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The U.S. Congress established the East-West Center in 1960 to foster mutual understanding and cooperation among the governments and peoples of the Asia-Pacific region, including the United States. Through research, education, dialogue and outreach, the Center promotes responsible development, long-term stability, and human dignity for all people in the region and helps prepare the United States for constructive involvement in Asia and the Pacific.

Economic Cooperation Builds in NE Asia

Disputes about trade imbalances and nuclear proliferation frequently draw attention to Northeast Asia. But at a less publicized level, policymakers, diplomats, scholars, bankers and business executives are quietly working to build economic cooperation in the region.

The Northeast Asia Economic Forum convened in early 1995 in Niigata, Japan for its fifth round of talks in as many years with 570 participants from China, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea, Russia, Europe and the United States. The forum was chaired by Lee-Jay Cho, East-West Center vice president for program development. North Korea, which had hosted one of the previous conferences, did not participate but sent a video message of support.

For most of this century, suspicious or hostile relations among neighboring countries have thwarted attempts to develop the riches of Northeast Asia—an area of vast untapped natural resources that encompasses 300 million people and 20 percent of Asia's land mass. Now, with the end of the Cold War, initiatives to develop the region could have global implications.

"Multilateral economic cooperation will help reduce conflict in the region and enhance global security," said Cho. "It will stimulate investment. For China, Russia, North Korea and Mongolia, it will help facilitate their transition to market economies and their involvement in the world community."

Delegates at the February Niigata meeting recommended follow-up analysis of a proposal to establish a Northeast Asian Development Bank and a coordination mechanism to identify, evaluate and publicize commercially viable projects for investment. They also proposed an information pooling center to provide companies with market data and advice in technology and finance; a Northeast Asia Association of Chambers of Commerce formally linking business communities in the region; and a proposal for a Northeast Asia Energy Consortium (based on Siberia's enormous gas resources) that could analyze the feasibility of a gas grid linking all of Northeast Asia.

Stanley Katz, former vice president of the Asian Development Bank, said strong efforts are needed to entice direct private investment in the region to create jobs, income and technology transfers, but that private investors will need infrastructure financed by large amounts of long-term capital from the public sector. Katz said the need for a new development bank focused on Northeast Asia is inescapable. EWC Senior Fellow Mark Valencia said that with each country currently developing its own national transportation infrastructure "more or less in isolation from, and even in competition with, each other," there is also an urgent need for a strategic plan to guide a cooperative development effort.

The only multilateral intergovernmental cooperative economic endeavor to date is the Tumen River program, a proposed international economic zone in the lower Tumen River basin shared by China, North Korea and Russia. South Korea and Mongolia also have

Continued from page 1

joined the project. Problems of sovereignty, competing interests and regional economic disparities present challenges, but former Tumen program director John Whalen said the area will eventually become a commercial and transportation hub. In the meantime, the Northeast Asia Economic Forum could continue to provide a neutral, non-governmental mechanism for continuing discussions, he said.

Conferees acknowledged that Korean unification is essential to broad regional economic cooperation and that development should proceed cautiously to avoid disappointment and mistakes. Former South Korea prime minister Nam Duck Woo urged the U.N. Development Programme and developed Northeast Asian governments to assist their developing neighbors. He called upon Japan, in particular, to play more of a leadership role. Participants also acknowledged a need for discussions on the relationship between the Northeast Asia economic region and APEC, especially with the United States, and the role of national governments in multilateral cooperation.

For more information, contact Lee-Jay Cho at (808) 944-7440 or Mark Valencia at (808) 944-7247.

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Reexamining Security in Asia and the Pacific

Future prospects for maintaining peace and stability in Asia and the Pacific are more promising than the predictions of many regional security analysts, says an international relations expert at the East-West Center. "By and large, the Asia-Pacific region will be a zone of peace, especially at the level of the major powers—the United States, Japan, China, Russia and India," says Muthiah Alagappa, a senior fellow in the Center's Program on International Economics and Politics. "Of course, there will still be periods of tension among these powers. But these will be periods of tension leading to accommodation, not conflict."

Alagappa presents his views in a recent paper, "System Change and Security in the Asia-Pacific Region," which examines the international political system that is still taking shape as a result of the end of the Cold War, the implosion of the Soviet Union and Asia's growing economic dynamism. Alagappa lists a number of areas that have the potential to



Muthiah Alagappa

produce international conflict in Asia. He notes, however, that three major points of tension in Northeast Asia—the Korean peninsula, relations between China and Taiwan, and the dispute over the Northern Territories involving Japan and Russia—while difficult to resolve, have stabilized. Regional conflicts in Kashmir or over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea remain a distinct possibility, he says, and there are a number of other domestic and international trouble spots. But their potential to involve competing major powers and affect regionwide security is limited.

Alagappa concedes that his analysis "stands in sharp contrast to the more pessimistic conclusions" of other Asia-Pacific security analysts, who believe the region is headed toward instability with a high probability for conflict involving the major powers. These analysts note that Asia and the Pacific have no history of regional or multilateral institutions to promote peace and stability, and forums such as APEC are still in their infancy; that many Asian countries are using their growing economic wealth to purchase arms and strengthen their military capabilities; and that these same countries have used force before and are likely to use it again.

Alagappa counters that the stabilizing forces in the region outweigh the destabilizing ones. Specifically, he says, many Asian countries have pursued economic modernization through outward, export-oriented policies that place a high premium on a stable and healthy international environment. They have a vested interest in preventing the outbreak of violent conflict. Deepening economic integration in the region will also increase the cost and raise the threshold for using force, he says.

In addition, institution building in the economic domain can spill over into the security realm. "The recent APEC summit meetings and declarations (Seattle and Bogor, Indonesia) may be viewed as indicative of interest in and commitment at the highest political level to sustaining economic dynamism and peace in the Pacific," he says. Alagappa notes there is also a nuclear deterrent at work. There are three nuclear powers in the region, and two other countries have the potential to develop nuclear capability.

Periods of power transition are normally characterized as dangerous, he says. But the transitions that are occurring in the region, induced by differences in the rates of economic growth, will be gradual, providing time for opportunities for adjustment and institution building. Alagappa says there is greater potential for conflict in Asia-Pacific at the

domestic level—Tibet, Burma, Sri Lanka, Timor in Indonesia and many others. But, again, while these disputes may incite armed violence, their potential to involve competing major powers and affect regionwide security is limited.

Alagappa presented this paper at an international conference on Asia's New Order held in Singapore, May 25–27. The study is part of a larger multi-year project on Asia-Pacific security directed by Alagappa and EWC Visiting Fellow Yoshihide Soeya of Keio University. For more information, contact Alagappa at (808) 944-7529.

Hungry for Fertilizer

With 50–75 percent of the total food and agriculture production in many Asian countries dependent upon the use of chemical fertilizers, the strategic importance of this vital agricultural input has raised concerns for food and fertilizer security as well as potential environmental abuse, says EWC Senior Fellow Saleem Ahmed.

Ahmed is the author of *Agriculture-Fertilizer Interface in Asia: Issues of Growth and Sustainability*, recently published by Oxford & IBH Publishers, New Delhi. This three-year study of 13 countries notes that Asia is already the world's largest fertilizer consumer with 41 percent of the global 1990 consumption. China and India collectively account for 70 percent of the Asian market and are the world's largest fertilizer importers. Ahmed projects 30–100 percent growth in fertilizer consumption during the 1990–2000 period, with most countries becoming increasingly dependent on imports.

"Asia will provide a good market for American, European and Middle East fertilizer exporters, but the increasing dependence on fertilizer use highlights the vulnerability of importing countries to disruption in supplies due to either human or natural causes," he says.

Ahmed believes large-scale fertilizer smuggling may be occurring from Nepal to India and from Malaysia to Thailand.

Smuggling from Bangladesh to India recently resulted in the death of 12 people when protests over a fertilizer shortage in Bangladesh turned violent, he says.

Ahmed says average fertilizer use currently ranges from 15–55 percent of the theoretical maximum in South Asia; 40–100 percent in Southeast Asia; is at the 100 percent level in China; and 120–150 percent in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan. "Overuse in East Asia is exacerbating environmental problems such as the leaching of nitrates into groundwater, pollution of lakes and soil contamination," he says.

Because there are currently no viable alternatives to the use of chemical fertilizers for large-scale application, policies should focus on how fertilizer use can be sustained with minimum impact on the environment, he says. On a smaller scale, many Japanese farmers have successfully replaced fertilizers and pesticides with organic farming techniques (composting, crop rotation, crop diversity, hand-weeding) and are getting yields comparable to the yields of farmers using fertilizers and synthetic chemicals, he says.

Expanding populations coupled with limited amounts of new land that can be brought into cultivation will further increase pressures for fertilizer use to obtain higher yields, he says. Thus, Asia's developing countries will need to consider growing potatoes and other vegetable crops that yield two to three times more than cereal crops such as wheat and rice, both of which figure prominently in the Asian diet.

For more information, contact Ahmed at (808) 944-7553.

Energy and the Environment

Faced with enormous electricity needs but fearful of environmental problems from coal and oil, Asia-Pacific countries are looking to other energy sources such as natural gas, nuclear power, hydro power and geothermal energy. Nonetheless, the region's dependence on imported oil, primarily from the Middle East, will grow, as will use of coal.

Plans for shifting to less polluting fuels may not materialize, with serious implications for the world's climate.

These findings are included in a new EWC report, *Pacific Energy Outlook: Strategies and Policy Imperatives to 2010*, published by the EWC Program on Resources. The editors are program Director Fereidun Fesharaki; Senior Fellow Allen Clark, and Duangjai Intarapavich of the Thailand Environment Institute, a former visiting fellow.

Projections for fossil and nonfossil fuel use through 2010 indicate that without a dramatic increase in the use of clean technologies, promises to stabilize or reduce emissions of carbon dioxide will be almost impossible to keep, the report says. Asia and the Pacific will account for nearly half of the world's fossil fuel emissions by 2010, even if the region succeeds in increasing its use of nonfossil fuels and clean coal technologies. By then, the region is expected to use 133 percent more commercial energy (oil, gas and coal, and electricity supplied by power utilities) than it does today.

Although the region's use of hydro power and nuclear generation may double, fossil fuel use is expected to increase by 90 percent, the report says. The authors project the region's contribution to total fossil-related emissions worldwide will grow from 31 percent in 1993 to 46 percent in 2010.

The region's share of fossil emissions could go even higher if the expected increase in nonfossil fuel use does not take place in the electricity generation sector. The researchers conclude that whether or not plans for nonfossil fuel development are realized, energy use in the Asia-Pacific region will have profound environmental effects:

"The issue is not whether there will be significant impacts on the environment but how, first, to minimize those impacts and then how to choose among them," they say.

For a copy of the report, contact the EWC Publication Sales Office at (808) 944-7145 or fax (808) 944-7376.



Grady Timmons

Anne Thurston: Grassroots Academic

When Anne Thurston first went to China in 1978, her job was to make contact with Chinese scholars and intellectuals in the aftermath of the Cultural Revolution. It was the beginning of what she calls a revolution in her own understanding of China. "I went from trying to understand China through reading newspapers and periodicals to talking to real people and working at the grassroots level," she says.

Since 1978, Thurston has lived in China for five-and-a-half years and visited the country on more than 30 occasions. She has talked to teachers, doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs, students, peasants, dissidents and many others. Using this grassroots approach, she has produced three books: *The Private Life of Chairman Mao*, written with Mao's personal physician, Li Zhisui (New York: Random House, 1994); *A Chinese Odyssey: The Life and Times of a Chinese Dissident* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1991); and *Enemies of the People: The Ordeal of China's Intellectuals during the Great Cultural Revolution* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1987; and Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1988, paperback).

As a project fellow at the East-West Center, Thurston is working on a fourth book

about China that focuses on the post-Tiananmen era and the dilemmas of democratization. Once again, she is out among the people—listening to the Chinese tell their stories, interpreting those stories to the West, and giving voice to those who might not otherwise be heard.

"The changes that are occurring in China are so profound and are happening so fast that you have to work at the grassroots to fully understand them," she says. "I don't trust what I read. I prefer to talk with real, everyday people. I walk the streets with them. I visit with them at their jobs and in their homes. What I see and what I hear are very real, very concrete."

Thurston supplements her interviews with long hours of scholarly research, keeping abreast of political theory and dynamics, which she also addresses in her books. But she might best be described as a "grassroots academic." She considers herself primarily an educator and a writer at heart. Her books read like novels. "I write for a general audience, some of whom are scholars," she says. "And my work is accessible to students."

Fluent in Mandarin Chinese, Thurston earned her master's and doctoral degrees in political science from the University of California at Berkeley, and her bachelor's at Tufts University. In 1994, she received a peace award from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. She's been a fellow with the U.S. Institute for Peace (1993–94) and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (1991–92), as well as a research associate at the Fairbank Center for East Asian Research at Harvard University (1980–85).

She's also been a member of Amnesty International, on the board of directors of Human Rights in China, a consultant for the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, a visiting scholar at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, a staff director for the Social Science Research Council, and a scholar-in-residence in Beijing for educational tours arranged by the Smithsonian

Institution, the American Museum of Natural History and others.

Thurston began studying China at the outset of the Cultural Revolution in 1966 and has traced the country's evolution from the end of the Mao years through the reforms of Deng Xiaoping. Yet she admits that trying to predict the future of this country is next to impossible. "Deng Xiaoping will almost surely have passed from the scene by the time the book I am now working on is completed," she says, "and the process of change that his death must spark will have begun."

Beginning with a reexamination of the events and people surrounding Tiananmen, Thurston's book will consider China after Deng. It will look at corruption, inequality and social unrest in China, at widespread moral decay and the beginnings of a civil society, at China's dynamic economic growth and the prospects for democracy.

Will economic liberalization lead inevitably to political liberalization? Is democracy possible in China? Thurston notes one encouraging sign: The Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs, which is responsible for implementing local elections, recently invited American participation in training programs for local officials in China in hopes that Americans will observe and work with Chinese officials who conduct local elections. The International Republican Institute and the Ford Foundation are already involved in such efforts, which mark "a huge step," she says.

"China has no choice but to become more democratic," she says. "But like the rest of the former communist world, China will have to go through a protracted and painful process of expiation before reaching a stable and democratic government."

Only one thing may be certain, says Thurston. China is a nation of 1.2 billion people. More than 900 million of those people live in 750,000 villages in the countryside. If democracy is possible in China, change will occur at the grassroots level.

For more information contact Anne Thurston at (808) 944-7520.

Teaching Teachers About Asia

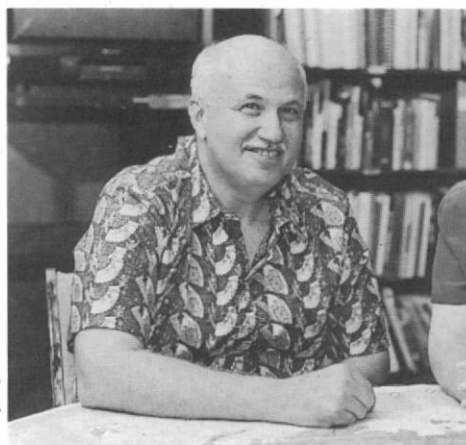
With a population of only 7,000, the remote Hawaiian island of Molokai could seem an unlikely place for an international educational success story. Yet at Kilohana Elementary, a small rural school on the island's southern coast, an entire community has embraced an East-West Center program that is working nationally to infuse more Asia-Pacific content into the educational curriculum.

"Kilohana is a tiny school with only one class per grade level but equipped with computers and video technology," says EWC Senior Fellow David Grossman. "Parents, teachers and administrators are actively involved in the education of the children in this community, and they have adopted our program as a model for their school."

Kilohana Elementary is one of many success stories of the Consortium for Teaching Asia and the Pacific in the Schools (CTAPS), an EWC project to improve teaching about Asia and the Pacific in the United States at the pre-collegiate level. Begun in 1988 as a pilot project in Hawaii, CTAPS has trained more than 7,000 educators from 153 schools—or approximately 40 percent of the teachers in the state. The program has reached more than 70,000 students.

Using the successful Hawaii program as a model, Grossman has also taken CTAPS to the U.S. mainland. Last year he began working with urban educators on a Hitachi-funded project entitled "Intersections," which is designed to expand the capacity of American inner city schools to include Asia and the Pacific in their curriculum. This year he is working with the Asia Society in New York to develop a national Asian Education Resource Center (AERC). A key part of that project will be to take state-of-the-art educational technology, combine it with the CTAPS teacher-training model and apply it in schools across the country.

"In Hawaii, where many students are of



David Grossman

Asia-Pacific ancestry, making Asia-Pacific education an integral part of the school system has been a natural fit," says Grossman. "Accomplishing the same goal in different multicultural settings on the U.S. mainland will be a more formidable challenge."

The former director of the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE), Grossman started CTAPS because of Hawaii's multicultural setting and a strong show of support among government, business and educational leaders. CTAPS began as a collaborative effort with the East-West Center, the Hawaii State Department of Education and the Asia Society, with Dole Foods contributing \$300,000 in seed money. Since then, additional funding has come from the U.S.-Japan Foundation, the Hitachi Foundation and the McNerny Foundation.

"CTAPS is a cost-effective program of teachers training teachers," says Grossman. "It is based on the premise that international competence is a must for the next generation of students. We work to increase knowledge among teachers about Asia and the Pacific. We provide them with curriculum materials and strategies for teaching. We offer leadership training and curriculum-study tours to Asia and the Pacific. In Hawaii, the goal has been to train 3-5 percent of the educators as leaders who will develop core teams within school districts that will pass the training on to fellow teachers."

On the U.S. mainland, the CTAPS model is being used in the "Intersections" project at inner city schools that have substantial enrollments of minority students. Last summer, teams of educators from Boston, St. Louis and Miami participated in a three-week institute at the Center. Back in the classroom, these teachers adapted and applied their training experience into staff development programs for their schools. This summer, three new teams of educators from these same cities will repeat the process. The third year, all six teams will meet to share results and produce a handbook on what they learned for other educators.

The Asia Society's AERC program is an even more ambitious national outreach effort that has three key elements. The first is the creation of a centralized national database called *ASKAsia*, which will provide easy electronic access to high-quality Asian Studies materials geared to the kindergarten through high school levels.

The program will also work in collaboration with established educational publishers to develop a library of interactive CD-ROM programs, called *AsiaINTERACT*, which will provide students with multimedia learning experiences. "The materials will immerse students in another culture and draw them into different kinds of learning adventures," says Grossman. The options include video tours, interactive language lessons and day-in-the-life programs.

The third element of the program, *TEACHAsia*, will combine this new technology with the CTAPS teacher-training methods. "In adapting our Hawaii model to the needs of school districts around the country, CTAPS will work closely with existing local and regional teacher-training programs," says Grossman. "This collaborative approach of using technology and teachers at the 'grassroots level' will ensure that the program is truly national while having real local impact."

For more information contact David Grossman at (808) 944-7767.

Publications Spotlight

Energy in Latin America: Production, Consumption and Future Growth, by Kang Wu. Greenwood Publishing: Westport. 336 pages. \$59.95. Order from the Greenwood Publishing Group, Praeger Publishers, Westport, CT, USA 06881-5007.

Latin America, with 12.3 percent of the world's oil reserves, could eventually become an important alternative source of oil and gas for Asia-Pacific countries if sufficient foreign and private capital is available to expand exploration and production, says author Kang Wu.

Asia has already surpassed Western Europe as the world's second largest consumer of oil and is expected to overtake the United States by the year 2000. Center energy analysts forecast that 90 percent of Asia's oil imports will come from the Middle East within the next decade. Many Latin American countries, after years of shunning foreign investment in their energy resources, have adopted new policies to encourage investment, says Wu. New investments, as well as improvements in energy efficiency and enhanced regional cooperation, are crucial to the growth of the region's energy sector.

"The remainder of the 1990s promises many opportunities for foreign companies, particularly from the United States, to invest in and develop the region's energy potential," he says. "Asia-Pacific countries can also take advantage of the open policies to invest in Latin America."

Wu analyzes the trend toward privatization and demonopolization of national oil and gas companies in Latin America. "Although privatization is not the sole nor best answer to every nation's problems, it is being vigorously pursued by some important energy producers in the region," he says. "The process of market-oriented reforms has proved to be a painful and tortuous one for many governments. Yet it is believed that reforms are the only way to revamp the inefficient and money-losing national energy entities in the face of stiff international competition."

Books in Brief

Metropolitan Water Use Conflicts in Asia and the Pacific, edited by James E. Nickum and K. William Easter. Westview Press: Boulder, San Francisco, Oxford. 218 pages. \$55.00. Order from Westview Press, 5500 Central Avenue, Boulder, CO USA 80301-2877.

Asia is the least urbanized continent, yet it contains half of the world's largest cities and many of its fastest growing economies. Urban growth is already stressing water supplies and causing intense conflict. This volume examines case studies of eight different metropolitan areas—Beijing, Manila, Seoul, Bangkok, Madras, Osaka, Nagoya and Honolulu. It focuses on the institutional and policy dimensions of the conflict and provides options for reducing the growing friction among water users in the region.

Emerging Patterns of East Asian Investment in China: From Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong, edited by Sumner J. La Croix, Michael Plummer and Keun Lee. M.E. Sharpe, Inc.: Armonk. 316 pages. \$60.00 (hardcover), \$22.50 (paperback). Order from M.E. Sharpe, Inc., 80 Business Park Avenue, Armonk, New York 10504.

This book examines the recent surge of foreign and Taiwan investment in mainland China's coastal provinces. It examines the mistakes of early investors and why and how the pattern of direct investment in China has changed dramatically during the 1990s.

Culture, Kastom, Tradition: Developing Cultural Policy in Melanesia, edited by Geoffrey White and Lamont Lindstrom. Institute of Pacific Studies, University of the South Pacific: Suva. 291 pages. \$10.00. Order from the Institute of Pacific Studies, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji.

With more than 1,000 distinct linguistic-cultural groups, Melanesia is the most culturally diverse area in the world. Local and national attempts to promote and protect this rich concentration of cultural traditions have produced novel experiments in

cultural development. In surveying these efforts in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, the authors open a window onto the dilemmas of change that face Melanesian and other Pacific communities and offer insight into some of the ways that peoples and governments of the region have sought to deal with them.

Economic and Development Potential of Manganese Nodules within the Cook Islands Exclusive Economic Zone, by Allen L. Clark, Jackson A. Lum, Chang Li, Wilfredo Ica, Charles Morgan and Yoshiaki Igarashi. Pacific Islands Development Program and Program on Resources, East-West Center: Honolulu. 34 pages. \$15.00. Order from the EWC Publication Sales Office, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848.

The acceptance of the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) concept in international law has given many archipelagic countries more submarine territory than land area. The Cook Islands has discovered that its EEZ possesses great amounts of mineral deposits, with nodules containing concentrations of cobalt, nickel and manganese. This report defines the resource potential of the nodules, evaluates the economic, technological and market aspects of a mining operation, and provides an overview of the development options.

Dam Lies and Other Statistics: Taking the Measure of Irrigation in China, 1931-91, by James E. Nickum. EWC Occasional Paper, Environment Series, No. 18, January 1995. East-West Center: Honolulu. 129 pages. \$7.00. Order from the EWC Publication Sales Office, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848.

Irrigated areas in China are among the world's largest and produce two-thirds of the country's grain and most of its cash crops. This report discusses China's irrigated area statistics: who collects them and how; and what they say, seem to say, and do not say. It also examines a number of possible reporting biases.

Forging U.S.-India Cooperation

by Robert Retherford

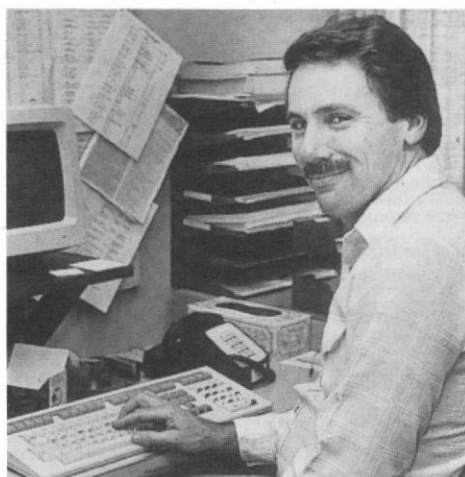
During the last 25 years, the United States has supported two major initiatives for collecting data on health and fertility, the World Fertility Surveys and the Demographic and Health Surveys. Much of what we know about childbearing and maternal and child health care throughout the world is based on these surveys. But China and India, which constitute about half the population of the developing world, declined to participate in either of these efforts. Nor did India conduct similar surveys of its own.

In 1990, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), seeking to include India in its research efforts, asked the East-West Center to initiate a collaborative population study with India. USAID was aware that the Center had a track record of developing successful cooperative working relationships in the country and had gained acceptance as a neutral, non-governmental organization.

The India study was to be part of a larger \$9.6 million region-wide project funded by USAID and focusing on Asian countries experiencing rapid population growth and high rates of maternal and child mortality. These included Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines, in addition to India.

We proposed to the Indian government, and to USAID, that a health and population survey be carried out as part of the India study. The idea was accepted, and the result has been the most extensive survey of health and population ever conducted in India. The Indian government recently authorized release of the survey data to both Indian and international researchers. To my knowledge, this has never happened since Indian independence.

Launched in 1991, the India study was a collaborative effort between the EWC and India's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The study's central component, the National Family Health Survey, was under-



Robert Retherford

taken by the Ministry and coordinated by the International Institute for Population Sciences, Bombay, with participation by seven private consulting organizations and 18 state-level population research centers throughout India. Macro International, a U.S.-based consulting organization, also provided foreign technical assistance.

Altogether, the survey included 24 states and the National Capital Territory of Delhi, comprising 99 percent of the population of India. Almost 90,000 women aged 13-49 and 88,562 households were covered. The survey provides national-level and state-level data on fertility, infant and child mortality, family planning practices, maternal and child health care, immunization, the utilization of services, and knowledge of AIDS.

One important finding is that while the national level of fertility has fallen from an average of five children per woman to three-and-a-half children, fertility rates vary dramatically throughout the country. The largest states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in the north are still averaging between four and five children per woman, while some southern states, such as Kerala and Tamil Nadu, have achieved replacement-level fertility of two children per woman. That these states have achieved this goal at low levels of development indicates that an advanced level of development is not a prerequisite for fertility decline, and that health and family planning programs, which are strong in

these states, can make a difference. The results also show that despite India's rapidly spreading AIDS epidemic, the level of knowledge about this disease among women is extremely low in most of the states where it has become a serious problem.

Conducting such a massive and sensitive survey was a challenging task. The collection of data was at times hampered by flooding and landslides, riots and outbreaks of communal violence. The Center's involvement was largely due to its previous work in India. That work has been ongoing since the 1970s, and during the last decade included major projects with the India Office of the Registrar General, which administers the national census. In short, the Center had built a reputation and developed the credibility and trust that so often makes the difference between success and failure in Asia.

For India, the National Family Health Survey is a key component in its efforts to improve family planning and slow population growth. Results are being used by the government to refine population and development policies and to improve delivery of family planning and health services. The survey has also generated a larger pool of workers skilled and trained in using computer software and in collecting and analyzing large-scale survey data. This will substantially upgrade the research capabilities of the participating state population research centers.

For the United States, this project will fill large gaps in our understanding about a country that will soon be the most populous in the world. But it is also important because it has been a model of successful cooperation between the U.S. and the Indian governments.

Robert Retherford is senior fellow in the Center's Program on Population and was the lead EWC researcher in the India project. He has more than 20 years of experience working on population issues in Asia. Retherford can be contacted at (808) 944-7403.

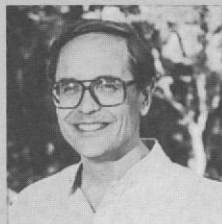
The U.S. APEC Study Centers Consortium and the American private sector are offering to set up an APEC-wide, multimedia telecommunications network. The proposal was endorsed by representatives from 13 member countries of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum at a March conference in Tokyo.

The East-West Center and the University of Hawaii serve as the secretariat for the new American APEC Study Centers Consortium.

Charles Morrison, director of the EWC Program on International Economics and Politics, serves as the executive secretary of the consortium. The consortium, currently composed of 13 American universities and institutions, is developing regional cooperation in higher education, studying key regional economic issues, and facilitating cultural and intellectual exchanges.

According to Morrison, the proposed telecommunications network was developed under the leadership of Donald Hellman, who directs the University of Washington APEC Study Center and is chairman for the consortium. The telecommunications network will be connected to the Internet and provide users with access to information about APEC-related educational activities of participating countries. As it evolves, the APEC Education Network will also provide access to information about other educational institutions and their research projects; proposed multinational research projects; international student and faculty exchange programs; government ministries of education, trade and foreign affairs; and specialized data bases and communications programs maintained by individual countries.

The U.S. Telecommunications Network Initiative was one of four initiatives announced by U.S. Secretary of State **Warren Christopher** in his address at the 11 November 1994 APEC Ministerial meetings in Jakarta, Indonesia ■



Charles Morrison

26th Summer Seminar on Population. June 1–July 1 at the EWC. July 2–8 in Bangkok, Thailand.

An international group of professionals in population-related fields participate in a month of intensive workshops at the Center on public and private sector responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic; analysis of family planning and health intervention programs; financing family planning programs; and social context, women's status and fertility. Participants then travel to Bangkok for a fifth week of lectures, discussions and field trips.

Sponsors: EWC and the Institute for Population Studies, Chulalongkorn University. EWC contacts: Peter Xenos (808) 944-7410 and Valerie C. Wong (808) 944-7404, Program on Population ■

Japanese Culture and Civilization.

June 4–July 8. At the EWC.

A five-week summer institute, supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, to provide U.S. undergraduate faculty who are not specialists on Asia with an overview of Japanese culture. Conducted by the Asian Studies Development Program, a joint project between the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center. Sponsors: University of Hawaii and EWC. EWC contact: Elizabeth Buck, Education and Training, (808) 944-7315 ■

Pacific Islands Culture and Identity.

June 12–August 4. At the EWC.

A summer seminar for college teachers funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Participants will explore Pacific tradition and how people create, maintain and contest their understandings of culture, identity, traditions and pasts. Sponsors: NEH, EWC. EWC contact: Geoffrey White, Program for Cultural Studies, (808) 944-7343 ■

Greenhouse Gases in Developing Countries. June 17–23. At the EWC.

Scientists from India and China will meet to finish analyzing air pollution measurements they have taken in their respective countries related to widely used small-scale combustion stoves. The scientists will work with Center researchers to determine the impact on the global environment and prepare a draft report for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Sponsors: USEPA, EWC. EWC contact: Kirk Smith, Program on Environment, (808) 944-7519 ■

APEC Economics.

June 27–28. At the EWC.

A workshop on "Making APEC Work: Economic Challenges and Policy Alternatives," to prepare for a multi-year project by the EWC, Brandeis University and Keio University. The project will analyze the effects of APEC-led liberalization on trade, labor markets and foreign direct investment.

Sponsors: EWC, APEC. EWC contacts: Manual Montes (808) 944-7523 and Richard Garbaccio (808) 944-7223, EWC Program on International Economics and Politics ■

Development of Intercultural Coursework at Colleges and Universities.

July 12-21. At the EWC.

A workshop that helps college and university faculty develop coursework that incorporates viewpoints from many cultures. Sponsored by EWC. EWC contact: Richard Brislin, Education and Training, (808) 944-7644.

Listings reflect only a small number of programmed Center activities. A complete three-month calendar of conferences, workshops and seminars is available through the Office of Public Programs. Fax (808) 944-7376 to be put on the mailing list ■