, working in conjunction with the Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC), is helping collect and distribute food baskets and clothing donations to needy families in the Asian/Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander communities. With recent cutbacks in funding to social services, your contributions and help is now more important than ever. Drop boxes have been placed in and around the APSA office, 2nd floor, Price Center. Suggested food items are rice, ramen, tuna, canned fruits, bamboo shoots, water chestnuts, corn and condensed milk.
 This is just one of the many programs APSA has to offer. APSA tries to help the San Diego community and also celebrate the richness of Asian and Pacific Islander cultures. APSA is also planning a semi-formal dance this quarter as well as Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Week during Winter quarter. Please stop by our office for more info!

Japanese American Society

"JaAmS" is an on-campus student runned organization that tries to bring Japanese-Americans and anyone else interested in the Japanese-American culture, together in a social, as well as a cultural environment. Some of activities planned for the school year are: pilgrimage to Manzanar, attendance to the JAFL Youth Conference as well as Sushi-Fest, dances, and other get-together social activities. If you are interested in joining, come to one of our scheduled meetings on the calendar section of this newspaper or contact one of the officers. "Ja-Mata!"

Nami Kuroda	Prez/Cultural Activities Coord.	558-9762
Michelle Nishina	VP/Pub. Relations	587-8939
Matt Baldwin	Soc. Activities Coordinator	450-9762
Joanne Tashiro	Publicity/Communications	558-2352
John Igarashi	Treasurer	272-2099

Sangam

The first thing I think of, when I'm thinking about issues of Ethnicity and how I feel about them, is why are young Asian Americans trying to get away from their culture? In our fight too Assimilate into the American way of life, we are forgetting our biggest asset, our Heritage. I get the feeling that young Asian Americans think that its "cooler" to hang with their caucasian friends than with Asian friends because if one hangs with Asians one is taking a step down on the social ladder. All through high school I had that same outlook. I have come to realize that my culture is a big part of what makes me who I am. When it comes to certain issues, (like parents) I feel more comfortable talking with my Asian friends for they understand where I'm coming from immediately. I'm not saying that we shouldn't assimilate into American society, I just want to point out that being among peer makes it a whole lot easier. I wish I would have had this realization earlier, when I was trying so hard to fit in and because another face in the crowd. - Arif Kureshy, President

East/West Horizons

East/West Horizons is a quarterly journal of Asian-American experiences. This forum was started to give a voice to the Asian-American community on campus to express their views, ideas, and thoughts. Those interested can come to our weekly meetings at the old Student Center, Room 207, on top of Soft Reserves. Meetings are held every Wednesday at 5:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

Momentum

Momentum is aimed toward informing all of UCSD's students about the Asian American Community and its activities. In addition, it will act as a forum in which to update students on the new issues, concerns, and changing demographics of Asian Americans in California and, more specifically, at UCSD. Anybody interested can contact Steven Mih at 558-8368 or come to our meetings at Thursday, 6:00 pm in the old Student Center, Room 207.

Chinese Culture Club

When two different streams of cultures come together and merge into one, a newer and often better, culture will be the result.
 Fellow classmates traveled thousands of miles, singly, to this wide spread and foreign country. They brought with time the cultures of China, the sweet smells of homeland, and the nostalgic vibrations of childhood. Together, their cultural luggages form a new stream of uniqueness, to be added to this cultural melting pot, to spark up new avenues of unprecedented radiance.
 To this purpose, the Chinese Culture Club was established. Let us push to the front stage the Chinese culture, and make it a new experience for other fellow classmates with different backgrounds.



Kaibigang Pilipino members from UCSD at the 1991 Friendship Games. Photo courtesy of Gail Oyas.

Vietnamese Student Association

The Vietnamese Student Association at UCSD was first established 13 years ago, and known as The Vietnamese Student Alliance. As the club evolved, its name finally became the Vietnamese Student Association.
 Since its beginning, VSA has been active both at UCSD and in the San Diego community. VSA has participated in campuswide activities such as FFOG, Open House, Sun God Festival, Asian Awareness Week, etc. VSA has also involved with the San Diego community in events such as New Year, and fund raising for boat people in refugee camps.
 One of VSA's primary goal is to create a hospitable atmosphere to encourage active participation from the Vietnamese and other students who are interested in the culture. Besides the bi-monthly meetings and quarterly events, VSA also plans unique activities - Pho's Night, 30-4 Night, etc - in bringing students together to learn about one another as well as to discover and to preserve the heritage.

Congratulations to the founders of the **Asian Coalition** at San Diego City College We support you all the way!!!

Chinese Student Association

Welcome to the Chinese Student Association. Yes, welcome to the jungle. For those of you who were part of CSA before, a really warm WELCOME back!! This year's CSA cabinet is the liveliest bunch I've seen yet—and I've seen many.
 We will have more forums to discuss issues such as interracial dating, generation gap, discrimination, etc. We will be co-sponsoring UCSD's Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Week to celebrate the richness and diversity of Chinese culture. We will be helping the San Diego community with a charity hunger drive and high-risk children's program. For these two events, I really hope you will become involved.
 If CSA keeps it up with all these exciting projects... man, the future looks bright. But to accomplish these goals, **WE need your ideas, talents and efforts.** CSA will be a place where future leaders and responsible citizens are born. **So come and join us!!!** It'll be a fun and exciting year!!! Stay cool. —Juan Sheu, CSA President

Kaibigang Pilipino

A thick carpet of fog shrouded La Jolla as we departed for Fullerton. There were thirteen of us piled into four cars, hoping the trip would be short. It was a good turnout considering we received the invitation from the Pilipino American Student Association of Cal State Fullerton two weeks earlier. When we arrived at Fullerton we were astonished at how many Pilipinos were there; our group looked small in comparison. This made us even more determined to enjoy the games. Our confidence increased when our unique cheer was applauded. We were ready for the games.
 The games were created to promote friendship between the organizations. Most of the games were designed for groups larger than sixteen so UC Irvine assisted us by lending us some of their members. They helped us win and place thirteen out of nineteen. We would like to extend our thanks to them and we will always remember the games for the union it made between "U-UC-UCSD-&I."

Korean American Student Association

KASA's had a bad rap about their uneventful events last year. But that was last year. Since then, with a brand new batch of enthusiastic officers desperate to put KASA back on the map again, things have really turned around. Already, KASA has been involved with the All-Asian Organization's Dance, threw a Welcoming Potluck Dinner, held a free Dance, and Bonfire at the beach. If you missed out on these gala affairs, continue reading for upcoming events. And remember, reader participation is necessary for them to be successful!
 Nov. 6: KASA General Meeting—location and time to be announced
 Nov. 15: KASA and Kaibigang Pilipino Joint Dance at the Price Center Ballroom
 Nov. 22: Semi-Formal with JaAMS, APSA, and KP at the Ramada Inn, Old Town. \$12 presale and \$15 at the door Hors d'oeuvres will be served.
 Look out for posters with additional information!

Hawai'i Club

Aloha Spirit at UCSD
 The UCSD Hawai'i Club, Ohana O' Aikane (Family of Friends), was formed in May 1989. Our purpose is to serve as a support group for incoming students from Hawai'i. Additionally, we promote the spirit of Aloha and make aware not only Hawaiiana, but other cultures which have gathered in the Islands. One of our main goals this year is to organize a traditional luau complete with entertainment. Our members plan to prepare most of the foods and perform the dances. Our easygoing Aloha spirit has helped us grow from a handful of people to a 1991 membership of approximately 100. One does not have to be Hawaiian or from Hawai'i to be a member, however one should be prepared to make a lot of friends, to eat (we have the best potlucks!) and just have a good time. If you would like to share your own knowledge or are interested in learning more about the culture please contact Dinna Domdom at 428-5976. E komo mai!(Welcome!).

November 1991

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japanese American Citizen's League (JAFL) Youth Conference, Torrance, CA 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA: Movie-Chinese Ghost Story, Part 3, GH 1118, 7:00 pm. KASA: General Meeting, 8 pm, Plaza TBA. For more info call 534-7763. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JACL Youth Conf., Torrance, CA. Hawai'i Club: Taste of Aloha Dinner, 7:30 pm HC: Frank Delima Comedy Show, Doubletree Hotel, \$17, 10:30 pm. VSA: Bon Fire, La Jolla Shore Beach, 7:00 p.m. KP: Outreach dinner, 3-6 pm, Free BBO, Stonehenge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japanese American Citizen's League (JAFL) Youth Conference, Torrance, CA CSA: Talent Show and Dance, Trident Pub, 7:00 - 12:00 pm. KP: Mount Punatubo Relief Fund Walkathon at Southwestern College, 9-4 pm.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hawai'i Club: General Meeting, 6:00 pm, Price Center, Gallery A KP: Traditional Pilipino Dance Workshop, 3-5 pm, TBA. For more info call 534-7763. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VSA: General Meeting, TBA. For more info call 534-7311. CSA: General Meeting, TBA, 7:00 pm. For more info call 534-7311. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA: Movie Night, TBA, 7:00 pm. For more info call 534-7311. KP: General Body Meeting 4 - 6 pm, SF Room. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chinese Studies Presents: "Exoticizing and Eroticizing the Other: Constructing a Chinese Self" 3:00 pm, USB 2622 Kaibigang Pilipino and KASA Joint Dance, PC, Ball Room, 9pm-1am, Free donation of 2 canned goods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sangam: India Culture Night, International Center, 8:00 pm.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSA: General Meeting, TBA, 7:00 pm. For more info call 534-7311. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JaAMS Volleyball Tournament at UC Riverside Hawai'i Club: Teriyaki Burger Sale "Music as a Medium of Ethnic Identity Among Korean Americans," by Dr. Marnie Dilling, Literature Bld. Room 3415 (4th Fl.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JaAMS Volleyball Tournament at UC Riverside VSA: Pool/Ping-pong Tournament, PC Game Room, 6:00 - 10:00 pm. KASA, JaAMS, CSA, APSA, and KP: Semi Formal, the Ramada Inn-Old Town, \$12 presale & \$15 at door, 8 - 12 am. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JaAMS Volleyball Tournament at UC Riverside Hawai'i Club: Taste of Aloha Dinner, Movie Night.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pan Asian Community Forum, A weekly drop-in skill enhancement and support group. Every Friday, 12:00 - 1:30, Mountain View Lounge, 3rd College. Sponsored by Phych. Services. 	



Mr. Cinton Batsuda and Mrs. Eva Kodani talk about what their lives were like when they were interned at Tule Lake.

Photo courtesy of Bruce Akizuki, Unity Newspaper

Tule Lake...

Students played a key role in the Redress and Reparations struggle. From the beginning, it was many young Sansei who worked with the Issei and Nisei to tell their stories and who worked together to influence legislators and the community. The first Tule Lake Pilgrimage, organized in 1978 was initiated by students. As a student who attended the 1991 Tule Lake Pilgrimage, I found that the spirit of struggle and determination that characterized the Redress and Reparations campaign was reinforced in all of us.

In Japanese there is a word **Gambare** that means let's struggle together. As we enter the 1990's there are many struggles that warrant our attention. Even though it is nearly 50 years since Japanese Americans were interned, just a year ago the United States was considering interning

Arab Americans during the Persian Gulf War. Anti Asian Violence is on the rise. The conditions in our communities will not necessarily get better. As Susan Hayse, keynote speaker for the Tule Lake Committee said, "We've tried to stand along side other Asian Americans, African Americans, Native Americans, Chicanos and Latinos and others, whether it be for civil rights, educational rights or other important issues. We've tried to work to build a society where everyone is respected and valued, where justice and peoples needs are the priority." This is an impressive legacy to inherit, but what I learned from the 1991 Tule Lake Pilgrimage is that we must **GAMBARE!**

Elsa Tsutaoka is a first year graduate student at UCSD Medical School.

Profs...

is important because it is the first time Asians could immigrate without exclusions based on race and nationality. This course will also look at the contemporary issues which immigrants face such as anti-Asian violence, limited social services, and a bilingual education.

Professor Espiritu will also be teaching a seminar on Asian American culture and identity. This class will be looking at how theories of ethnicity apply to questions such as a Pan Asian identity versus a more specific Asian identity, (i.e. Chinese, Korean), and multiracial children.

Asian American Studies has an added importance when looked at from a different context. "For Asian American students, it is important for them to feel that it (Asian America) isn't ignored," said Professor Espiritu.

Professor Lowe was inspired to learn about Asian American literature by the incredible lack of any material or courses at Stanford University. Most of her Western civilization courses were very Eurocentric (now some classes at Stanford include a more diverse curriculum due to Western Civilization debate.)

Professor Lowe teaches an introduction to Asian American literature class and also European literature. She sees a definite connection between culture and literature. She said, "I see literary expression as an important part to cultural politics."

In the effort to show the importance of an Asian American identity,

MOMENTUM staff box

Thanks to the following staff people who helped put this issue of **Momentum** together:

Dinna DomDom, Susan Hasegawa, Theresa,, Arif Kureshy, Dave Lee, Jason Lin, Steven Mih, James Murakami, Gail Oyatas, Joan Tan, Elsa Tsutaoka.

Professor Lowe sets up a group of text that represent both common experiences and also very different ones. She suggests that there are major differences within Asian American culture such as different ethnic groups, different waves of immigration, and sexual inequalities. She noted that a new immigrant from Cambodia and a third generation Japanese American have very different experiences but at the same time feel a common exclusion.

It is important to Professor Lowe to teach Asian American Studies at UCSD because of the large number of Asian Americans and the small number of Asian American professors. "The bottom line," states Professor Lowe, "is that I teach Asian American literature because I think it is important that *all* students have access to the material and be aware of the rich tradition of Asian American writers."

Steven Mih is a second year ethnic studies wanna-be...

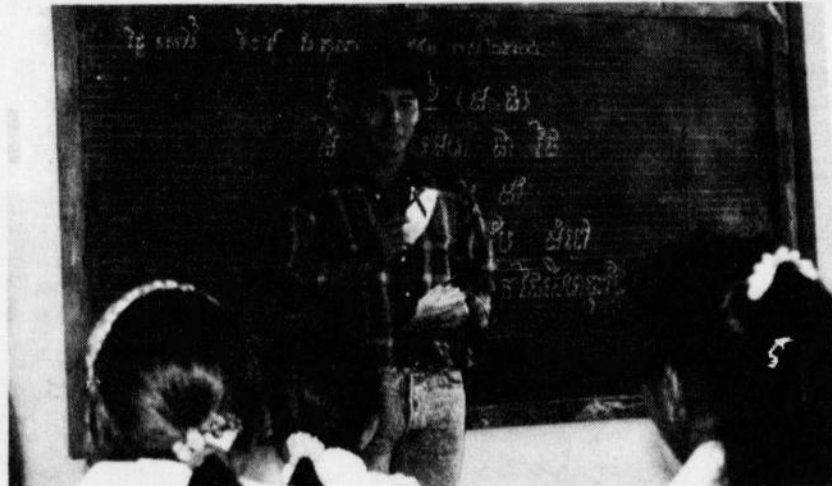
UPAC - 17 Years of Community Service

When it came to life in 1974, The Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC) occupied a nearly invisible niche, UPAC was to unite a small diversity of local Asian and Pacific Islander groups -and unite them with desperately needed services. Yet events of immense significance on the other side of an ocean would shape a larger destiny for UPAC. War in Southeast Asia would drive countless refugees into the arms of Western society. American communities would assume added cultural dimensions. Human care givers and service providers would face unprecedented challenges. UPAC, unlike any other social service entity, would be ready.

Beverly Yip founded UPAC when San Diego was home to only a few immigrants from China, Japan, Korea, Samoa, Guam and the Philippines. In those days, no single local Asian group was large enough or vocal enough to pursue the basic services so needed by their impoverished, ill, elderly and limited English-speaking members. UPAC-with its unified representation to those groups-would make a difference.

UPAC began as a Coalition of six member organizations. Leaders from the Japanese, Filipino, Chinese, Korean, Samoan and Guamanian communities pioneered the way for UPAC's initial funding-a \$36,000 City/County grant.

With public and private funds, and with a skilled bilingual staff, UPAC helped its clients achieve access to standard community services. UPAC also developed culturally and



Student helps immigrant youth learn English.

linguistically appropriate programs to meet the special needs of San Diego's diverse Pan Asian population. UPAC emerged as the only bilingual, bicultural, multi-social services agency for Pan Asians in San Diego and, perhaps, the nation.

It is with skill, high expectations and a shared vision that the UPAC staff pursues one of the most complex social service missions of our time. The essence of that mission is to balance tradition with change. To help Pan Asians adjust to vastly different customs, standards and language. And then, to provide a conduct not only for healing, but for self-sufficiency. To make it possible for people of diverse cultures to survive and thrive in America.

San Diego is now home to about 198,000 Asians and Pacific Islanders. Thus, Pan Asians comprise about eight percent of the county population. They include members of the Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Sa-

moan, Guamanian, Vietnamese, Laotian, Hmong, Thai and Cambodian cultures. Half of them speak little or no English. UPAC, unlike any other social service organization, provides a staff that is fluent in the languages and traditions of all these Asian cultures and sub-cultures.

One-third of San Diego's Asian population consist of Southeast Asian refugees. More continue to come here from overseas camps and other American cities. Most are unprepared for coping with massive change. UPAC, unlike most community organizations, provides a staff that includes immigrants and refugees who have carved their own pathways into Western culture, and who understand the struggle.

Assisting Pan Asians requires above all a culturally responsive approach. Unlike standard service providers, UPAC delivers the

essential bicultural/bilingual connection. In San Diego, many Pan Asians would never know that badly needed services are available, were it not for the bilingual UPAC staff. Many would decline assistance, were it not for UPAC's ability to build trust through cultural bonding. Many would never adjust, or heal, or grow, or become self-sufficient, without first being touched by the encouragement, guidance and knowledge of a very special UPAC staff.

In fiscal year 1989-90, UPAC's 15 programs assisted over 13,000 Pan Asians with services ranging from mental health counseling and treatment to elderly care, child care, child abuse prevention, child developmental disabilities prevention, parenting education, English language education and refugee adjustment. New programs in 1990-91 include alcohol and drug prevention, finance education, parent involvement programs and a high-risk youth prevention program.

Under the direction of Margaret Iwanaga-Penrose, who became Executive Director in 1990, UPAC currently runs 24 programs with an operating budget of 2.5 million dollars. With the increase in gang and drug activity in the Pan Asian communities, UPAC has responded with new and innovative programs targeting these problems. With a 17 year tradition, UPAC is committed to serving the changing needs of the Asian American community in San Diego.

Susan Hasegawa graduated from IRPS from last year. She is now a program manager for UPAC.