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"Seeking Common Ground While Respecting Differences"

Committee Bridges

求同存异

Summer 2003

Committee of 100

CONFRONTING A NUCLEAR NORTH KOREA: WHAT WILL CHINA'S ROLE BE?

The crisis on the Korean peninsula took a new turn while the C-100 held its conference in New York City April 24-26. China was hosting unprecedented talks in Beijing with North Korea and the U.S., when the Korean representative shocked the world by claiming that his country already possessed nuclear weapons and would use or export them as it saw fit. In timely panels and talks, C-100 conference participants learned about the hard choices that face the U.S. and China in this perilous situation.

That we are coordinating with China in our North Korea policy is "remarkable" according to Randy Schriver, the highest ranking State Department official with day-to-day responsibility for dealing with China: "The U.S. and China are partners on this issue for the duration."

China, no less than the U.S., opposes North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weaponry. But, says J. Stapleton Roy, former U.S. Ambassador to China, "North Korea, by declaring it is a nuclear weapons state, has put China in an impossible position," unable to continue its low-key role, which might be interpreted as acceptance of North Korea's nuclear weapons program, yet very reluctant to take a strong stance.

WHAT ARE OUR OPTIONS?

Stephen Bosworth, U.S. Ambassador to Korea during the Clinton administration
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NYC 100
april 24-26, 2003

C-100 CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHTS CHINESE AMERICAN CONCERNS

SARS, North Korea, Chinese American Identity Among the Topics Attracting High Interest in New York City

Amid historic talks in Beijing on the North Korean nuclear crisis and with the SARS epidemic still out of control, the Committee of 100 convened its 12th Annual Conference in New York City April 24-26.

Including the 200 young Chinese Americans who came from around the country to participate in C-100's first-ever mentoring breakfast, well over 800 attended one or more of the twelve sessions, and a lucky 450 celebrated at the sold-out Awards Dinner, all at New York City's historic Waldorf=Astoria.

Along with the highest attendance yet of C-100 members at an annual conference-60-including



I.M. Pei recounts the story of C-100's birth in 1989.

such cultural icons as **I.M. Pei** (who gave the welcome speech), **Tan Dun**, and **David Henry Hwang**-was a large roster of influential speakers, among them the Chinese Ambassador to the United Nations, three former American Ambassadors to Korea and China, a number of prominent corporate leaders, best-selling Chinese American writers, development expert Jeffrey Sachs, and China expert Seymour Topping.

As a fundraiser, the New York conference broke past records, bringing in nearly \$1 million, much of it from corporate and individual sponsors. Most

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Committee of 100

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OUR MISSION

- To promote the full participation of Chinese Americans in all fields of American life
- To encourage constructive relations between the peoples of the United States and Greater China

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“EXPANDING AND CONTRACTING”: WE ARE DOING BOTH WITHIN THE COMMITTEE OF 100 RIGHT NOW.



Over the last few months we have expanded our thinking about projects. We have “thrown a wide net” for ideas that would allow us to effectively carry out our mission. Then we contracted the ideas down to a few key projects. Then we expanded again by asking all of our members to comment on the key projects.

We are now in a position to contract again by incorporating our members’ input into cogent plans for four key areas:

CORPORATE BOARDS: **Wilson Chu**, who initiated this project, will lead us through a number of initiatives aimed at increasing the number of Asian Americans who sit on Fortune 500 boards.

ASIA IN THE SCHOOLS: **Leslie Schilling** and **Julia Bloch**, with wonderful assistance from Nissara Horayangura and Kathy Lee, will lead us through a national and state strategy, in collaboration with the Asia Society, to increase the teaching of Asia in our schools: its culture, history, language and the contributions of Asian Americans to America.

PROJECT LINK: **John Chen** has reminded us of the importance of our links with key leaders in Greater China and maintaining our visibility there. He is moving forward with plans for significantly increasing our presence in the region.

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUMS: Started by **Herman Li**, they will now incorporate one of the most successful elements of the New York City Annual Conference-mentoring. Thanks to Carol Edgar, Kathryn Ho, and Bentley King, we now have

an excellent format for engaging our members in an important effort. We plan to have two Regional Forums each year in addition to our Annual Conference. This will allow us to reach more young Chinese Americans to inspire them to even greater heights of leadership in varied fields.

We will also be expanding and contracting in terms of membership. We plan to add more prominent Chinese Americans to our membership. At the same time, if members choose to not participate in our organization we will graciously accept their resignations.

With newly appointed Vice Chairs in each of four regions (**Alice Young**-New York; **John Fugh**-Washington, D.C.; **Herman Li**-Los Angeles; **George Koo**-Bay Area), we have a group of officers who will now be focused on creating meaningful and enjoyable opportunities for members to involve themselves in the Committee of 100.

So, this summer finds us expanding our horizons while, at the same time, focusing on a vital few projects that will help us live out our dual-pronged mission. We appreciate all of your support to our efforts.

Bob Lee
Chairman
Committee of 100

THE 2003 CONFERENCE IS ONLINE

Visit www.committee100.org

- Webcast of the New York Conference
- Summaries of Panels and Talks
- Photo Gallery

Learn about upcoming C-100 Activities: Send an e-mail to c100@committee100.org to receive our announcements.



AIDS AND SARS IN CHINA

NYC 100
april 24 - 26, 2003

FEATURING ELISABETH ROSENTHAL AND DAVID HO

Disease knows no borders. Controlling a contagious disease, especially a new one, requires sharing with the rest of the world everything known about how it spreads. These messages were repeated again and again by the director of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center (ADARC) **David Ho** and *New York Times* Beijing correspondent Elisabeth Rosenthal in their panel on China's AIDS and SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) epidemics. The moderator was **Alice Huang**, herself a famous virologist.

Rosenthal, like Ho, has been a practicing medical doctor, and stated authoritatively: "From my perspective, both epidemics, HIV/AIDS and SARS, raise the same issues, particularly in China. Silence equals death. China's unwillingness and inability to face the medical problem early on has led to an expansion in the numbers of infections, a lack of treatment, and unnecessary deaths. Both of these illnesses are a real lesson in the importance of transparency in dealing with epidemics." The consequences fall heaviest on ordinary people. "If you can't be open and direct and give people information, they are going to act in ways that are harmful to them," asserted Rosenthal, citing cases in which individuals had unwittingly exposed themselves to infection.

Both Ho and Rosenthal pointed to a failure of political will by both the central and provincial governments, as well as the deterioration of China's public health system, for the inadequate prevention, detection and treatment of AIDS in China.

Rosenthal was the first to report to the West an especially tragic situation in Henan province. Poor farmers had sold their blood for extra money (with the encouragement of the local governments) and then contracted AIDS, infecting at least one million people.

By contrast, in Yunnan province, a more politically open provincial government has welcomed Ho's AIDS research center, which is testing AIDS vaccines in a town where 60 to 70 percent of young IV-drug users have the HIV virus. Ho also has set up clinics and labs and recruited help from Western pharmaceutical companies to make available the effective new therapies for the AIDS-infected population in the area,

Ho's reputation and his Chinese heritage have given him special access to the top health officials in China, and his AIDS research there has been fully supported by them. Yet, he faults the Chinese government for not fully disclosing the number of AIDS victims in China and for allowing the SARS epidemic to blow up because its alert system failed to keep track of the progress of the disease and for months released inaccurate and incomplete information.

Over time, Rosenthal said, she has seen great improvements in the government's information on SARS and its responsiveness to international involvement in dealing with the epidemic. In fact, not long after the C-100 conference ended, Ho consulted with the Beijing and Hong Kong governments on SARS (and announced ADARC's discovery that a compound developed by Ho to block HIV also keeps SARS from infecting cells).

Learn more about SARS by reading Rosenthal's front-page feature on East Asia's SARS hotspots in the April 27 *New York Times* and a May 13 *Wall Street Journal* feature on Ho's SARS discovery, and by viewing a June 12 Frontline World documentary following Ho's work in Asia on SARS (on the website, pbs.org).



David Ho with Alice Huang and Elisabeth Rosenthal.

China AIDS Fund

Charles P. Wang announced at the C-100 conference that he has joined with members **Don Liu, Lily Lee Chen, Henry Tang, Savio Tung, Edmund Pi and John Tsu** to raise funds for education and public health training to combat AIDS in China. Ambassador Jack Chow, the State Department's top AIDS diplomat, is the group's advisor, and seed money has come from Eric Hotung. The China AIDS Fund is a non-profit organization based in New York, to which contributions will be tax-deductible, and the first donors are all Chinese Americans. For more information, call Wang at Matsuoka American Co., (212) 736-3188.

C-100

PRESS CLIPS

"China's Uncertain Future"

Newsweek Web Exclusive, April 29, 2003

In terms of global impact, the two most important countries this century may well be the United States and China: on one hand, the reigning super-power, and on the other, fully a fifth of humanity. Last week in New York an organization called the Committee of 100 convened their twelfth annual conference devoted to understanding the relationship between these giants, and the result was an intriguing glimpse of a complex future.

—Michael Rogers





Judith and Bill Moyers received the Headline Award from Henry Tang.

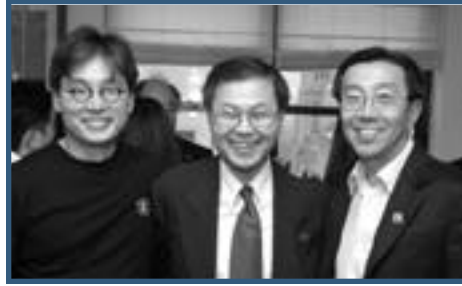
C-100 CONFERENCE

(cont. from page 1)

significant were Diamond sponsors Mercedes-Benz USA, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., and J-M Manufacturing Company and its partners, followed by Platinum sponsors Prudential Financial and Volvo Cars of North America.

Recruiting the 76 sponsors was a primary responsibility of three C-100 members who shared chairmanship of the conference: **Savio Tung**, **David Chu** and **David Ho**. They also developed the agenda and contacted potential speakers, with help from other members. Assisting Committee members with fundraising was Theresa Kim, lead staff member for the conference. Melissa Sordyl of Westover Management Group handled conference logistics as event organizer.

The elegant Gala Dinner in the Waldorf's Starlight Roof was emceed by television celebrity Lisa Ling, who presented a clip from her first National Geographic *Ultimate Explorer* series, an interview with the Houston Rockets basketball sensation Yao Ming. His refreshing frankness (and budding talent in English) tickled the audience: "Sometime I don't like to go to a city with a lot of



Co-chairs David Chu, David Ho, and Savio Tung relax at post-conference party.

Chinese or Asian people, because they say 'You are all Chinese, all Asian hopes! That's a lot of pressure! I'm not Shaq! I'm a rookie!'"

Chairman **Bob Lee** presented David Coulter, Vice Chairman of J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., with the C-100 Global Leadership Award, not only for his work helping China revamp its banking system (Prime Minister Zhu Rongji called him "the father of modern banking in China") but also for his personal commitment to promoting diversity both in his current company as well as his previous one, Bank of America.

In honor of journalists who help deliver the Chinese American story, the C-100 Headline Award was given to Bill and Judith Davidson Moyers, producers of *Becoming American: The Chinese Experience*, by **Henry Tang**. Although the documentary premiered in March, Judith Moyers said that distribution was continuing to tens of thousands of teachers and libraries across the nation. Bill Moyers said the series had aired on all 385 PBS stations and that he had never had a show so unanimously praised. "I think we will look back and say it changed the telling of history."

Lee closed by urging partici-

pants to get involved in meaningful political, educational, and social issues: "I hope that all of us can walk out of here thinking that we can focus both on success in our careers and at the same time make a difference in our communities."

NEW C-100 OFFICERS ANNOUNCED IN NEW YORK

A new roster of Committee officers was presented at the April 24 members' meeting preceding the convening of the annual conference in New York. Together, the officers make up the executive committee and are joined by 22 additional directors at board meetings.

Robert Lee remains Chairman and **Dennis Wu** Treasurer. Six Vice-Chairs representing regions or functions will replace the previous combination of Co-Chairs and Vice Chairs. They are: **John S. Chen** (international relations), **John L. Fugh** (Washington, D.C.), **George P. Koo** (San Francisco), **Herman Li** (Los Angeles), **Henry S. Tang** (media), and **Alice Young** (New York). The regional Vice Chairs are part of a Committee effort to stimulate member involvement around the country.

A new General Consul and Secretary, **Wilson Chu**, was welcomed, taking over from the dedicated **Nelson G. Dong**, who held this demanding position for many years. Chu is an attorney specializing in mergers and acquisitions, with a focus on Asia-based transactions, and is a partner in the law firm of Haynes and Boone, LLP, in Dallas, Texas.

Charlie Sie was thanked for his many years of service to the Committee as Vice Chair. Finally, **Albert Yu** joins the Board, while **T.Y. Lin** retired as a Board member.



Who's Who IN THE C-100 OFFICE

THERESA KIM

Development Consultant

For three years, Theresa Kim has helped Committee of 100 members raise ever-greater income through corporate sponsorships for the annual conference, \$2.5 million over her tenure. Theresa's skill at managing relations with C-100's growing circle of corporate sponsors, a year-round job, builds upon the ten years she spent with Ernst & Young. A Korean-American who immigrated to New

York from Seoul at age nine and "learned my English watching 'I Dream of Jeannie'," Theresa was discouraged when she went to her first partner and manager meeting at Ernst & Young and saw very few Asian faces. The lack of Asian role models in corporate leadership led to her to transfer from a position as manager of consulting services for the firm's real estate group to more rewarding work as assistant director for minority recruitment and retention, and eventually prompted her to seek work with an Asian American organization. Her volunteer activities include the Korean American Family Services Center, the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute, and the Hunger Project, an international group seeking sustainable ways to end hunger.

C-100 IN ACTION

MINNESOTA CHINA SYMPOSIUM CO-SPONSORED BY C-100

Committee members played a key role in an April 16 symposium of the Minnesota International Center (MIC), "China and the U.S.: An Evolving Relationship," which C-100 co-sponsored. **Weiming Lu** was on the planning committee for the symposium, attended by 350 and featuring such speakers as the Chinese Ambassador Yang Jiechi and former U.S. Ambassadors James Sasser and Walter Mondale. The symposium is part of MIC's ambitious Year of China, whose honorary chairs are two long-time MIC supporters, Gail and **Eugene Sit**. At the symposium, Sit spoke on "China in the Global Economy: An Investment Manager's Perspective" and **Shirley Young**, senior advisor for General Motors-Asia Pacific, discussed "Doing Business in China: Cultural and Human Factors." Young also arranged for C-100 Cultural Institute protégé, the baritone C.Y. Liao, to perform at an evening program following the symposium.

TONY SUN HOSTS C-100 PARTY FOR CHINESE AMERICAN PLAY *THE LEGACY CODES*



Legacy Codes sponsors Tony and Rosina Sun with playwright Cherylene Lee (center).

a reflection of the challenges Asian Americans face in America as we look for our place in this land of immigrants." The Suns invited C-100 members in the Bay Area to a theater party on April 2 with Lee, attended by **Kenneth Fong, George Koo, Carter Tseng, Richard King** and Carol Edgar. Lee, a fourth-generation Chinese American playwright whose work includes "Carry the Tiger to the Mountain" (about the murder of Vincent Chin), told members that **Helen Zia**, who was writing a book with Wen Ho Lee at the time, read an early draft of the play. The *San Francisco Chronicle* wrote, "Lee does an impressive job of integrating the scientific, espionage, technological, cultural and romantic strands of her tale." *The Legacy Codes* comes to New York City from October 29 to November 23 in a production by the Pan Asian Repertory Theatre directed by Ron Nakahara.

When TheatreWorks of Palo Alto needed funds to produce a play loosely based on the story of Wen Ho Lee and approached Rosina and **Tony Sun**, "it was an easy decision," says Rosina, because "*The Legacy Codes* by Cherylene Lee is

COMMITTEE OF 100 MEETS WITH CONGRESSMAN CHRISTOPHER COX

By George Koo



Henry Tang, Congressman Christopher Cox, George Koo, and Herman Li.

Members of the Committee of 100 met twice with Congressman Christopher Cox to exchange views on the Cox Report, or the House Select Committee Report on China. The report

alleged that over 10,000 commercial Chinese entities operating in the U.S. were in reality intelligence gathering stations, and asserted that the People's Republic of China (PRC) favored recruiting spies from among Chinese Americans and therefore all Chinese Americans were potential spies. The three-volume, 900-page unclassified version was published in May, 1999 to great fanfare.

We initiated the first meeting because we thought it would be a useful opportunity to express our concerns about how the report reinforced the image of Chinese Americans as perpetual foreigners.

On September 12, 2002, **Henry Tang, Matt Fong** and I met with Congressman Cox in his office. He explained that the unclassified version of the report had in fact been prepared under the supervision of the Clinton White House and omitted many facts and sources that were included in the Top Secret, classified version issued by Cox's committee. Henry discussed the Committee's survey of American attitudes toward Asian Americans, in which one third of Americans believed that Chinese Americans were more loyal to China than to the U.S. Cox regretted that misuse of the report had led to irresponsible publicity and ill-informed allegations against qualified foreign-born scientists working in the national labs.

A second meeting with Congressman Cox took place on February 23, 2003 in Southern California. Cox initiated this dinner meeting, which included C-100 members **Gareth Chang, Lily Lee Chen, Ming Hsu, Herman Li, Charlie Sie**, and **Charlie Woo** in addition to Matt, Henry and me, and two other Asian American activists, Angela Oh and Kathy Feng.

Based on these two meetings, I conclude that Cox appears genuinely interested in establishing a relationship with the Committee as an integral part to building rapport with the Asian American community. Having made this connection, we hope that the next time Cox is involved in framing national policy on China or Asian American issues, he would ask for our input.



MEMBER NEWS



At Aon's Hope School: Clive Bate, Chairman of Aon Asia; Li Jinhui, Party Secretary of Ruijing City, and David Liu.

After six years of suffering and hardship, with the WTO as “midwife,” **David Liu**, Chairman and CEO of Aon China, says he “bore a son” in January—the first full license issued by China to a foreign-owned insurance broker. Aon, a Fortune 500 company based in Chicago and the second largest insurance broker in the world, will handle massive state projects, like the Three Gorges Dam, as well as work with foreign-invested firms and joint ventures. Liu is stationed in Beijing, with offices in Nanjing and Shanghai, and has been with Aon since the early 1970s. Aon China, also under Liu’s guidance, has built and equipped the Aon Elementary School of Hope in the village of Mianshui, part of Ruijing City, Jiangxi Province, providing teacher housing, computers, and a library as well as classrooms. Coincidentally, says Liu, this bitterly poor area is the “Red Capital of China,” where Chairman Mao and his Red Army began the Long March.



Charlie Sie was recognized in September 2002 by the CEO of Xerox, Ann Mulcahy, for his role in founding the Asian Caucus at

Xerox, where he worked for 22 years and became the most senior Asian American in management as Vice President of the Xerox Corporate Engineering Center’s West Coast Operations. Since retiring in 1999, Sie has applied his entrepreneurial talents and cross-cultural experience to a variety of business and educational ventures. Most notably, Sie is Founding Chairman of Aviva Biosciences, a San Diego biotech company that combines technology from Beijing’s Tsinghua University with Taiwanese and Silicon Valley funding. On the non-profit side, Sie is an enthusiastic participant in the Asian American Professional Network, which sponsors a quickly-growing mentoring program for 40 mentees. He is Vice Chair of the Nankai International Business Forum in Tianjin, China, a management program for young Chinese CEOs. Sie also gave the Eldon D. Foote Lecture on “China and WTO” at the University of Alberta in November 2002, and this February spoke on “High Tech Collaboration Across the Pacific Rim” at the China Compass Conference in Los Angeles.



Southeast Asia’s largest bank is headed by a Chinese American, **Jackson Tai**, making DBS Bank in Singapore one of the few major banks in Asia to be headed by a person of Asian descent. DBS (previously known as Development Bank of Singapore) is also the highest rated bank in Asia, and under Tai’s leadership has expanded its position through acquisitions, including Dao Heng

(cont. on page 11)

NEW MEMBERS



After twenty years as one of Taiwan’s most successful high-tech entrepreneurs, **Carter Tseng** is

now supporting education and environmental projects in China and Taiwan through his Little Dragon Foundation. In 1980, with a Doctorate in computer science and electronic engineering from UCLA and ten years’ working at NRL, Xerox and Lockheed, Tseng returned to Taiwan and founded Microtek. The world’s first manufacturer of desktop scanners (82% of world-wide market share in 2002), Microtek is legendary for its role in spawning Taiwan’s high tech revolution in the Hsinchu Science-based Industrial Park.

By 1998, Tseng was devoting most of his time to philanthropy and mentoring Chinese CEOs, recruiting fellow Chinese businessmen all over the world to join him. Re-forestation in Yunnan, Sichuan and Beijing; scholarships for 500 young people in Taiwan and China; and supporting the creation of 1,000 Internet Villages in impoverished Western China are among Tseng’s activities. He is Executive Chairman of the Nankai International Business Forum in Tianjin, where young Chinese CEOs learn from overseas Chinese business leaders. Tseng also teaches management and entrepreneurship at City University of Hong Kong, University of Alberta (Canada), Shanghai University, and Tsinghua University.

COMMITTEE CELEBRATES "BECOMING AMERICAN" WITH PREVIEW PARTIES IN FOUR CITIES

NEW YORK

Neither the first days of war nor a blustery March gale were enough to put a damper on the 150 guests who attended the Committee's New York preview of Bill Moyers' *Becoming Americans: The Chinese Experience* on March 21 at the glittering Metropolitan Club, summoned by an invitation from C-100 Governor **Henry Tang** and hosted by **Walter** and **Shirley Wang**, who had made the largest single gift to support the series.

Bill Moyers expressed his deep gratitude to the Committee and said that of the nearly 1,000 hours of television programming he has produced during his life, "no series had been more illuminating or more inspirational to me."

Series producer Thomas Lennon spoke of the "humbling experience of telling the story of a whole people in four-and-a-half hours," especially when he was told by donor Shirley Wang, that "I'm doing this for my children." Lennon remarked that he knew of no other case in which a group had stepped forward to recruit donors so that a documentary could be produced. C-100 did it because "Moyers brought the care, love and respect that we thought the project deserved," said donor **Lulu Wang**.

"No Turning Back," the series finale, was shown in its entirety and took viewers inside the lives of recent Chinese immigrants and their children—including C-100 members **Helen Zia** and **Jerry Yang**. One of the program's most winning characters, Benjamin Pan, waited 40 years to immigrate to the U.S. so that he could "have a life that was my own." When he was introduced after the



Bill Moyers thanks the Committee at the Metropolitan Club.

screening, it was to a standing ovation.

Also in the audience were Mike Wallace, who called it "a fascinating, wonderful film," and U.S. Congressman Dan Burton, who thought the series "would give all Americans a greater appreciation of Chinese Americans." **I.M. Pei** said the program brought back some of his own feelings and experiences as a new arrival in

America, nearly seventy years ago.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Becoming American producer Mi Ling Tsui was the featured guest at a sneak preview organized by the Organization of Chinese Americans and other groups, including Maryland Public Television and the Committee of 100 on March 20 at the University of Maryland. Tsui produced Program Two, "Between Two Worlds," the story of the Exclusion Era.

Committee members **Michael Lin**, **John Fugh** and **K.L. Wang** attended the event, which included a panel discussion whose members mirrored the diversity of the Chinese American population. Talk show host Ginny Gong moderated the discussion with Lisa Mar, an Asian American Studies professor; David Huang, World Today TV founder, a Chinese language station; Edvin Chow, Chinese Culture and Community Service Center president; and Lily Qi, who conducts seminars on ethnic and cultural issues.

SAN FRANCISCO

Helen Zia reports that on March 24, the CEO of KQED Broadcasting, Jeff Clarke, hosted a reception for Bay Area C-100 members with dinner

and a screening of Part One, "Gold Mountain Dreams," at the KQED studios. Zia spoke about the experience of being interviewed by Moyers (her family has a prominent role in Program Three). Other members present were **Leslie Tang Schilling**, **Bob Lee**, **Lee Ting**, and **Richard King**, who found the event an opportunity to talk to KQED staff about areas of mutual interest.

On March 21, 300 people attended a public sneak preview at the Chinese Cultural Center in San Francisco, with **John Chen** kicking off the evening with a rousing speech on the importance of supporting media that depict Chinese Americans as real people, not stereotypes.

LOS ANGELES

CAUSE-Vision 21, an Asian American political empowerment organization founded and led by C-100 member **Charlie Woo**, and KCET hosted a preview and panel discussion at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel on March 21. Woo, a first-generation Chinese American, is a leading business figure in Los Angeles. But for the harsh immigration policies against Chinese, he would have been a fifth-generation American, Woo said. Although his great-grandfather had immigrated to California during the Gold Rush and was successful in business, he returned to China to retire. His son, Woo's grandfather, wanted to follow in his father's footsteps but because of Chinese Exclusion laws got no further than Mexico, where he died of tuberculosis. Not until Woo immigrated to the U.S. fifty years later was the family able to "become American."

Also on the panel were film producer **Janet Yang**, and Suellen Cheng, director of the Chinese American Museum of Los Angeles.

C-100

Profile in Giving

SHIRLEY & WALTER WANG

By Jane Leung Larson

Shirley and **Walter Wang** top the list of donors for the Bill Moyers special, *Becoming American: The Chinese Experience*. This vivacious couple not only made the largest donation for the landmark documentary but were the first to raise their hands to pledge funds when Bill and Judith Moyers introduced the project to C-100 members in early 2000, allowing production to begin.

Walter and Shirley have been quiet philanthropists for years, giving to such groups as New York Outward Bound and Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. *Becoming American* was their first high-profile gift. Why did they do it?

Walter: "There was an overflowing of wisdom in that room, with a lot of dialogue going back and forth. I had already read the documentary proposal and I knew from the start that the Moyers had done their research and had a lot of passion for the project. I knew that without the funds, nothing would happen. So, I said, 'This is what Shirley and I can do.' We were fortunate enough to be put in the situation to make a difference. I think all the people in the room contributed as well, and from that point on, it grew."

Shirley: "We're happy the Committee was able to bring that opportunity to us."

Walter: "This documentary was a window of opportunity to touch the American mainstream. Not only those of Asian American backgrounds, but all Americans can see



Cindy Forbes, Arthur Sulzberger, Shirley Wang, and Evander Holyfield at the Metropolitan Club.

it. Even though there's a lot of history, it's also entertaining. People watch the program, and they can relate to the Chinese American experience.

"Doing this kind of work, what we fear the most is that you plant a seed and the seed grows, then falters, and dies. It doesn't last very long. But this documentary will last for many, many years. That's why Shirley said, 'I did it for my children-and, hopefully, for everybody's children, and for the children of our children.'"

Shirley: "I remember saying to Moyers that nobody's going to watch it if it's a sob story, if it's just about how Chinese have been victimized. I said it should be something that inspires Chinese Americans to know where they came from and to want to be Chinese. A lot of Chinese American children don't see the good parts of their heritage. With every culture, there's good and bad, and I think the show succeeded in showing this."

Committee Bridges: Walter, you're the son of Y.C. Wang, the founder and chairman of Formosa Plastics, Taiwan's largest company. How did you "become an American"?

Walter: "My mom and I immigrated to the States when I was nine, and



Congressman Dan Burton and Walter Wang at "Becoming American's" New York preview party.

I lived here until I graduated from college. In 1987, I went back to Taiwan to work at Formosa Plastics. In 1990, my father told me to come to the United States to take over J-M Manufacturing, which had just moved to its new headquarters in Livingston, New Jersey. I've been here 13 years now."

Committee Bridges: What inspires your philanthropic work?

Walter: "I think it has everything to do with my religious beliefs. I always believed that all people face adversity at some time in their lives, and when you're in a better position, you should help others-by actions, not just words. My grandfather was one of the rare Christians in Taiwan during the Japanese occupation. He was very, very poor, but he would see beggars in the street and bring them home with him-and then bathe, clothe, and feed them. Although regrettably I never knew my grandfather, he left this strong message behind, which I am just starting to comprehend."

Committee Bridges: What are your views on Asian American philanthropy?

Walter: "I think Asian Americans should give to the society at large. We should not just benefit our own. That's not what America's all about. That's why we gave to *Becoming American*. It's not just for Chinese Americans-30 million people will watch this show, far more than just us alone. The story told is about every one of us, we're still evolving. We're all "becoming American" everyday."



Committee of 100
CULTURAL INSTITUTE

The Committee of 100 Cultural Institute works in the U.S. and China to enhance mutual understanding and creative collaboration through art and culture

**GALA DINNER AUDIENCE ENTERTAINED BY
 PERLMAN IN SHANGHAI: LIVE AND ON FILM**



Itzhak Perlman teaches a master class in the film *Perlman in Shanghai* (by Allan Miller)

The C-100 Cultural Institute's *Perlman in Shanghai* extravaganza last summer was given an encore-live and on film-at the Gala Dinner this April.

Cultural Institute Chair **Shirley Young** explained how she and Jane Huang, the Institute Executive Director, had arranged

for the great violinist Itzhak Perlman and the students and faculty of the Perlman Music Program to travel from their campus on Long Island to the Shanghai Conservatory of Music where they joined young Chinese string players for three weeks of master classes and concerts.

So fruitful was this combination of startlingly talented youth from two cultures, the irrepressible Perlman, and the fast-ascending city of Shanghai that it seemed a natural subject for a film. Young introduced Allan Miller, who famously followed Isaac Stern to China in the memorable 1979 film *From Mao to Mozart*, and presented a short

clip from Miller's soon-to-be-completed, made-for-TV film, *Perlman in Shanghai*.

In Miller's view, "Isaac Stern came to China to bring Western music and expose the outside world to China. Itzhak Perlman came to help the Chinese discover the music in themselves." In one scene, Perlman breaks the ice with his new Chinese students by asking them to play the same musical phrase in different ways to bring out sadness, joy, or humor, because "I wanted them to use their imaginations, to get them thinking on their own." The Chinese students responded in kind, and one noted, "Perlman always thinks with his whole heart."

Perlman in Shanghai stars Perlman, of course, along with his wife, Toby, who heads the music program on Long Island, along with the 63 young Chinese and American string players in the Shanghai master classes, but Miller said that Young and the Cultural Institute play a central role. As a cultural interpreter, "Shirley made the program go broader and deeper into Chinese life," said Miller.

Although the SARS crisis prevented one of Perlman's Shanghai students from coming to New York, the audience enjoyed a live performance by two of the Long Island students, Dambee Park and Eric Silberger, with Perlman's own accompanist, Rolland da Silva, on piano.

**FIRST NATIONAL MENTORING
 BREAKFAST ATTRACTS CAPACITY
 CROWD**

By Carol Edgar

NYC 100
 april 24 - 26, 2003

This year's annual conference provided the setting for C-100's first-ever national mentoring breakfast. On Saturday morning more than 200 young Asian Americans filled the Empire Room of the Waldorf for an hour-and-a-half of intensive mentoring with C-100 members who are leaders in their respective fields. Areas of interest ranged from medical research to business to architecture. Conference co-chair **Savio Tung** oversaw the planning of the event.

Each of 26 tables in the Empire Room was hosted by a C-100 mentor,



Shirley Young, former General Motors executive, gives encouragement to aspiring Chinese Americans at 2003 mentor breakfast.

"Had I had an opportunity like this, I could have advanced my career by ten years," commented **Bob Gee** (Assistant Secretary in the U.S. Department of Energy, 1997-2000), who joined one of several mentoring tables dedicated to the arena of public service. Most of the young invitees stayed for all of Saturday's programs, providing a near-overflow audience

who welcomed a group of "mentees" and told his or her career story, answering an endless stream of questions from college students and young professionals.

at each of the succeeding sessions and introducing the young people to discussions on Asian American identity, Asia in American school curriculums and the AIDS and SARS crises in Asia.

Outreach to these talented young Asian Americans was led by Kathryn Ho, daughter of **David Ho**, and Bentley King, son of **Richard King**. The "next generation" they attracted quickly began its own online chats, and yielded some immediate volunteer support for the C-100 conference.

"We're delighted with the results of this first national breakfast," commented C-100 Chair **Bob Lee**. "We hope that these networking events will encourage the next generation of Chinese Americans to participate fully in all aspects of American life."

NORTH KOREA

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tion, assessed the three options now being considered by the Bush administration: waiting for North Korea's regime to collapse, possibly spurred by international sanctions; launching a military strike, or negotiating to reach a mutually acceptable outcome.

As to the possibility of North Korea's collapse, Bosworth argued: "We consistently underestimate the durability of the North Korean regime . . . When they begin to be at risk of collapse, they may become the most dangerous." Although Winston Lord, who had been U.S. Ambassador to China from 1985 to 1989, asserted that North Korea's collapse would be "the best outcome," Bosworth retorted, "We may think regime change is a nifty idea but neither South Korea nor China think that. If North Korea collapses, they, not we, would have to deal with it."

Bosworth also criticized the military option: "The idea that we can with impunity strike at North Korea is delusional. This is a military regime and for Kim Jong Il to be credible, it requires that he respond to an attack."

In his talk, journalist Seymour Topping, who had covered the Korean War of 1950, speculated about how China might react: "I doubt very much that China would tolerate, if diplomacy failed, a military strike by the United States on North Korean nuclear installations. For China, I believe, as in 1950, this would add up to an unacceptable intrusion on China's frontier."

Negotiations, all the speakers agreed, were really our only realistic option, and all were encouraged that the Bush administration had come back to the table, after dropping dialogues started by the Clinton administration when Bosworth was Ambassador to Korea. But, negotiations will be "agonizing," said Bosworth, and he questioned whether Americans have the patience to stay the course. To be effective, he felt that the U.S., China, South Korea and Japan must agree on what outcome they want for North Korea and together determine how to achieve it.

China's cooperation with the U.S. in the resolving this crisis is crucial. Topping concluded: "The United States can reasonably expect China to stand firmly at its side in persuading

2003 Conference Soundbite

"We are seeing a proliferation of new identities. People in the past may have viewed themselves as being Chinese American or Japanese American. Now there's an emerging identity of Asian American. There's also a Hapa [Hawaiian] movement, or mixed race Americans with some Asian parentage. We need to see race as a continual spectrum of color, one blurring into the next, rather than neat boxes."

—Iris Chang, author, speaking on the Chinese American Identity panel

North Korea to desist from nuclear armament and the threat of missile deployment and marketing of weaponry. However, there are limits to what the U.S. can expect from China in joint approaches. China will strive through negotiation to resolve the nuclear impasse, but almost certainly will stand firmly against the use of force. Given the dangers involved, the experience of 1950 tells us that continuing close communication between Beijing and Washington is critical and indispensable."

C-100 Staff Transition

After six years of devoted service to the Committee of 100, Winnie Chan, director of corporate affairs, has resumed a normal life—no longer working until 2 or 3 AM to meet sudden deadlines; responding with charm and humor to the demands of 100-plus singularly accomplished, but high-maintenance members; or facing the pressures of bringing to fruition ever more ambitious projects initiated by C-100 leaders.

In March 1997, Winnie was hired by **Henry Tang**, C-100 Chairman, to take over administration of the office, literally a closet in China Institute's building. The only full-time staff person until July 2000, Winnie did every job necessary to run C-100 at



Winnie Chan



Li Lin

some time during her tenure, including managing the office, keeping financial records, fundraising, organizing the annual conference and other activities, and assisting the C-100 officers and board.

Looking back, Winnie says, "This was a rare experience for someone in her twenties—I learned to work with at least 120 of the most able Chinese Americans, with 120 different personalities and management styles, yet all passionately believing in the future of U.S.-China relations and in bettering the world

for the next generation. I love this organization!"

Li Lin joined the high technology market research firm, AMI-Partners, this March, after four years on the staff of C-100.

Li worked in finances and administered the Membership Committee and Growth Campaign, while carrying a full academic load at Baruch College, where she recently earned a degree in advertising and marketing. At AMI-Partners, Li will assist with consumer market research for IT, Internet, and telecommunications companies. More than anything else, Li says she'll miss the people who are C-100, and she is pleased that her new office will be just a few blocks down Fifth Avenue from her old friends.

MEMBER NEWS

(cont. from page 6)

Bank in Hong Kong. Tai is Vice Chairman and CEO of both DBS Group Holdings and DBS Bank, having joined the bank in 1999 after 5 years at J.P. Morgan & Co., at one time running the firm's western operations from Hawaii to the Mississippi River. He retired as Managing Director of the Investment Banking Division. While based in San Francisco, Tai became a director of the Asian Art Museum and a board member of the San Francisco Symphony, positions that he still holds with pride. Tai also sits on several important corporate boards: Singapore Telecommunications, the largest telecommunications company outside of China or Japan; CapitaLand, and Jones Lang LaSalle. Born in New York City, Tai graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he is now a trustee.

"Suddenly **Tan Dun** is everywhere you look, everywhere you listen," writes *Musical America*, which has named him as its 2003 Composer of the Year. In January, Tan's opera, *Tea*, made its European premiere at the Muziektheater in Amsterdam, where he was hailed as "a Chinese Giacomo Puccini." "A tea ceremony is a mirror of the soul," says Tan, whose opera was inspired by the Chinese classic *Book of Tea* and blends Asian and European influences, as do all of Tan Dun's works. In February, *The Map*, a multi-media

presentation commissioned and performed by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and featuring **Yo-Yo Ma**, premiered at Symphony Hall and moved to Carnegie Hall in March. An autobiographical and ethnographic composition, *The Map* comes directly from Tan's childhood in western Hunan, where he made music "on



Yo-Yo Ma and Tan Dun rehearse for Carnegie Hall performance of *The Map*.

whatever we could lay our hands on" and absorbed the folk music of the minority peoples who were his neighbors. Ma on cello and other musicians playing western instruments interact with videotaped performances by traditional folk musicians. *The Map* has its Chinese premiere at the Shanghai Grand Theatre this August.

As one of the New York conference co-chairs, **Savio Tung** leveraged his thirty years in banking and investment on behalf of the Committee by persuading companies like J.P. Morgan Chase and Fleet Bank Boston to become sponsors, raising a record \$1 million. Tung, Senior Partner of the Bahrain-based private equity



Conference speaker Jeffrey Sachs with Savio Tung and his son, Kevin.

firm, Investcorp, was especially proud of organizing the members' first mentorship breakfast for young Chinese Americans and recruiting Verizon to support it, saying, "People resonated to this project." Tung is a Trustee of his alma mater, Columbia University, and is Vice Chair of the Budget Committee and a board member of the Columbia Investment Management Company. He is only the third trustee of Chinese descent in Columbia's history. Tung joined Investcorp in 1984 and specializes in corporate buyouts, including Tiffany, Saks Fifth Avenue, Circle K, and Star Market. In 2001 he started Investcorp's venture capital fund, Technology Investments Group, which manages \$230 million of investments in later-stage start-up Internet and other high tech companies. Tung has long experience working with Arabian Gulf clients, having helped establish Chase Manhattan Bank's Bahrain office, becoming Bank representative in Abu Dhabi and later General Manager of the Arab Asian Bank of Bahrain.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

RECENT AWARDS TO C-100 MEMBERS



Dominic Ng won the Chairman's Award from the Asia Society's Southern California Center, at the Center's annual dinner on April 7 in Los Angeles.

C-100 Executive Director Alice Mong attended with members **Dennis Wu, Stewart Kwoh, Adeline Yen Mah, and Ronnie Chan**. It was announced at the dinner that Ng

has been elected a trustee of the Asia Society, a national organization dealing with the culture, art and contemporary affairs of Asia. Ng was given the award because of his "dynamic and innovative approach to commercial banking in California" as Chairman, President, and CEO of East West Bancorp, and for his "leadership in building bridges of understanding between Asians and Americans of all ethnic backgrounds." Ng was the first Asian American to chair a United Way Campaign in Los Angeles.

Dear C-100 members and friends,

I would like to begin with a hearty "THANK YOU" to our 27 speakers and moderators, 76 sponsors, 85 members, spouses and guests, 3 conference co-chairs and the planning committee, 10 staff, 17 volunteers, over 200 conference participants, 450 gala dinner attendees, and the professional and dedicated team at Westover Management Group, Inc. for making the 12th annual conference such a success!

Those of you who missed the conference or would like to re-live the highlights can see most of the event on our web site at www.committee100.org. Plans are already underway for next year's conference, which will take place in Los Angeles, so stay tuned.

Reflections on APA Heritage Month:

After the conference, I had the pleasure of participating in a number of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month activities in Washington, D.C. and New York. I was impressed by the level of participation and the enthusiasm that the APA community, as well as the non-APA community, have shown for this great tradition which only had its origin in the late 1970s and didn't become a month-long celebration until 1980. It got me thinking about how far we Asian Americans have come in terms of visibility in American society.

I do measure things by their "goose-bump" factor, and many events this spring certainly ranked high on my goose-bump scale. It began with the PBS premiere of "Becoming American: The Chinese Experience" and meeting so many of the C-100 members who made the series possible; being in the audience for the final performance of the Broadway musical *Flower Drum Song* and listening to the cast tell us where they are from—Okinawa, Minneapolis, Seattle, Toronto, Hong Kong, etc. (by the way, congratulations to C-100 member **David Henry Hwang** for his recent Tony nomination for Best Book); seeing Justin Lin's "Better Luck Tomorrow" with its all-Asian cast, enthusiastic reviews and good box office numbers; seeing Randall Duk Kim (Wang in Hwang's *Flower Drum Song*) in this summer's box office hit, "Matrix

Reloaded"; viewing Lisa Ling's National Geographic Explorer documentary, "From Mao to Yao." Seeing people like us on stage and screen is certainly something worth celebrating for Asian Americans.

One event didn't rank on my goose-bump scale—this year's Oscar ceremony, when dozens of past Oscar winners were recognized on stage, and not one Asian American or Asian was there. *Crouching Tiger and Hidden Dragon* won four Oscars, but I think only one Asian American actor has won an Oscar in its 75-year history. That honor goes to Miyoshi Umeki. She won an Oscar for her supporting role in *Sayonara* in 1957 (she was Mei-Li in the 1961 film *Flower Drum Song*). When Halle Berry became the first African American to win the Academy's Best Actress Award in 2002, it had been 63 years since Hattie McDaniel won Best Supporting Actress in 1939. I certainly hope we don't have to wait until 2020 before we see another actress of Asian descent up on that Oscar stage.



S. Alice Mong
Executive Director
Committee of 100



Committee of 100

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