



The State of Washington
COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS

210 11th Avenue SW RM 301A • MS 40925 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0925
PH: 360.725.5667 • EM: capaa@capaa.wa.gov • WS: www.capaa.wa.gov

Improving the lives of Asian Pacific Americans

Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs Board Meeting
City of Lacey Maintenance and Service Center
1200 College St. SE
Lacey, WA 98503
Commissioner Report

Commissioner Aragon: TBA

Commissioner Dash:

- Attended the Sadbhavna Samaroh (Goodwill Gathering) on January 10, 2015 at the North Bellevue Community Center organized by WASITRAC with the support from Asian Counseling & Referral Services (ACRS), Nepal Seattle Society, Tasveer and the India Association of Western Washington. The well-know Singer from India, Karma Sherpa performed at the show singing some Nepali and Hindi songs.
- The celebration of 66th Republic Day of India was celebrated at held at the Bellevue High School on January 25, 2015. Attended the event along with Congressman Adam Smith and State Rep. Pramila Jayapal who were the invited speakers. Nearly 500 members of the East Indian Community attended this event amidst colorful cultural programs and exhibits.
- On January 26th State Rep. Pramila Jayapal brought a Senate Resolution to honor the numerous contributions that Indian-Americans have made to the State of Washington and a formal recognition of the 66th year anniversary of India's Republic Day. It was the day of January 26, 1950 when the constitution of independent India was adopted defining India as a secular, socialist, democratic, and republic nation. Many prominent community members from the East Indian community attended and watched from the senate gallery as the resolution was formally adopted by the Senate.
- Attended the Community Roundtable on Immigration held at the Wing Luke Museum on January 29th and was organized by the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The Roundtable was hosted jointly by the Asian Pacific Islanders Coalition and One America to raise the Awareness among AAPIs on the Administration's executive action on Immigration.
- Attended the talk by the legendary Global Business Consultant Mr. Ram Charan (<http://www.ram-charan.com/>) hosted by the University of Washington Bothell School of Business on January 30, 2015. Ram Charan is a bestselling business author and global advisor to CEOs. Jack Welch said of him, "He has the rare ability to distill meaningful from meaningless and transfer it to others in a quiet, effective way."
- Attended a luncheon reception in honor of Consul General of India, Ambassador V. Ashok at South Lake Union hosted by Congressman Jim McDermott on February 9th, 2015. Many possible opportunities for economic partnerships and collaborations were discussed during the luncheon. It is important to note here that besides being

Agency Overview

The CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by ensuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

the founder co-chair of the India Caucus in the US House of Congress, Congressman Jim McDermott has visited India more than 26 times. Ambassador Ashok also visited Microsoft, Boeing, Starbucks and Amazon during his maiden visit to Seattle. His meeting with Governor Inslee could not be materialized as the State legislature was in session.

- Invited as a guest to attend the Chinese New Year Gala of the Hong Kong Association of Washington at the Sheraton Hotel in Seattle on February 21, 2015. The event was to benefit the Center for Children and Youth Justice.
- Attended the pre-event Celebrate Asia reception hosted by the Consul General of Japan, H. E. Mr. Omura at his residence in Seattle on February 28, 2015. Several business and community leaders from the local API community participated in this reception which was in honor of visiting musicians from Japan who later performed at the Celebrate Asia held at the historic Benaroya Hall on March 1, 2015.
- Attended the Department of Commerce Minority Business Roundtable Meeting on March 5, 2015 representing CAPAA as its Chair of the Economic Development. Participated in the discussion with the work Groups to finalize the purpose statement, priorities and identify next steps for the Minority Business Roundtable in order to ensure economic growth and vitality for disenfranchised and underrepresented businesses and business owners
- Invited by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade office in San Francisco to attend its Spring Reception in celebration of the Chinese New Year on March 5, 2015 at the Space Needle. Also attended the Chinese New Year Celebration dinner organized by the Greater Seattle Chinese Chamber of Commerce held at the China Harbor in the same evening of March 5, 2015.
- Attended the Ethnic Commissions' reception in Olympia on March 16, 2015 jointly hosted by CAPAA, Commission on Hispanic American Affairs and the Commission on African American affairs.

Commissioner Dickinson

- Attended OMWBE "Get Certified" event in Spokane. Learned how and why to certify minority businesses through State and Federal channels. Speaker on the Washington HealthPlan Exchange provided education on how businesses can comply and tips for compliance.
- Attended LBAW (Latina/o Bar of Washington)'s Annual Gala. Met with other minority bar leaders and judges across the State.
- Attended King County Bar Association's MLK Day Luncheon.
- Attended Tet New Year Event by Vietnamese Bar Association of Washington, hosted by Ho and Associates.
- Attended American Bar Association Midyear Meeting in Houston, TX, and the Tort Trial Insurance Practice Section's outreach event.
- Attended "Spirit of Excellence Luncheon" honoring Jacqueline H. Nguyen, 9th Circuit Court Judge, first female Asian-American on the Federal Circuit Bench.
- Attended Korean Bar Association of Washington Gala Event.
- Attended NAPABA National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Solo Small Firm Meeting.
- Attended State Minority and Justice Commission Meeting, discussed legislation on LFO's (Legal Financial Obligations), Racial Impact Statements

Commissioner Cabusao

- Attended the Filipino American Political Action Group of Washington (FAPAGOW) on January 15, 2015. Various items were discussed including CAPAA Areas of Support, CAPAA 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, Gov. Inslee's Results Washington Strategic Framework. These were topics that were presented to the group during the September CAPAA meeting held at the Filipino Community Hall. The group is also planning an Educational Forum in the near future and expects CAPAA participation.
- Attended the Annual Rod's House Auction Dinner on February 6, 2015. Rod's House is a non-profit organization that is a drop in resource center for homeless youth.
- Helped coordinate a community outreach (Senior Health Affair) for seniors and people with disabilities on Medicare options, wellness and fraud protection. Diabetes in the Elderly Population was also presented by a

Certified Diabetes Educator. The event was held on February 25, 2015 at the Selah Civic Center which was sponsored by the Office of the Insurance Commissioner SHIBA in partnership with the People for People Meals on Wheels. Several agencies participated in the event (Yakima Neighborhood Health Services, Farm Workers Clinic, Aging and Long Term Care, DSHS Medicaid Division, Filipino American Community of Yakima Valley (FACYV) and Keeler's Medical Supply).

- Co- chair of the Filipino American Community of Yakima Valley (FACYV) Scholarship Committee where we will be awarding 3 scholarships to Filipino American graduating seniors this year.
- As chairman of the Filipino American Community of Yakima Valley (FACYV) Anniversary Dinner, to be held on March 28, 2015, I have been networking with the general membership as well as outside organization to solicit their participation in this annual event.

Commissioner Finau:

- Guest Lecturer @ UW Asian American Pacific Islander Women's Studies -February 5, 2015: University of Washington – Smith Hall 404. Pacific Islanders and Education and gender issues. Sharing personal journey as a Pacific Islander educator, dissertation case study teaching and role modeling as a reflective leader of PI students who are underrepresented in the education system.
- Guest Lecturer @ UW Qualitative Research Methods with Dr. Holly Barker February 11, 2015: University of Washington – Denny Hall. Anthropology Class - Qualitative Research Methods. Bridge building and collaboration to the college experience for PI students. Conjoint teach with Dr. Holly Barker collaborating and bridge a program between her UW classes/students with Foster's EPIC students. PI high school students were mentored by UW students as they conducted data gathering and analysis, recording their observation and sharing them with class.
- Parent Engagement Conference February 21: Seattle Public School John Stanford building. Parent Engagement Conference with keynote speaker Dr. Otha Thorton, National PTA President. Ensuring that students of color have the tools and support they need to succeed. Developing leadership, advocacy efforts to strengthen the PTA association and fully empower families, teachers and communities to advocate for all students.
- Guest Lecturer @ South Seattle College -March: Pacific Islander History Class. Cathy Small's "Voyage" on Tongan immigration to the United States. PI students from high school attended classes and toured the campus.
- StoryCorp February – StoryCorp interviews me and Tavaesina Maiava about homelessness. They are recorded stories archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. StoryCorps is one of the largest oral history projects of its kind. Since 2003, StoryCorps has collected and archived more than 50,000 interviews from more than 80,000 participants. Millions listen to StoryCorps' weekly broadcasts on National Public Radio (NPR's) Morning Edition and on StoryCorps' Listen Page. StoryCorps' mission is to provide people of all backgrounds and beliefs with the opportunity to record, share and preserve the stories of our lives. They do this to remind one another of our shared humanity, to strengthen and build the connections between people, to teach the value of listening, and to weave into the fabric of our culture the understanding that everyone's story matters. At the same time, they are creating an invaluable archive for future generations. StoryCorps core principle is built on an uncompromising commitment to excellence throughout the organization that includes an intense focus on the collecting, sharing, and preserving of people's stories; high-quality organizational management; and the care and support of an extraordinary work environment where respect and dignity are paramount.
- TBIP – Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program Task Force Committee - February & March: Unlocking the research on English Language Learners. Quality instructional practices are good for everybody, including English Language Learners. There is an emphasis on recognizing the value of home language. For educators and parents, that is a huge statement. Bilingual education tends to produce the same if not better experiences that non-bilingual. At the state level, are we able to think about conducting research about programs? Revising State Achievement Index. Reviewing current, former and ever ELLs, English Language Acquisition Award, recognizing high performance schools in the areas of English Language Acquisition. Update on OSPI Guidance on Program Models: Content Based and Sheltered Instruction Models.

- Seattle Public School Teacher Residency-February – Guest teacher, representing teachers of color and ethnicity, to Seattle Teacher Residency cohort. Following the model of urban teacher residency programs in cities such as Boston, Chicago, and Denver. This particular residency program successfully apply the medical residency model to teacher preparation. By blending classroom apprenticeship with aligned graduate-level course work and an intensive resident/mentor partnership, residencies aim to accelerate student achievement through the training, support and retention of excellent teachers. The Seattle Teacher Residency deepens this commitment by recruiting, preparing, and supporting teachers equipped to make sure that each student excels and feels connected to the school community, regardless of circumstance. Seattle Teacher Residency’s mission is to accelerate student achievement through the preparation, support, and retention of a group of exceptional teachers in Seattle Public Schools whose diversity reflects the demographics of their students.
- Foster High School Centennial Celebration – March 21, 2015. Attend Foster High School’s one hundred years in the making on March 21st. Over the past century, Foster has transitioned from a simple building in a Northwest settlement area to the sole high school in the nation’s most diverse school district. Throughout the significant changes, the most important character of Foster is that the school remains the heart of the Tukwila community. Asian and Pacific Islander students took stage for vibrant cultural performances.
- Community Forum: Closing the Education Opportunity Gap – March 14, 2015: Master of Ceremonies/facilitating for Closing the Education Opportunity Gap Forum. Three goals accomplished at forum: Raise awareness about how data informs and impacts the AAPI opportunity gaps. Learn about ways community members and leaders can provide feedback or participate in efforts to close the opportunity gaps. Gain an understanding about how policy makers are working towards closing the opportunity gaps. Education opportunity gaps result when students, families, communities do not have equitable access to quality education, services and resources they need to succeed in the education system. Research teams; Dolly Nguyen and Robert Teranishi from UCLA presented updated data on API’s. Sili Savusa and Freda Takamura from EOG, Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos as guest speaker.
- Ethnic Legislative Reception -March 14, 2015: Attend the Ethnic Legislative Reception with Governor Jay Inslee, legislators, and community leaders during Legislative session. Connect with decision makers and community leaders from across the state. I organized a performing group. They were students from Foster High School (Tukwila School District) and neighboring school district (Renton SD, Federal Way SD, Highline SD, Kent SD) participated in performing a Tahitian dance representing CAPAA.
- Intercultural Speaker Series Forum- February 12, 2015: “*So Many Diversities, So Little Time: What is a leader to do?*” with Dr. Edree Allen-Agbro. Discovering three evidence-based ways of making sense of the many cultures, languages and life experiences of students and adults is harness the power of science, philosophy and surprising existing skills to navigate the complexity and make educating everyone simpler, less stressful and more successful.

Commissioner Gurung

- 02/22/2015: Nepali Language School started for 2015 session at University Height School. (11 am -1 pm)
 - 2:00-2:30pm- Met with Ananta Raj Sharma, Rakesh Tyata, and Roshan Newa (all three are software engineers for Microsoft) at Microsoft building, It was about children health related apps.
 - 5pm-6.30pm: Meeting with Shyam Kadel (President of Nepalese Students for UW) at University Village. It was about activities of students at UW and planning for life after graduation and how students can implement their knowledge and experiences.
- 02/26/2015: Participated Asian Pacific American Legislative day in Olympia
- 03/01/2015: Attended Nepali children Language School at University Height. Talked about children Health and guidelines.
- 03/08/2015: Attended to Nepali Children Language School, talked about next session.
 - Met with Vice President of (NRN) Non Residential Nepali USA, and Spokes Person Narayan Gurung visiting from Portland and New York. We discussed about an upcoming seminar in Washington DC.
 - Invited by North Seattle youth Volleyball team in Ballard also celebrate color festival called Holi.

- 03/14/2015: Attended community forum to learn more about the AAPI opportunity gaps.
- 03/14/2015. Attended families and friends gathering (visiting from Hawaii, Taiwan and California) at Kona Kitchen.
- 03/14/2015. Attended to Anniversary dinner party in Redmond
- 03/15/2015. Attended to Himalayan Treasure Grand Opening Celebration in Ballard.

Commissioner Khamshitsang

- The Tibetan American Community of North America is celebrating the 80th birthday of His Holiness the Dalai Lama as a once a life time event July 2015. The community has planned to organize it in big way and formed a Core Committee, of which I am one of the co-chairs. As such I traveled to attend the second planning meeting of the Committee in Washington DC on January 25-26, 2015.
- As an elected Representative of Tibetan Community of North America to the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile, I am required to attend social, educational, cultural and political event of the Community around the country. As a part of this responsibility, I was invited to New York to participate in the 56th anniversary of Tibetan National Uprising Day on March 10, 2015. I addressed gathering of over 3000 people from every walks of life.

Commissioner Lee:

- Gave information to local convenient store owner for Small Business Loan. (Jan 18)
- Coordinated and MC for Tacoma-Korean American Association for their 38th Inauguration and Lunar Day celebration (Feb 14)
- Participated Ethnic Reception on 16 March at Olympia.
- Met with Consul Byungkwun Kim to brief about Tacoma-Korean American Association for future programs. (March 19)

Commissioner Pen

January Report:

- Provided four presentations on the Crime Prevention Tip of the Month “Warm-up Theft” to 6 Asian Pacific Islander Communities.
 - 76 Vietnamese seniors
 - 98 Cambodian seniors
 - 56 International Groups (Japanese, Pilipino & Chinese)
 - 16 Samoan seniors
- Attended CAPAA’s quarterly commissioners meeting

February

- Provided four presentations on the Crime Prevention Tip of the Month “Tips for the Gym” to 6 Asian Pacific Islander Communities.
 - 85 Vietnamese seniors
 - 110 Cambodian seniors
 - 60 International Groups(Japanese, Pilipino & Chinese)
 - 16 Samoan seniors

Theft is a crime of opportunity. Most thefts occur when valuables are left unattended. Thieves normally seek privacy to commit their acts. Articles left in plain view are an invitation to thieves. Most property that is stolen are left unattended or unlocked.

- If you have personal items of value, leave them at home.

- If you have to bring personal items, get a fanny pack and keep them on you at all time. Do not leave your keys unattended anywhere.
- Use a lock on your gym locker.
- Be aware of your surroundings when you get to the parking lot and report any suspicious activity.
- Keep a written record of values, including description and serial numbers. These are proof that property is yours and will aid in the reporting process and recovery.
- Report missing or stolen property immediately.
- On Saturday, February 14, Commissioner Pen joined Amy Van and Michael Itti at the CAPAA's information booth at 17th Annual Asian Pacific New Year Celebration at Tacoma Dome. We talked and handed out CAPAA information to many people.
- February 28th, assisted the City of Tacoma by translating English flyer into Vietnamese language, talked to 19 Asian individual business owners and posted flyer in each business at the Lincoln Business District; 90% of businesses owners are Asian.

Commissioner Tufono

- Instructed CHOICES Mentoring Program for Middle School Students of Color-(Seattle-Aki Kurose)
- Hosted Da Coconut Wireless Radio Show-Contemporary Polynesian Music, By Polynesian Music Artists of All Genres
- Communicated via email with API Heritage Committee due to work schedule.
- Met with Stephen Seger-Inmate-Support Coordinator and several API Offenders of the Diversity Commission at Monroe Correctional Facility to discuss their upcoming API Heritage Celebration.
- Attended City of Lynnwood Diversity Commission Meeting
- Instructed CHOICES Mentoring Program for Middle School Students of Color-(Burien-Sylvester)

FEBRUARY 2015:

- Met with City Of Lynnwood Mayor-Nicola Smith to discuss startup program for Veterans Affairs in Lynnwood and CAPAA Board Meeting in June.
- Hosted Da Coconut Wireless Radio Show-Contemporary Polynesian Music, By Polynesian Music Artists of All Genres
- Communicated with API Heritage Committee about concerns with lack of PI involvement & offered suggestions via email, since the meetings are during my work schedule.
- Attended City of Lynnwood Diversity Commission Meeting
- Lectured at South Seattle College on Contemporary Poly Music in Professor Fonoti's Pacific Oceania Studies Class.
- Attended Samoa Cultural Day Planning Meeting-APCC Tacoma.
- Attended NHPI-Move It! Planning Meeting at APCC Tacoma.
- Instructed CHOICES Mentoring Program for Middle School Students of Color-(Redmond-Rose Hill)
- Invited Guest Speaker at Monroe Correctional-Twin Rivers Unit for API Heritage Celebration.
- Attended City of Lynnwood Black History Month Celebration-Organized by Diversity Commission.
- Instructed CHOICES Mentoring Program for Middle School Students of Color-(Bellevue-Chinook)
- Invited & Attended signing of Educational Programs partnership between American Samoa & South Seattle Aviation & Maintenance departments, attended by AS Governor Lolo Moliga.
- Organized WA Samoan Community Leaders Meeting with AS Governor Moliga.
- Met with Communities of Color C-3 to discuss upcoming Cultural Sensitivity Trainings for City employees in Snohomish County.
- Scheduled to meet with County Executive John Lovick & C-3 to discuss Cultural Diversity Specialist position the City of Everett is trying to eliminate.

MARCH 2015

- Keynote Speaker at the National Jr. Honor Society Induction Ceremony in Renton as a CAPAA Commissioner.

Commissioner Vue

January

- 17th- Represented CAPAA at the Kirkland Heights Center. Supported the WHSA (Western Hmong Student Association) to engage families and students regarding attaining higher education and how to navigate the school system.
- 30th – All Students Count Event at the Wing Luke. Represented CAPAA and assisted in carrying out the event.

February

- 3rd- Met with Amy and Commissioner Finau to discuss Education committee agenda items.
- 6th- Represented CAPAA at Foster HS to share issues and EOGOAC recommendations.
- 7th- Met with Tony Vo, interns, and Joyce Yee to work on HB 1541, build background for interns and work on postcards and mobilizing for API day.
- 8th – POC Meeting: represented CAPAA and shared HB 1541: EOGOAC recommendations.
- 26- API legislative day: Supported HB 1541 and spoke with
- 26th- Education meeting with Maria Flores (OSPI) : represented CAPAA's

March

- 3rd- Education Committee : update on OSPI Initiative
- 8th- Met with SEAE D council to plan and support HB 1541: phone bank, write in, and strategic support of bill. Planning the next SEAE D Summit. How SEAE D will support CAPAA event on the Community Forum on March 14th.

Commissioner Wada

- Attended the LEP meeting at the DOH
- Attended the meeting to discuss the health disparity issue in API community at the DOH
- Attended a meeting with affordable housing providers to address the housing disparity in API communities
- Provided Preventive and Wellness information at the affordable housing properties in King and Snohomish counties