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“Seeking Common Ground While Respecting Differences”

CommitteeBridges 百人會

Winter 2003

Committee of 100

CHINESE PREMIER'S PRO-AMERICA STANCE IMPRESSES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

IN DECEMBER 2003, ALMOST 25 YEARS AFTER ESTABLISHMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, PREMIER WEN JIABAO CONTINUES THE “NORMALIZATION” PROCESS



Photos by Kaveh Sardan

Committee of 100 members welcomed Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao in New York City and Washington, D.C. this December and were impressed by his firm commitment to cooperation with the U.S. C-100 Executive Counsellor **John Young** felt that this demonstrated a fresh willingness by the new Chinese leadership to compromise in light of long-range interests.

The spirit of compromise was mutual, suggested C-100 Vice Chair **John Fugh**, who represented the Committee at the head table for a dinner hosted by C-100, the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and other organizations on December 9. Fugh reported a potentially important shift in American policy toward Taiwan that won praise from Premier Wen at the dinner:

Earlier that day, President Bush, with Wen at his side in the Oval Office, delivered a firm warning to the Taiwan government over its aspirations for independence, saying that the U.S. opposed “any unilateral decision by either China or Taiwan to change the status quo,” adding that “the



C-100 Vice Chair John Fugh (far right) meets Premier Wen Jiabao.

comments and actions made by the leader of Taiwan indicate that he may be willing to make decisions unilaterally to change the status quo, which we oppose."

Wen was clearly tickled pink over Bush's gesture. In his dinner speech, he twice diverged from prepared remarks to draw attention to Bush's words. He said Bush had "sent a very loud and clear signal to the whole world." On the Taiwan issue, Wen drew a parallel with President Lincoln's efforts to preserve the Union, quoting Lincoln's words that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." After Wen left Washington, China issued a rare thank you to the U.S. when it applauded Bush's strongest statement yet opposing any move by Taiwan toward independence.

A number of C-100 members

participated in Wen's state visit. In New York, C-100 Governor **Henry Tang** and Vice Chair **Alice Young** were among 20 Chinese American community leaders who met with the Premier. Young said that several members of the group were asked to present their views on issues including Taiwan and the Falun Gong, with Premier Wen asking questions and taking notes.

After Premier Wen's arrival in Washington, **Carolyn Chin, Wilson Chu, John Tsu**, Executive Director Alice Mong, and Public Relations Manager An Ping attended the White House welcoming ceremony on the South Lawn. Fugh and **Shirley Young** were invited to the exclusive VIP reception for Premier Wen before the December 9 dinner, which was attended by 600 guests, including Chin, Mong, Tsu, **Alice Young, John Young, Julia Chang Bloch, Ming Hsu, Herman Li, Charles P. Wang, and Jeremy Wu.**

Among the many related events was the signing of a new U.S.-China Implementing Accord for Cultural

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Committee of 100

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- 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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Winter is a good time to reflect on the year that has gone by. For the Committee of 100, it has been an eventful one.

In January, we had our first Regional Leadership Conference. Under the very capable leadership of **Herman Li**, our L.A. members did a great job in organizing a highly effective forum for inspiring young Chinese Americans through the wonderful examples of such leaders as **Jenny Ming, Matt Fong, Janet Yang, Julie Fong, Lily Lee Chen, Adeline Yen Mah, John Chiang** and **Alice Huang**.

March saw the nationwide premiere of the Bill Moyers PBS series, *Becoming American: The Chinese Experience*, made possible in part by the Committee's fundraising efforts on behalf of this unprecedented documentary project, thanks to members **Henry Tang, Walter Wang, Lulu Wang, Eugene Sit, Albert Yu, David Chu, Oscar Tang**, and **John Chen**.

Then in April, **David Ho, David Chu** and **Savio Tung** led the New York members in organizing a tremendously successful Annual Conference. Once again, this conference set new highs for attendance and fundraising. Of course, a major factor behind the success was an excellent program.

Along the way, we were able to generate some positive publicity about Chinese American philanthropy with articles in several prestigious publications featuring the philanthropic efforts of members **Charles B. Wang, Leslie Schilling, Oscar Tang** and **Joseph Ko**. Currently, **Dennis Wu** is leading a team of our members to deal with the China bashing that is sure to heat up around next year's elections. Our goal is to insure that the public understands the real facts of the situation.

Also in the last year we linked with the Asia Society to bring a stronger national focus on Asia in the K-12 curriculum. Michigan and South Carolina have already made firm commitments to be Role Model States, and, under the leadership of **Leslie Schilling**, we are concentrating on getting California to join them.

On the corporate front, **Wilson Chu** has stepped up to chair a Pan-Asian-American effort to get more Asian Americans on corporate boards. Our belief is that this will help in the broader effort for Asian Americans to break the corporate glass ceiling. Our first annual corporate board report card will be released at the spring conference.

In 2003, we also became stronger financially through our members' generous support of our Growth Campaign. Consequently, we have been able to expand our staff with some very high-caliber professionals under the leadership of our Executive Director, Alice Mong. This has produced a much-needed increase in our capacity to support the efforts of our members.

With our Regional Vice Chairs, **George Koo, John Fugh, Herman Li** and **Alice Young**, we have an increased focus on involving our members on a regional basis. Internationally, our program got a big shot in the arm when **John Chen** agreed to be our Vice Chairman for International Affairs. As you read this, we are setting up a regional office in Hong Kong with a very capable Program Director who will coordinate an expanded program in the Greater China region.

As readers of our newsletter and supporters of our organization, I hope you will raise your expectations of what we can and should accomplish. I like stretch goals. It makes us run faster, and that's good for all of us.

Bob Lee
Chairman
Committee of 100

CHINESE AMERICANS AT THE FOREFRONT OF AMERICAN PROGRESS

COMMITTEE OF 100 THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE RITZ-CARLTON, HUNTINGTON HOTEL & SPA, PASADENA, CA
CONFERENCE AND GALA DINNER, APRIL 2-3

The public is invited: See our web site, www.committee100.org for up-to-date agenda and conference registration information.

"Chinese Americans at the Forefront of American Progress" will be in the limelight at C-100's 2004 conference and gala dinner in Los Angeles this spring. The honorees and speakers will include a few of the 123 Committee members who have risen to the heights of the arts, entertainment, science and technology, medicine, academia, government, and business—while being equally devoted to bettering their communities and the world.

David Ho, the famed AIDS doctor whose research made possible the life-saving AIDS cocktail and who now is experimenting with vaccines for both AIDS and SARS, will be one of those honored at the April 2 gala dinner. Both the dinner and the conference will be held at the classic Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Pasadena.

For the second year, a Mentoring Breakfast on Saturday, April 3, gives aspiring young Asian Americans unusual access to a C-100 member who is a leader in their field of interest.

Friday, April 2, will explore the most pressing issues in the U.S.-China relationship, as they emerge in the next few months. Expect to hear from senior Chinese and American diplomats and officials, as well as scholars and journalists, who will give participants an inside perspective on current affairs. Among the topics sure to be covered are U.S.-China trade disputes, North Korea, Taiwan's presidential election this March, and the major U.S. presidential candidates' stances towards China.

Saturday, April 3, will tackle the domestic side of C-100's action agenda, immediately following the Mentoring Breakfast.

Wilson Chu is organizing a panel

on Asian Americans on Fortune 500 corporate boards, which will include a recently-appointed Committee member to such a board, corporate search representative, and a Fortune 500 CEO. C-100's report card on Asian American membership on corporate boards will also be presented.

Increasing classroom teaching about Asia and Asian Americans is another Committee priority, and **Leslie Tang Schilling** will chair a panel to evaluate progress towards this goal. In keeping with the Committee's special focus on making California a model in Asia-related education, the panel will feature Richard Riordan, the new Education Secretary for California under Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Stewart Kwoh, an experienced foundation trustee and past chair of The California Endowment, leads a panel on philanthropy and Asian Americans.

Finally, Hollywood producer **Janet Yang** is planning a panel on Chinese Americans in the entertainment and media field.

Four Los Angeles area members are sharing leadership responsibility for the 2004 conference: **Andrew Cherg, Herman Li, Dominic Ng, and Charlie Woo.**

Ng says he is planning "one of the most fun, stimulating and productive conferences yet." He especially encourages C-100 members and spouses to attend, not only because of the opportunity to shape the Committee's annual agenda in the meetings that bookend the conference, but also because of the exciting activities being planned so members can enjoy Southern California at its springtime best.

MING HSU, PAST FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSIONER AND C-100 MEMBER, SALUTES HISTORIC U.S.-CHINA MARITIME AGREEMENT



Ming Hsu, Federal Maritime Commissioner between 1990 and 2000 and currently a senior advisor to the shipping company NOL/APL, attended the December

8 signing ceremony for an unprecedented and far-ranging agreement allowing American shipping companies the same access and privileges in the Chinese market as Chinese companies already receive in the U.S.

Timed to coincide with the American visit of Premier Wen Jiabao, the agreement was signed by Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta and Chinese Minister of Communications, Zhang Chunxian. With more cargo containers moving between the China and the U.S. than between any other two countries, over 3.2 million, the agreement "opens significant new business opportunities for U.S. companies," said Mineta.

Since her tenure as maritime commissioner, Hsu has worked toward such an accord, which took many years to conclude since it gives the U.S. privileges in China not currently offered to any other country. For years, China has been under the threat of sanctions by the Federal Maritime Commission for discriminating against U.S. shippers. Hsu believed that this year's breakthrough in negotiations was "undoubtedly due to the new leadership" and their more flexible approach to U.S.-China relations.



C-100 IN ACTION

C-100 CALLS FOR GREATER REPRESENTATION OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN TOP RANKS OF U.S. CIVIL SERVICE

Following the U.S. House of Representatives hearing on Diversity of the Senior Executive Service on October 15, C-100 Chair **Bob Lee** wrote a letter to the Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization. After observing that C-100's national opinion poll in 2001 showed that 25% of Americans harbor very negative views of Asian Americans, Lee wrote:

"We are deeply concerned that such deep-rooted negative attitudes may influence the formulation of U.S. public policy that adversely impacts Asian Americans. The severe under-representation of Asian Americans in the highest ranks of the Senior Executive Service in the Federal Government is further evidence that Chinese Americans and Asian Americans are still having difficulty getting accepted to serve our country."

Lee urged the Subcommittee to "promote broad inclusion of Asian Americans, especially at the highest management and executive levels, and monitor the results from federal departments and agencies."

Spearheading the Committee of 100's efforts to broaden civil service diversity are Major General **John Fugh** (retired) and **Jeremy Wu**, past president of the Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN). AAGEN played a strong role in the October 15 hearing, noting that while Asian Pacific Americans make up 4.4% of the U.S. population and nearly 5% of Executive Branch employees, they represent only 1.6% of the most senior civil servants.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES New York City

China's new Ambassador to the United Nations, Wang Guangya, was welcomed by C-100 Chair **Bob Lee** and ten members at a luncheon at the Cornell Club on October 8. Ambassador Wang came to the post this August after a long career in foreign affairs, most recently as Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs. Even before the U.S. and China had normalized relations, Wang was a staff member in China's United Nations mission, beginning in 1977, with later posts as Attaché and Counselor in the early 1980s and again from 1988 to 1992. His family comes with a revolutionary pedigree, as his father-in-law was Chen Yi, one of China's famous Ten Marshalls.

Attending the luncheon were members **Carolyn Chin**, **David Chu**, **David Ho**, **Henry Tang**, **Savio Tung**, **Charles P. Wang**, **N.T. Wang**, **Alice Young**, **John Young** and **Shirley Young**. Following up on Ambassador Wang's promise to solicit the Committee's advice, **John Young** and **Henry Tang** were invited to participate in a briefing on November 3 with Xiong Guankai, Deputy Chief of

Staff of the People's Liberation Army, who was visiting Washington in the first high-ranking military exchange since the 2001 Hainan spy plane incident.

On October 29, C-100 hosted a welcome luncheon at the Princeton Club for China's new Consul General in New York, Ambassador Liu Biwei, attended by **David Chang**, **Carolyn Chin**, **Betty Lee Sung**, **Henry Tang**, **Savio Tung**, **Charles P. Wang**, **N.T. Wang**, **Alice Young** and **John Young**.

San Francisco Bay Area



Top Row From Left: John Tsu, Chinese official Xiang Huaicheng, and John Chen.

C-100 Vice Chair **John Chen** hosted a dinner in San Francisco on September 23 for one of China's most notable fiscal reformers, Xiang Huaicheng, Chair of the National Council for China's Social Security Fund.

Richard King, **John**

Tsu and media advisor Carol Edgar also attended. Xiang was in the Bay Area to keynote a Stanford University conference on China's market reforms, having just retired from five years as Minister of Finance.

On November 11, **Bob Lee**, **George Koo**, **Peter Liu**, and **Dennis Wu** hosted a delegation from the State Council's Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, headed by its director, Madame Chen Yujie, in San Francisco, and discussed plans for C-100's trip to China.

Washington, D.C.

At the September 23 awards dinner of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, C-100 Vice Chair **John Fugh**, a Foundation board member, organized a C-100 table with **Julia Bloch**, **Bob Gee**, **Michael Lin**, **Frank Wu** and **Jeremy Wu**. Honorees were Senator Bob Dole, Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, and General Eric Shinseki, former Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. The Washington memorial honors Japanese Americans who fought in World War II as well as the thousands who were sent to internment camps.

D.C. members Bloch, Fugh, and **Chi Wang** celebrated China's National Day at the Chinese Embassy on September 30. On October 9, Fugh and **Michael Lin** joined the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office for its Republic of China National Day reception at the Hyatt Regency Washington.

HONG KONG LEADER DONALD TSANG MEETS WITH NEW YORK AND BAY AREA MEMBERS



Bob Lee and John Chen at San Jose meeting with Hong Kong Chief Secretary Donald Tsang (r).

Hong Kong's second-ranking official, Chief Secretary Donald Tsang, visited the U.S. in September to talk to American business and government leaders about the economic resurgence of Hong Kong after the SARS epidemic earlier this year.

In New York, the Committee co-sponsored a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria on September 17, attended by **N.T. Wang, Alice Young, John Young** and staff member An Ping.

A private breakfast for Tsang was hosted by C-100 in San Jose on September 22. **Bob Lee**, C-100 chair, said that discussion centered on Hong Kong's role as the financial center of Asia, even as manufacturing continues to gravitate to the Chinese mainland. Tsang expressed his view that the U.S.-China trade imbalance was not primarily due to the low value of the Chinese yuan but to relative competitiveness in the worldwide market. Others attending the breakfast were **John Chen, Ken Fong, Leslie Schilling, Lee Ting**, and **Stanley Wang**.

COLLEGE BOARD ANNOUNCES ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHINESE COURSE AND TEST

John Young, the Committee's Executive Counsellor and founder of the Chinese Language Teachers Association, attended a press confer-

IN MEMORIAM: VISIONARY BRIDGE-BUILDER T.Y. LIN, 1912-2003

T.Y. Lin, perhaps the world's greatest structural engineer and one of the original Committee of 100 members from 1990, died November 15 at his home in El Cerrito, California. In the 1950s, Lin pioneered the theory and design of prestressed concrete, the building material that joins steel wires and concrete to extend man's capacity to build higher and longer structures. From high-rise buildings to freeways and long-span bridges capable of bearing heavy loads and surviving earthquakes and hurricanes, Lin's research has "changed the history of building," according to his colleague at the University of California Berkeley for more than 50 years, Alex Scordelis, professor emeritus of structural engineering.

Lin, active until his death, continued to meet with former students at UC Berkeley, where he earned his masters degree in civil engineering in 1933 and became a professor in 1946, and to work at his company, Lin Tung-Yen China, Inc., whose recent projects include a dramatic asymmetrical arched bridge now being built in Nanning, China. His first company, T.Y. Lin International, allowed Lin to bring his research to fruition with such acclaimed projects as San Francisco's Moscone Center's arched exhibition hall and Pacific Plaza, a high-rise condominium that famously survived unscathed in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.



But it was Lin's visions of bridges that could be both concrete and symbolic that made him unique. When President Reagan presented him with the National Medal of Science at the White House in 1986, Lin made news by handing the President his plans for building an Intercontinental Peace Bridge across the Bering Strait to link the U.S. and Soviet Union. In 1986, Lin won the attention of Deng Xiaoping when he proposed developing Pudong to unleash the economic potential of Shanghai and the Yangzi River Delta.

C-100 Vice Chair **George Koo** has helped craft the Committee's white papers on Sino-American relations and "drew encouragement and confidence from Lin's carefully considered positions." Koo describes Lin as "a warm, gentle person whose persistence and dedication to promoting and protecting the U.S.-China bilateral relationship shone through his quiet demeanor. I shall miss his wise perspective."

ence in the Dirksen Senate Office Building on December 5, where College Board President Gaston Caperton and Chinese Ambassador Yang Jiechi announced that Chinese Language and Culture would become one of the select subject areas in which high school students can take Advanced Placement (AP) courses and exams.

Young said that "in order to develop friendship and peaceful co-operation

between the U.S. and China, we need thousands and thousands of Americans to become familiar with all aspects of China. AP Chinese could be very helpful in making this possible."

Young is concerned that "Chinese American children are losing the Chinese language and becoming monolingual." Soon, either by taking the high school AP Chinese

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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

INSPIRED BY CHINA'S ROOTS: INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL IN SHANGHAI, AUGUST 29 TO SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

WITH C-100 CULTURAL INSTITUTE AS PARTNER, CHINESE AMERICAN STARS BRIDGE EAST AND WEST IN PERFORMANCES, WORKSHOPS

Every summer since 2000, the Committee of 100 Cultural Institute, led by **Shirley Young**, has returned to Shanghai with an international cultural program (Itzhak Perlman in 2002).

This past summer was different because the SARS epidemic put on hold any plans until July, when it was clear that the virus was no longer a danger.

In only six weeks, Young, C-100 staff member An Ping, and the Cultural Institute staff headed by executive director Jane Huang, helped the Shanghai Grand Theater coordinate a week-long festival featuring famed Chinese American artists who were returning to Shanghai with works inspired by their Chinese roots. In addition to concerts at the Grand Theater, the Cultural Institute joined with the Nature Conservancy to sponsor Face to Face demonstrations given by the international artists for young Chinese students, performers and teachers.

A SHANGHAI'S GRAND THEATER celebrated its fifth anniversary with performances by



four world-acclaimed Chinese artists now living in the U.S. Pictured on the billboard are "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" composer **Tan Dun**, piano prodigy Lang Lang, and San Francisco Ballet prima ballerina Tan Yuan Yuan. Metropolitan Opera star Tian Hao Jiang also performed.

B "THE MAP: A CONCERTO FOR CELLO, VIDEO, AND ORCHESTRA" by **Tan Dun** was created to re-connect Tan with his roots in rural Hunan, growing up among minority peoples who made music from stones and leaves, sounds deeply imprinted on his heart. Tan returned to document the folk musicians on video, whose images formed the backdrop to "The Map," and whose music inspired Tan's concerto, performed by the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra.

C The most memorable duet in "The Map" is a video of Long Xiane, a Miao girl whose haunting



antiphonal love song was answered by the resonating strings of cellist Anssi Karttunen. Tan Dun invited Long and

several other musicians from Xiangxi, Hunan to attend the Asian premiere in Shanghai, the first time they had left their villages. In the audience, mesmerized by seeing themselves on video in concert with a live orchestra, Tan said, "they told me that they couldn't believe how far their 'old' music and traditions have traveled from the villages, across the oceans and into the world." This November, Tan took "The Map" to Western Hunan, performing an open-air concert for the local people.





D FACE TO FACE WITH LANG LANG.

Ever exuberant, Lang Lang, the 21-year old classical piano sensation, is moved by an aspiring youngster at a master class with 100 young pianists, organized by C-100 at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. Lang Lang came to the U.S. at age 15, to study at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and today performs 150 concerts a year.

E HUANG DOU DOU.

Members of the Shanghai Song and Dance Ensemble rehearse Huang Dou Dou's "Flying Dragon, Dancing Phoenix". Huang, one of China's



most experimental modern dancers and choreographers, directs the Ensemble. Below, Huang is pictured speaking with Tan Yuan Yuan, who at 19 was the youngest ballerina to rise to principal dancer for the San Francisco Ballet. At the Shanghai festival, Huang and Tan starred in Huang's "Merging," blending Chinese dance and classical ballet.

F PRESERVING CULTURE AND NATURE IN CHINA.

Ann McBride Norton directs The Nature Conservancy's (TNC)

Photovoice Project in Yunnan Province. TNC is working with the Chinese government to create nature reserves in a remote region of abundant cultural and natural diversity but also widespread poverty. Photovoice gives cameras and film to ordinary people in Yunnan's countryside to document their lives and convey their relationship to the land. Shanghai audiences at the Grand Theater were awed by the Photovoice images exhibited during the Festival in the theater lobby.



G THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

also works to preserve disappearing cultures in Yunnan. Here, a young Dongba shaman demonstrates how to write the pictographic Naxi language at the Shanghai Museum, part of a free Face to Face event at the festival organized by the C-100 Cultural Institute. The Nature Conservancy helped recruit him and several other Naxi men to learn the shamanistic rituals from the last surviving Dongba priests.



PREMIER WEN

(cont. from page 1)

Exchange on December 9 at the Smithsonian's Sackler Gallery, attended by C-100's Cultural Institute Chair Shirley Young. Plans were announced for a Festival of China in October 2005 at the Kennedy Center to showcase performing arts troupes from China and Chinese American artists such as **Yo-Yo Ma**, **David Henry Hwang** and **Tan Dun**.

C-100 IN ACTION

(cont. from page 5)

courses or by attending Chinese heritage language schools, Chinese American students will be able to take the AP exams for college credit and place into higher-level Chinese classes when they enter college. "This should be a tremendous encouragement to Chinese Americans to study Chinese, as they will be able to advance in college more quickly and possibly graduate earlier."

Young hopes that the AP program will mine the expertise of the teachers and other professionals who pioneered the teaching of Chinese in American schools.

NEW MEMBERS



A member of Stanford University's faculty since 1966 and Kwoh-Ting Li Professor of Economic Development since 1992, **Lawrence**

Lau will soon take over leadership of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), with a six-year term beginning July 2004. Lau's appointment as CUHK's Vice-Chancellor (equivalent of president) comes after a distinguished career in the U.S. Lau is known for his studies of economic growth in both developed and developing countries as well as of comparative economic development in East Asia with a focus on China. A public intellectual, Lau's views on U.S.-China economic relations are often sought by policy-makers in the U.S. and Greater China. This September, he testified before Congress in hearings on how to correct the U.S.-China trade imbalance, suggesting that revaluation of the Chinese Renminbi might be counterproductive to American interests. Lau also advises numerous Asian academic and policy organizations on economic issues. His bi-cultural expertise melds well with the uniquely bi-lingual and bi-cultural approach of his new institution, the Chinese University, which was formed in 1963 from the merger of three autonomous colleges and now has over 14,000 students. Lau was born in China, grew up in Hong Kong, and was educated at Stanford and the University of California at Berkeley.

"A change agent to the next generation of Chinese Americans" is how investment banker **Donald Tang** sees himself, now that he has reached 40. Senior Managing Director and member of the board of Bear



Stearns & Co., Chairman of Bear Stearns Asia, and Regional Director for the West Coast, Tang was deemed by Crain's Chicago Business Magazine to

have reached the height of his career several years ago, when it designated him as one of its "Forty under Forty" in 2000-2001. Influenced by C-100 members like **Cyrus Tang** and **Dominic Ng**, Tang followed Ng and **Andrew Cherg** by leading the United Way Campaign for Greater Los Angeles and in 2002-2003 exceeded previous goals. Tang believes that "to merely give money is not enough. Chinese Americans need to do more to participate in and contribute to their communities. There needs to be a passionate commitment to philanthropy." Himself passionately committed to the cause of needy Los Angeles children, Tang serves on the board of United Friends of the Children and donates time to First 5 LA, the Universal Preschool Master Plan. On the international level, Tang chairs the U.S.-China Banking Reform committee for RAND Corporation's Center for Asia Pacific Policy, promoting exchange between the two countries' banking leaders and regulators.



One of the most prominent Asian American executives in the federal civil service, **Jeremy Wu** has been tapped by Cabinet Secretaries in

two administrations to tackle their most difficult civil rights challenges. In 2000, Energy Secretary Bill Richardson appointed Wu as National

Ombudsman for DOE, to handle the workforce crisis at Los Alamos and other national laboratories in the aftermath of the Wen Ho Lee scandal. After 9/11, Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta called on Wu to be his department's Director of Civil Rights. From early 2002, Wu has addressed the discrimination issues that came with new airline security needs and worked to insure equal opportunity in the creation of the 60,000-person Transportation Security Agency. Civil rights and workforce diversity have been Wu's specialties since he became Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture's Civil Rights Office in 1997, following 17 years as chief statistician for USDA marketing programs. Wu also participated in extended USDA negotiations with China on U.S. wheat exports, leading to China lifting its wheat embargo in 1999. Long dedicated to the advancement of Asian Americans in government service, Wu has three times served as chair of the Asian American Government Executives Network.



STAY ON...

C-100's "SHORTLIST"



We are paring our very long mailing list down to size. Please let us know if you want to keep receiving *Committee Bridges* in 2004. If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by email, give us your email address.

Call (212) 371-6565 or write to c100@committee100.org with your mailing information.

Thank you!

Of Note: Members Making News

Former California State Treasurer **Matt Fong**, who was appointed in October to the transition team of Governor-Elect Arnold Schwarzenegger, says he is identifying talent for the new administration and advising on budgetary policy and pension issues. Fong co-chaired the Schwarzenegger election campaign and played a similar role in President George W. Bush's 2000 campaign. With eight

years of government fiscal service as Vice Chairman of the State Board of Equalization and State Treasurer, Fong is now President of Strategic Advisory Group, which advises venture capital and private equity funds.

Acclaimed as an architectural and acoustical triumph, the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles opened its doors October 23 to 3,000 fifth graders who attended the first public event. It starred composer

Tan Dun, who was commissioned by the Los Angeles Philharmonic to write "Inventions for Paper Instruments and Orchestra," using paper to make music just as Tan did as a poor youth growing up in Hunan. The next day, **Yo-Yo Ma** played Lutoslawski's 1970 Cello Concerto in the Frank Gehry-designed hall, conducted by the Philharmonic's music director, Esa-Pekka Salonen.



MEMBER PROFILES



Weiming Lu (l) has advised Beijing Party Secretary Liu Qi on city planning since Liu was Beijing's mayor.

From his profession as an urban designer specializing in historical and environmental preservation to his avocation as computer calligrapher, **Weiming Lu** revitalizes the traditional with new forms. Lu uses a computer to evoke a new "brush spirit" in Chinese calligraphy, and his work has been exhibited in Japan, China (National Arts Academy in Hangzhou), and the U.S. (most recently at the Sun Gallery in Minneapolis). Professionally, Lu has been President of St. Paul's Lowertown Development Corporation since 1981. His vision of an "urban village" has transformed a district of empty riverfront warehouses into a lively home for 3,000 residents, high tech businesses and 500 artists, which soon

will include a nature sanctuary. Lowertown, with its blend of public and private investment, has inspired cities as diverse as Dallas (where Lu helped save the Texas Schoolbook Depository) and Beijing. Lu is currently advising Beijing party secretary Liu Qi on the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Last year, Lu sat on the jury that selected the winning designs for Beijing's Olympic venues, successfully advocating his vision that the spirit of "mountains and water" be integrated into Olympic Park for a truly "Green Olympics." Lu is also advising Beijing on the renovation of several historic neighborhoods. As an extraordinary Chinese American, Lu was featured in a Minnesota History Center exhibit on Chinese Minnesotans this spring and was an important source for a 2004 book, *Chinese in Minnesota*. He is a past C-100 board member and vice chairman and wrote the Committee's first position paper on U.S.-China relations.



Gerald Tsai, Jr. received a Doctorate of Humane Letters from his alma mater, Boston University (BU), this May, and the citation read "A creator of wealth for investors, yourself included, you have

recognized that philanthropy is no less an opportunity than an obligation." After Tsai graduated from BU in 1949 at the age of 20 with a B.A. and M.A. in economics, he went on to transform American Can Company into the nation's largest financial services firm, Primerica Corporation, which was sold to Commercial Credit (Citigroup) in 1988. Tsai was later chairman, president and CEO of Delta Life Corporation, an annuity company that was acquired by AmericaUS Life in 1997. He now chairs his own management and investment firm. Philanthropy is Tsai's second career, with Boston University as the major recipient. For more than twenty years, Tsai was a BU trustee and currently is an honorary member of the board. BU's Tsai Performance Center, inaugurated in 1989, hosts concerts, lectures and TV shows. In 2005, the 18,000 sq.-ft. Nancy and Gerald Tsai Fitness Center will open at BU. The Tsais also support the arts: with their donation of \$3 million and two cubist sculptures by Alexander Archipenko, the Norton Museum of Art in Palm Beach dedicated the Tsai Atrium in its new wing this March. Tsai is a trustee of the Norton Museum, New York University School of Medicine and the NYU Hospitals Center. But, Tsai hasn't stopped launching businesses, so watch for news in early 2004.



HONORABLE MENTIONS

RECENT AWARDS TO C-100 MEMBERS

On August 15, the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) selected **Helen Zia** as the first winner of its Suzanne Ahn Award for Civil Rights and Social Justice. Zia's book, *Asian American Dreams: The Emergence of an American People*, "captured the full spirit of the award" because of its success in depicting three centuries of Asian American activism, said Peter Bhatia of AAJA's judging committee. Ahn, a Korean American physician, had presented AAJA with a \$100,000 endowment to encourage journalists to join the fight for social justice.

Silicon Valley biotech venture capitalist **Kenneth Fong**, chairman of Kenson Ventures, received a 2003 Leadership Award from the International Leadership Foundation at its gala dinner at the Washington Hilton on August 21. The D.C.-based Foundation provides scholarships and internships in public affairs for promising young Asian Americans.

APEX (Asian Professional Exchange), a mentoring and networking organization in Southern California, celebrated its tenth anniversary September 13 and honored two C-100 members. **Jenny Ming** won the Corporate Leadership award as President of Old Navy, operating 800 stores in the U.S. alone. In 2000, she was deemed one of the Top 25 Managers by Business Week. For its Community Service award, APEX selected CAUSE, Center for Asian Americans United for Self-Empowerment, founded in 1993 by **Charlie Woo** as CAUSE-Vision 21. CAUSE has mobilized Asian Americans to get more involved in politics by its programs to educate and register voters and train new candidates.

Henry Lee and **Dominic Ng** were among the seven 2003 Historymakers honored by the Chinese American Museum in Los Angeles at its gala on September 21. The long-awaited Museum opened December 18 in an historic building located in the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument. Lee received the award for Excellence in Law and Justice for his prominence as a forensic scientist, helping law enforcement agencies solve over 6,000 cases in a 40-year career. Ng was recognized for Excellence in Business Leadership, having propelled East West Bancorp into the third largest independent bank headquartered in Los Angeles.

In recognition of his extraordinary work in 20th century architecture—including the East Wing of the National Gallery of Art in Washington and the Grand Louvre in Paris—

I.M. Pei received the National Design Award for Lifetime Achievement on October 22 at the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum in New York. "Despite his international acclaim, Pei remains a true artist, not bound by narrow stylistic constraints, but inspired by the unique physical and cultural context of each individual building."



Mei Wei Cheng, chairman and CEO of Ford Motor China and corporate vice chairman of Ford Motor Company, received an Asian American Corporate Achievement Award for his outstanding contribution to his company and community, at a ceremony hosted by the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) on October 31 at the Westchester Marriott in New York. Ford Chairman Bill Ford had joined Cheng in Beijing a few days earlier to announce the rapid expansion of Ford's production capacity in China, thanks to Cheng's development of a joint venture with Changan Automobile Group. Ford was one of a dozen major corporations that

selected a senior Asian American employee to honor at the annual OCA event. OCA, a civil rights group with over 80 chapters and affiliates, has chosen another C-100 member, **Michael Lin**, to head its Building Fund Campaign, to raise the down payment for a permanent Washington, D.C. headquarters.



MEMBERS IN PRINT

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY AND ABOUT C-100 MEMBERS

Anna Chennault's life as an "informal diplomat" shuttling between the U.S. and Asia since 1950 is documented in a new book by historian Catherine Forslund, *Anna Chennault: Informal Diplomacy and Asian Relations*, SR Books, 2002. A Ph.D. dissertation on Chennault's extensive literary output, examined in the light of women's literature, was completed in 2003 by Zhuang Wenyong of Central China Normal University in Wuhan. Among her more than 50 works are Chennault's memoirs, published in Taiwan and Hong Kong in 2002.

When Harvard Law School celebrated its fiftieth year of graduating women this May, C-100 Vice Chair **Alice Young** '74 joined such alumni as former Attorney General Janet Reno and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Ginsberg in the festivities. Young, a partner at the New York law firm of Kaye Scholer, was highlighted in the summer issue of the *Harvard Law Bulletin*, which begins "No matter what you accomplish in life, sometimes people remember you for something comparatively trivial." Young's Dewar's profile, in which she called herself "a gentle dragon lady," somehow tops the long list of Young's many awards, media appearances, and professional achievements.

KATHLEEN LEE, SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY LEADER, BECOMES PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Blending a 14-year record of accomplishment in the non-profit world with an M.B.A. from the Kellogg School of Management and significant business and government experience, Kathleen Lee joined the Committee staff in October as Program Director.

Kathy is responsible for the growing array of C-100 program activities, including national and regional conferences, activities to promote education about Asia and Asian Americans in American classrooms, as well as efforts to increase Asian American membership on the top corporate boards.

C-100 Chair **Bob Lee** notes that "Kathy's breadth of experience and her energetic approach to organizational growth are a perfect fit for us as we expand into new program areas and affirmatively seek

out new collaborations with other Asian Pacific American organizations."

A native of San Francisco, Kathy earned a B.A. in social welfare from the University of California at Berkeley and spent most of her career in the Bay Area, where she was a Program Officer at the Tides Foundation, Philanthropic Policy Analyst for Consumers Union, and Director of Resource Development for the Chinatown Community Development Center. Kathy's political campaign work led to her appointment as Special Assistant in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (under Henry Cisneros), where she helped revitalize distressed public housing projects. Her business experience included work as assistant to the president of Yank

Sing Restaurants, and she first met Lee through the Asian Business League. In addition to involvement in many Asian American causes, Kathy was president of the San Francisco chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans. In recent months, she has worked with Education Committee co-chair **Leslie Schilling** to implement C-100's California Education Initiative.

Kathy is not a New York novice, as she once interned at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. With her strong West Coast connections, private foundation experience and non-profit background, Kathy should get her wish to expand C-100's collaborations.



Who's Who AT THE C-100 OFFICE

Since Alice Mong became Executive Director in January 2003, the Committee's office staff has changed significantly as ambitious, young staff members come on board to fill newly-created positions and replace departing staff members. In addition to the full-time Program Director Kathy Lee (see story), the full-time staff has been enhanced by Alice Chen, Information Technology Administrator, and two Office and Program Assistants, Kristine Young and Michael Lee.

Alice Chen is maintaining the office's computer network and website and has a degree in computer science from Queens College CUNY. Kristine Young graduated in 1999 from Pace University with a B.A. in Marketing, and Michael Lee has a degree in East Asian Studies from the University of Pennsylvania and teaches lion dancing

and kung-fu at the New York Chinatown YMCA.

The Manager of Public Relations is An Ping, a full-time staff member since 2001, who came to the Committee with many years of experience in journalism and communications with Airbus, Forbes Magazine, and the OECD, working in Beijing, Hong Kong and Paris. Theresa Kim is C-100's Development Consultant, also joining the staff in 2001. Christina Kuo, who graduated in May 2002 from the Parsons School of Design in Communications Design, is a part-time staff assistant.

Leaving the staff recently have been Wing To Chu, a Math major who is transferring from the Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY, to Cornell University, and



Top Row From Left: Howard Luo, Ana Lai, Alice Mong, Kristine Young, Wing To Chu, David Kuo, Tim Wang; Bottom Row: Theresa Kim, Nissara Horayangura, An Ping, and Alice Chen. (August 2003)

Howard Luo, a Computer Engineering student at City College CUNY, who joined the staff in 1998. This August, Nissara Horayangura, C-100's Research Analyst, returned to her family home in Thailand, after joining C-100 in 2002 as a Harvard University graduate. Ana Lai, who was C-100's office manager, has now entered the investment banking field.

This year's summer interns were David Kuo of Virginia Tech and Tim Wang from Brown University.



**FROM THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
S. ALICE MONG**



Like many Asian Americans, I have been following the Captain James Yee case with great interest. As of this writing, he has been released after 76 days of solitary confinement on suspicion of espionage and is awaiting a military hearing on new charges of adultery and downloading pornography on a government computer. (I cannot help but wonder how many other military personnel are also guilty of these two charges.) Whatever Captain Yee is guilty of, I hope that the course of justice is fully served, and, to paraphrase Dr. Martin Luther King, that Captain Yee will not be judged by the color of his skin but by the content of his character.

I must confess that some of my concern with this case stems from having a brother in the Army Reserves. After three years of active duty with the U.S. Army based in Germany, my brother has served 18 years in the Reserves.

Needless to say, I am very proud of him. On the eve of his possible deployment, I would like to believe that the military that gave unlimited opportunity to people like Secretary of State Colin Powell and General Eric Shinseki, retired Army Chief of Staff, is the same military that my brother now loyally serves in.

It's been a year since my return from Asia and being appointed Executive Director of C-100. I have loved every minute of this job, as I am passionate about the dual mission of the Committee and the opportunity to work with our members and to meet those of you in the Asian American community who share our vision of "Seeking common ground while respecting differences."

On the domestic front, members like **Frank Wu, Helen Zia, Iris Chang, David Henry Hwang** and **Henry Tang** have been working tirelessly to share Chinese American stories and experiences with the general public through their writings and television documentary work. I know they have inspired other Asian Americans to follow in their footsteps.

In Greater China, C-100 member Dr. **David Ho** (who will be honored at our 13th

annual conference in Pasadena) continues to play an active role in promoting awareness of AIDS in China. For details of his work, see "China's Secret Plague" (*Time Magazine*, Dec. 15, 2003) on our website www.committee100.org under "Members in Action."

On the cultural front, the C-100 Cultural Institute has been launching new cultural exchange projects under the leadership of its chair, **Shirley Young**. For an exciting update of Cultural Institute activities, you can view video clips of the 2003 Shanghai International Artists Festival featuring C-100 member **Tan Dun**, at www.ci.committee100.org.

As 2003 draws to an end, I want to wish you all a happy holiday and a peaceful Year of the Monkey.



Committee of 100

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