APACC ALUMNI Newsletter

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After being closed since March 2020, partially opened in fall 2020, and fully opened this fall 2021, APACC had tremendous success reaching APIDA students and hosting events that everyone enjoyed! Our social media, discord, and newsletter grew more as time passed, indicating substantial growth of APIDA students at CSU and their interest in connecting with others, finding a safe space where they can be themselves, and be in community. APACC had success hosting programs and creating some of the biggest events we have had for a while. We anticipate next semester's success will be the same, if not better! We can't wait to update you more on what's happening at APACC!!!
STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

**MIGET PEREZ**
He/Him/His

Hi y'all, I am one of the Student Administrative Assistant, 5th year Civil Engineering Major. Playing Mahjong in APACC is always a great time! Being able to play a game while catching up with friends or getting to know new people highlights a piece of what APACC does that I love so much.

**JEANNIE VONG**
She/They

Heya, I am the Pre-collegiate youth coordinator. 4th year Communication Studies major. My favorite memory so far from the Fall 21 semester was from Rice Bowl! There were so many newer folks and it’s nice to have a small tradition back.

**ETHAN HO**
He/Him/His

Hello y'all, I am one of the Community Development Coordinators. I am in my 2nd year, majoring in Computer Engineering. It’s nice to be back in person and meeting new people face-to-face.

**MUEMANG LING**
She/They

Hey, I am one of the Community Development Coordinators. I’m a 3rd year majoring in Sociology. I finally got the chance to carve a pumpkin this fall at the APACC office and it was a good time struggling with other first-timers.

**AN-PING YU**
She/Her/HerS

Hi y’all! My name is An-Ping and I have been the RamEvents liaison for a year and a half. My favorite event to plan is APIDA Heritage Month and I hope to see you all at some APIDAHM 2022 events! I enjoy hiking, taking photos, and sleeping in my free time.

**KALYN BONN**
She/Her/HerS

Hey! I am the Student Success Coordinator here at APACC. It’s been great being back in person this semester but my favorite memory was meeting so many fellow adoptees at our first Adoptee Connections!
STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Randy Huynh
He/Him/His
Greetings everyone! I am one of the Communications Managers and a 5th year going for my CPA. I am majoring in Accounting and Finance. I spend a lot of my time cooking and going to the gym, and spending time with my little Chihuahua, Snoway! Hope to see y’all at some events during the Spring!

Marina Gorin
She/Her/Hers
Hi my name is Marina Gorin, I am one of the Peer Mentor Coordinators and an international student from France and Vietnam. I'm a 3rd year majoring in Zoology. I love playing soccer in my free time!

Suka Vo
She/Her/Hers
Hi everybody! My name is Suka, a 3rd year majoring in Graphic Design. I'm a part of APACC’s communication team. Alongside being an art enthusiast, I spend a lot of my free time antiquing and plant shopping. I always love a good talk so feel free to chat with me at the center.

Grace
They/Them
Hey, I'm Grace and I'm a 2nd year majoring in Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering. My favorite memory from this semester was Rice Bowl. It was a lot of fun and it was great meeting so many new people.

Kaitlinn
She/Her/Hers
Hey y'all, I'm a 4th year majoring in International Studies with minors in Political Science, Business Administration, and Chinese. My favorite memory of APACC this semester was staff retreat. It was fun getting to know the other staff members better, and I loved spending time at the Mountain Campus.

Jamilyn
She/Her/Siya
Hi I am Jamilyn Castillo. I am one of the Peer Mentor Coordinators. I am a 4th year student with a major in Human Development and Family Studies and a minor in Ethnic Studies. My favorite memories in APACC consist of getting to know the staff throughout the semester and the moments of laughter we share. I also enjoyed getting to know our peer mentors and meeting mentees.
ANDREW GRANT
HE/HIM/HS
I am a third-year majoring in International Studies and Political Science. My favorite memory this year is working at APACC over the summer. The summer staff had lots of fun planning for the fall and it greatly helped me grow as a student staff employee.

JOANN YOSHIDA
SHE/HER/HERS
Hey y'all! I'm currently serving as the Director for APACC. It's great to see all of the new and returning faces back in the office this fall!

ALE MARINELARENA-OLVERA
SHE/HER/HERS
I am a double major in Ethnic Studies and International Studies focusing on Latin America. I'm a fourth year, graduating this upcoming spring. My favorite memories this year would be when the whole staff went on the retreat and getting to know JoAnn during Fall Cleanup.

BEN TORRES
HE/HIM/HS
Hey, I'm Ben, a 2nd year majoring in Political Science. I'm the ASCSU Senator for APACC. I have had a lot of fun and learned a lot during my time working with APACC! APACC is a really great community.

MINAHIL CHAUDARY
SHE/HER/HERS
Hello, I’m Minahil and I’m the APACC Inclusive Community Assistant at Corbett! I’m a third-year majoring in Computer Information Systems. My favorite memory of the semester would be Rice Bowl!

CARL MURRAY OLSEN
HE/HIM/HS
Hey, I’m the Co-Director for APACC. It was really fun hanging out with Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American staff, faculty, and graduate students at the Horse & Dragon Brewing Company this semester.
Hi all! My name is Rachel Wada (pronouns: she/her). I grew up in Aurora, Colorado and graduated with honors from CSU in May of 2017 with a B.A. in Art History and a second field in Chemistry. While at CSU, I enjoyed studying art history through a social justice lens and examining how art history is studied and taught. Outside of the classroom, I worked in Housing & Dining as a Resident Assistant and a Community Desk Manager. Through being involved in different roles in Housing & Dining at CSU I discovered how much I loved working with students. After graduating, I wanted more experience working with students in a full-time role. So, I moved to Duluth, Minnesota to work as a Residence Director at the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD) in Housing & Residence Life. While at UMD I developed professionally and my desire to work with students strengthened.

After working full-time, I returned to school in the Fall of 2019 to work towards completing my M.A. in Higher Education and Student Affairs at the University of Connecticut (UConn). During my time at UConn, I worked as the graduate assistant at the Asian American Cultural Center (AsACC). While at AsACC I explored my own identity as a multiracial Japanese American woman and discovered how passionate I am about working with APIDA students. After graduating from UConn, I worked at the Asian Pacific American Student Affairs Cultural Center at the University of Arizona.

In my free time, I love to cook, bake, take walks, be outside, nap, and be in community with people I appreciate and love. I am so excited to return to CSU and be a part of the APACC community!
Open House was a huge success. This was a great opportunity for our student organizations to recruit new first year students. The whole room was brimming with people connecting and learning about what APACC is and what we do.

Peer Mentor

Our peer mentor program helps many first year students make connections with fellow students, their mentors and build familiarity with the CSU campus. We’ve had all kinds of events including pumpkin carving, hikes, breakfast picnics and much more.

Chai to Understand

Chai to Understand is a weekly discussion series with topics ranging from educational opportunities, critical discussions, community building, and collaborations with other SDPS offices. This semester we had many students join us to talk about the Mid-Autumn Festival and build community at the Ramen party.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

This semester our community development team coordinated activities for students to get engaged with the APACC office and the local Fort Collins community. They held multiple movie nights and volunteered with Fall Clean Up, supporting Fort Collins neighbors who needed help with outdoor yardwork.

GRADUATE STUDENT, STAFF & FACULTY MIXERS

It's been great to hold our graduate student, staff & faculty mixers in person once again! These events have always been immensely important to connect our office with APIDA graduate students and keep our APIDA staff and faculty community connected across campus. This semester we held a mixer in our office and at Horse & Dragon Brewing Company.
RICE BOWL

Rice Bowl was a huge success with the help of our RamEvents liaison An-Ping! This year over 100 students, staff, and community members attended this annual event! It was a great way to reconnect, eat food, and decompress.

BREAKTHROUGH BURNOUT

Breakthrough Burnout was all kinds of fun and helped de-stress everyone. Carl did a great job coordinating everything and threw a great event! Plants, yoga, rage room, massages, and counseling; there was something for everyone!
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

SCOTT BURKE

Scott graduated from CSU in 2001 with a B.S and in 2005 with a M.Ed. He teaches at Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, CO. He is one of the Grand Prize Winners for Teaching Excellence (a $100,000 award) of the 2021 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools!

Kyle graduated from CSU in 1996 with a B.A. and in 1999 with a M.S. One of his "most profound experience" was helping to lead a graduation ceremony awarding honorary degrees to approximately 440 Japanese Americans who were placed in internment camps during WWII. Currently Funakoshi is Director of Philanthropy for the National Park Foundation. He is also helping to raise funds to identify and tell stories of women in national park settings, which will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote.

Wade graduated from CSU with a M.S in Fishery and Wildlife Biology and also served as the Assistant Director of APACC! Lee is now owner and managing member of Haloa Aina, a company developing a new generation of forestry management by re-establishing Native Hawaiian forests.

We want to continue highlighting more alumni! Is there an alum you want us to spotlight? Email Us at apacc.csu@gmail.com with your nominations!

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