LIFE ON THE LUCE

Luce Scholars Reflect on the Program's First 50 Years

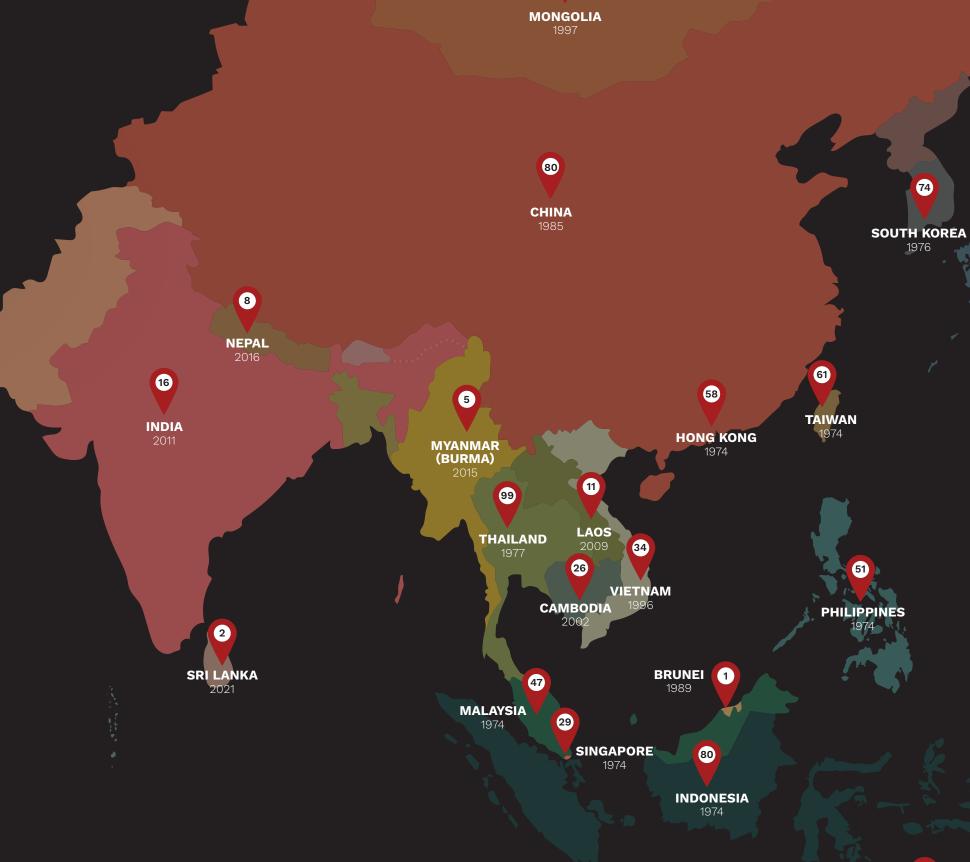


LIFE ON THE LUCE

50 YEARS OF LUCE SCHOLARS



AGIANCE AT OUR PIACEMENTS IN ASIA



12

108

JAPAN 1974

TIMOR LESTE

MAP KEY

NUMBER OF SCHOLARS PLACED



COUNTRY
FIRST YEAR SCHOLAR
WAS PLACED

CELEBRATING THE TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPACT







1978–1979 Luce Scholars cohort in China, July 1979. Also included in the photo are two Luce Scholar spouses and Asia Foundation staff

"Transformative" is often the first word we hear Luce Scholars use to describe their year in Asia. Indeed, our respective years as Luce Scholars transformed each of our lives, led us to meet one another and many other extraordinary Luce Scholars over the years, and eventually become co-chairs of the Board of the Henry Luce Foundation.

The 50th anniversary of the Luce Scholars program thus offers us an occasion to celebrate the remarkable transformational impact that the program has had on each of our lives, the lifelong friendships made, and the enrichment that comes from living and working in an Asian culture. For the Foundation, the impending anniversary—and the exigencies of the pandemic—provided an opportunity to refresh the approach to the application process, sharpen the focus on leadership development, and further enhance the individual and collective experience.

While we face a very different world in the 2020s than the times of the Vietnam War and Cold War of the 1970s, the nation's need for leaders of all kinds to be familiar with and sensitive to the complexities that abound within the Asian region is no less urgent. The commitment of the Henry Luce Foundation is as strong as ever to ensuring that "transformative" remains the defining feature of the Luce Scholars experience for many decades to come.



TERRENCE B. ADAMSON

My own transformative year was the second year of the program in 1975, when as a former newspaper reporter and young lawyer of the south I was blessed to become a Luce Scholar at the age of 28. With no previous passport nor any international experience whatsoever, I found myself in a cohort that included a fish pathologist, an architect, a theatre engineer, an urban planner, several journalists, a doctor, a securities analyst, and an economist. As the first trailblazing class of Luce Scholars were then in Asia, there were in 1975 no alumni to consult and learn from. Four of us in 1975–1976 were in Japan. While I was in a Japanese law firm in Tokyo, the unique cultural dynamics of the country and other parts of Asia available to us were gained in no small part through the many shared experiences of that year's Luce Scholar cohort. I cannot thank them enough.

Terrence Adamson—a Luce Scholar in Tokyo, Japan (1975–1976)—was the former Vice President of Global Law Affairs and General Counsel of Boeing International (retired in 2020). He became Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Henry Luce Foundation in 2022, alongside fellow Director Debra Knopman. With extensive experience, Adamson served as Executive Vice President of the National Geographic Society (1998–2015), fulfilling roles such as Chief Legal Officer, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, Senior Advisor to the President and CEO, and head of International Publishing. He also held positions on several notable boards including The Asia Foundation, The Carter Center, and the State Justice Institute. His legal career includes roles in prominent law firms, senior positions at the U.S. Department of Justice, and a stint as a staff reporter for The Atlanta Constitution. Adamson earned his B.A. in 1968 and his J.D. in 1973 from Emory University, where he was recognized as one of Emory's 175 history makers.



DEBRA S. KNOPMAN

I had the good fortune of being part of the fifth year of the program in 1978–1979, having just completed a master's degree in civil engineering (water resources planning) at the age of 25. My near-complete lack of knowledge of all things Asia certainly enhanced my application. With many choices of placements, I ended up in Taiwan working for a rural development agency, splitting my time between the main office in Taipei and an irrigation association in Yunlin County located in Taiwan's western coastal plain. Making the year even more interesting, President Jimmy Carter announced on December 16, 1978 that the United States would break formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan and instead open an embassy in Beijing. Nonetheless, I was able to have an engaging and meaningful work experience. Perhaps even more important, lasting impacts on my life came from my full immersion in everyday life in Taiwan, learning

enough Mandarin to comfortably converse, visiting mainland China as part of our cohort's wrap-up session in 1979, and best of all, my enduring friendships with my fellow Luce Scholars.

Debra Knopman—a Luce Scholar in Taiwan (1978–1979)—is Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Henry Luce Foundation since 2022 and holds multiple prestigious roles. She is currently an adjunct researcher at the RAND Corporation and a professor at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. Knopman's expertise spans hydrology, environmental and natural resources policy, systems analysis, and public administration. Her career highlights include serving as Vice President of RAND and Director of RAND's Justice, Infrastructure, and Environment Division (2004–2014) and as a Principal Researcher (2014–2022). Previously, she was a member of the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (presidential appointment, 1997–2003), chairing the Site Characterization Panel. Knopman also directed the Progressive Policy Institute's Center for Innovation and the Environment (1995–2000) and served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the U.S. Department of the Interior (1993–1995). Earlier roles include positions at the U.S. Geological Survey and legislative and staff roles in the U.S. Senate. Knopman holds a Ph.D. in geography and environmental engineering from Johns Hopkins University, an M.S. in civil engineering from MIT, and a B.A. in chemistry from Wellesley College.

From the Luce Foundation President



ince 1974, the Henry Luce Foundation has sent cohorts of early career leaders from the United States to Asia, investing in the idea that immersive, cross-cultural experiences can shape lives and build bridges between the United States and the countries, cultures, and communities that comprise Asia. In partnership with The Asia Foundation, these emerging leaders have been placed in a wide range of sites from architects' ateliers and museums to social enterprises and newsrooms.

Now, 50 years later, the Luce Scholars network demonstrates that bet's value. These more than 800 Scholars, hailing from diverse fields, have been shaped by their experiences and left an indelible mark on the Program. Their stories, some of which you will find in this publication, are a testament to the fact that there's no better way to foster mutual understanding and a sense of common purpose than through sustained, immersive, in-person engagement with others.

Henry R. Luce would not find this surprising. Born and raised in Asia until his early teens, his experiences influenced him throughout his life, from founding the global magazines *Life* and *Time*, to his philanthropic commitment to fostering better understanding and connections between American and Asian countries and cultures. This same spirit, the deep knowing of what connection on a human level can do, led to the creation of the Luce Scholars Program.

In marking this anniversary, the Scholars reflect on four foundational themes that have shaped the essence of the Luce Scholars Program: leadership, understanding, immersion, and connection. These themes serve as the scaffolding upon which our Scholars have built their experiences and outcomes, each story a testament to the power of cultural exchange.

Even as governments and individuals may seek to discourage cross-cultural understanding and exchanges, we remain steadfast in our mission. It is in these moments of connection, in these acts of mutual respect and empathy, that we find hope for a brighter, more equitable future.

During my tenure at the Luce Foundation, I have had the honor of meeting numerous Luce Scholars. They often express their gratitude for the Luce Year and how it has shaped and guided their life paths. Many of them ask how they can contribute. In response, I would say: Keep your connections with the world and each other. Maintain an open heart and open mind, fully engaging the diverse cultures and people you encounter on their terms. Nurture your connections across generations of Scholars, which many of you already do. Through these connections, our mission is carried forward, person to person, country to country, and generation to generation, for years to come.

Sincerely,

/aulio Lilver Mariko Silver

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FROM THE LABORATORY TO THE FIELD

While in graduate school at the University of Texas at Austin, Christopher Stanfill faced a dilemma. He was torn between his research path in prosthetics and a yearning to work in the field.

"I was feeling unmotivated about where my future pathway was taking me as a researcher. I started to understand that my future was a laboratory, behind computers, doing analytics and research," Christopher said.

Immersed in prosthetics research, Christopher realized the confines of the laboratory-controlled environment stood in stark contrast to the dynamic complexities of reallife interactions with individuals facing disabilities. The turning point came during a cornerstone class project that sparked inspiration.

"The final project was to research a biomechanical issue and create an argument. I learned about a hospital in Cambodia regionally known for building affordable prosthetics. I was inspired. So, for my final project, I designed and created a prosthetic made from natural materials that could be found in a place like Cambodia. I used bamboo, recycled rubber, and recycled plastics. Shortly after that project, I got an email from the university about the Luce Scholars Program, and because of my interest in Cambodia, it felt serendipitous."

Christopher didn't make the final cut of the Luce Scholars Program when he applied that year. But he was undeterred. Through active involvement in graduate student governance and advisory roles, he honed his leadership skills and earned a second chance to pursue the Luce Scholars Program in Laos.

Christopher's research in Laos during and after his Luce Year was scientific work around how people use wheelchairs. It was looking at the quality of life, learning what it means to be a disabled person in a rural area. What do a mobility aid, a prosthetic, a cane, a crutch, and a wheelchair mean

to that person? And, importantly, what does it mean to the family and the community? Can a wheelchair start changing how people think about the ability level of people who need help?

"Laboratory experiments are very controlled, and though useful for testing out novel ideas, ideas are much more powerful when coupled with experience in the real world," Christopher explained.

After his Luce Year, Christopher returned to the United States with renewed purpose.

"I started a career in international development that led me to work in the arenas of health, education, public policy, and economic development. My career path has now come full circle, as I am now the executive director at Mobility Worldwide. We distribute to more than 100 different countries. The origin of my work now begins from my experiences as a Luce Scholar more than a decade ago."

As Christopher continues to navigate the complexities of the global landscape, he remains guided by the lessons learned from his transformative Luce Year experience, embracing the power of empathy, innovation, and authentic leadership to drive meaningful impact in the world.

"Laboratory experiments are very controlled, and though useful for testing out novel ideas, ideas are much more powerful when coupled with experience in the real world."



Christopher "C.J." Stanfill, Ph.D. is the Executive Director of Mobility
Worldwide. He is a social impact professional with more than a decade of
experience leading initiatives designed to improve the lives of the world's
most marginalized, ensure that everyone's basic human rights are upheld,
and create environments where people have access to pathways that help

them reach their full potential. Prior to joining Mobility Worldwide, he worked to improve public primary school systems around the world, evaluated public-private partnerships in Liberia, designed community-and parent-led education interventions in Tanzania, and studied wheelchair service delivery throughout rural areas of Laos.

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Satu Limaye, Ph.D., is Vice President of the East-West Center and Director of the East-West Center Research Program. He directs the Asia Matters for America initiative and is the founding editor of Asia Pacific Bulletin. Satu is a senior advisor at the Center for Naval Analyses and recently served on the Center for New American Security Task Force on the U.S.-Philippines Alliance, United States Institute of Peace Senior Study Group on the North Pacific, and Global Taiwan Institute-Taiwan Asia Exchange Foundation project on Taiwan's New Southbound Policy. He serves on the Korea Economic Institute Advisory Council and editorial board of East Asian Policy and is the regional editor of Global Asia.

I FOUND A MODEL FOR MY MISSION

In 1992, I arrived in Japan for my Luce Year, having recently completed my Ph.D. and worked in the nuclear energy sector. The Luce Scholars Program provided me with pure intellectual stimulation and a fresh perspective on the world, exactly what I was looking for.

I was placed at the Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA), a government think tank that was part of the foreign ministry. During my time there, I learned about how different

governments and non-government institutions pursued relations among countries. Before that, I wasn't aware of think tanks affiliated with the government, and it became a professional model for me.

My Luce Year had a significant impact on my career path, as it instilled a desire in me to bridge the gap between Asia and the United States. Currently, as the vice president of the East-West Center, I lead the Asia Matters for America initiative, which provides information on the impact of Asia on our daily lives. I continue to collaborate with institutions and governments across Asia, leveraging the networks and relationships I forged during my Luce Year.

The relationships I built as a Luce Scholar have stood the test of time and flourished over the years. I am welcomed with open arms in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Japan, thanks to the enduring bonds formed through shared experiences and mutual respect.



Satu, pictured in Tokyo at JIIA with Ambassadors Matusnaga and Umezu, his mentors on the Luce.

The Luce Scholars Program played a significant role in my professional journey and continues to inspire me to bridge the gap between cultures and foster understanding on a global scale. I was looking for something to set me alight, and I found it, and keep finding it, in the work I do every day. 99

"Later, moving to San Francisco, I couldn't stop price comparisons. This green juice is \$12 What could I do with \$12 in India? Everything Millions of ideas became a reminder of the entrepreneurial opportunities witnessed in India-ideas that thrived with minimal resources."

Revisiting Dharamshala, a town Zim once called home, during her 2019 honeymoon



A BUSINESS IDEA BORN OUT OF HARDSHIP

Stepping into India as a Luce Scholar, I was prepared for differences—the food, the language, the curious gazes. Yet, nothing could have prepared me for the intensity of the staring. It was constant, unrelenting, and initially overwhelming. People would stop their cars, get out, and take out their phones to take pictures of me.

However, through perseverance and acquiring Hindi, I found my voice and confidence amidst the scrutiny. As a Luce Scholar, you must be committed to the program and the language acquisition. No matter what happens, how uncomfortable you feel, or how challenging things feel, you are dedicated to the Luce Year.

When I returned home, I was financially depleted but spiritually enriched. The contrast between the bustling streets of India and the quiet suburbs of California was stark. Nobody was on the street; nobody talked to each other or knew their neighbors. It felt so empty.

Later, moving to San Francisco, I couldn't stop price comparisons.

This green juice is \$12. What could I do with \$12 in India? Everything. Millions of ideas became a reminder of the entrepreneurial opportunities witnessed in India—ideas that thrived with minimal resources.

When I was traveling in India and Asia, I noticed how few African Americans explored beyond traditional destinations. We weren't exploring the world. We weren't going to Mongolia China, and the Philippines. I didn't know anybody who looked like me who would go to Kuala Lumpur for the weekend. And just like that, with just \$50, the seed for Travel Noire was planted: a global travel company catering to Black travelers.

When I sold Travel Noire in 2017, it had reached more than 2 million travelers. The journey from conception to success was not without its challenges, but the lessons learned during my Luce Year provided the foundation for resilience and innovation.

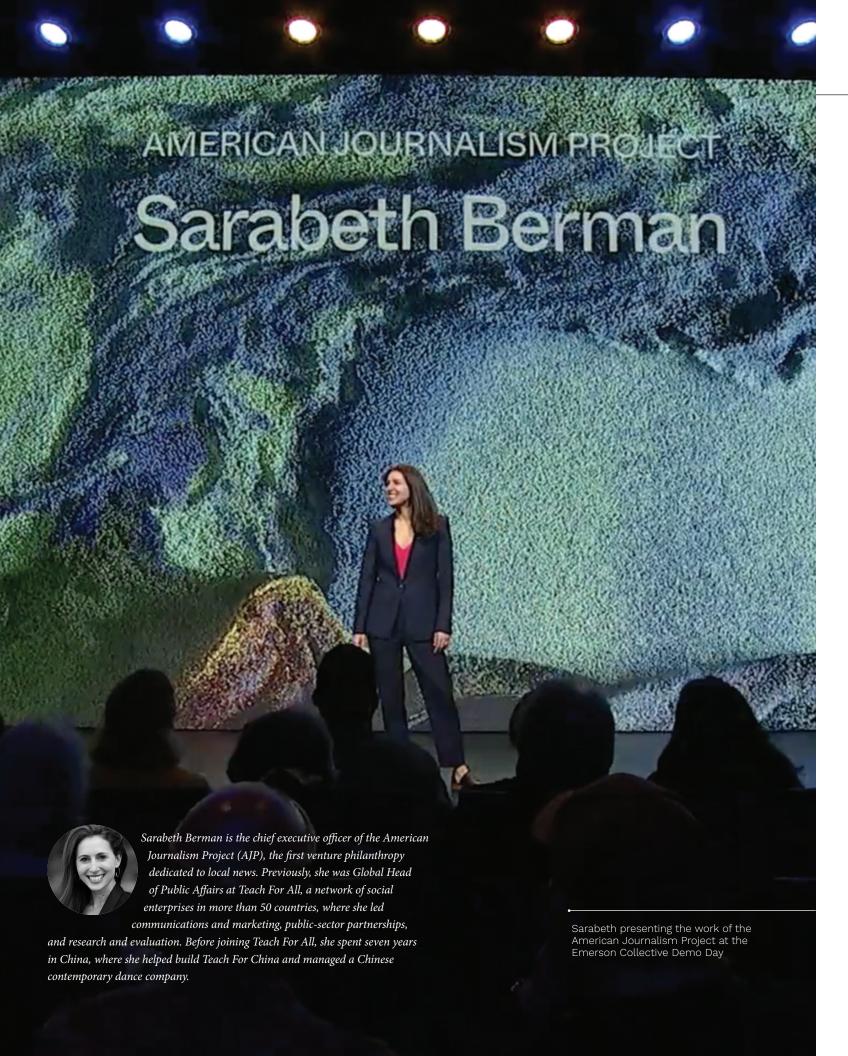
The Luce opened me up in ways I'm still trying to reconcile today. It

was such a unique experience. I will never forget one of the last nights in Laos. Our cohort was scrunched into somebody's room, and we sang, 'I want to lay like this forever.' We knew it was special, and we wanted to savor every moment. 99



Zim Flores started Travel Noire, a boutique travel company serving millennials of the African Diaspora. By the time it was acquired in 2017, it reached 2 million travelers

each month and sold out of every product it brought to market. She runs a Christian education company, Morning Assembly. Zim has been featured in The New York Times, TIME, CBS This Morning, ELLE, The Nation Essence, and NPR, among others and was awarded by Glamour magazine as one of 25 Young Women Changing the World. She was selected by Oprah for SuperSoul 100, a collection of inspired leaders using their voices and talents to elevate humanity.



COMPETENCIES FOR A NONLINEAR CAREER

As a student at Columbia University, I produced The Varsity Show, fostering a love for creativity and collaboration. Little did I know that this experience would lay the groundwork for a transformative leadership experience through the Luce Scholars Program.

Placed at the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts, I immersed myself in a melting pot of culture and creativity. On Sunday afternoons, the massive Filipino community of domestic helpers took over the streets of Hong Kong, picnicking and enjoying the day off. One day, they put on a spontaneous show. Later, I learned that they had studied performing arts in the Philippines. I started working with them every Sunday to produce a play about their lives. And because I'd been working at the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts, I had access to talented people who could volunteer their time: a lighting designer, a stage designer, a costume designer, and a videographer who did these short documentary spots. We found a donor in Hong Kong to help us produce the play, and at the end of

the year, we made a documentarystyle show about their lives at the Hong Kong Fringe Club.

Not much later, I met this guy named Willie Chow, the father of contemporary dance in China. Toward the end of my Luce Year, I felt like I had just started to scratch the surface of my experience in China, and I wanted to stay longer and move to the mainland. I asked him for advice, and he offered me a job at a dance company in Beijing. After my Luce Year, I worked for that dance company for three years, going on a global tour. It helped me learn the language because I was traveling with a group of artists who didn't speak English. I was helping them navigate the foreign world, but I was also learning a language alongside them. And while I was there, I met my husband, a reporter for The Chicago Tribune.

When you're a foreigner abroad, you are both learning about the place and feel like an ambassador of the place you're coming from. I had spent almost a decade working on global issues and wanted to turn my attention to home.

I built a lot of conviction around the role that a thriving press plays in our democracy in terms of holding power to account and giving people the tools and information they need to feel actively engaged in their communities. I ended up at the American Journalism Project. The founders raised money to start this initiative and sought a CEO who understood what it took to build thriving nonprofits.

The Luce Scholars Program was an extraordinary experience—it instilled confidence and purpose, empowering me to embrace leadership opportunities and a nonlinear career with courage and conviction. At no point did I ever imagine that I would lead a venture philanthropy, rebuilding local news across the country.

It is so powerful to have an institution say to you, 'We believe in you. We think you're a future leader and want to support you.' I think the Program picks great people. But some of it is because they told us they believed in us and invested in us. **99**

CULTURE IS NOT JUST FORM, IT'S COMMUNICATION

My planned Luce placement was with the parliamentary vice minister of the Environmental Agency in Japan. An election just before I arrived, however, resulted in a change in government, and my sponsor was shuffled out of that position. So, I began the series of flights to Tokyo with no job placement, no housing, and negligible Japanese language skills—the beginning of many transformative exercises in adaptation during my Luce Year and beyond.

I applied for the Luce because I felt I was drifting in law school. The Luce Year opened the world to me, focused my professional interests, and instilled a salutary combination of

fearlessness and receptiveness that has propelled me through the subsequent four decades. As I worked for the first time in another language and traveled across East Asia during holidays, I developed an understanding of how culture and context influence communication, both verbal and nonverbal, and how different people



Welcoming Secretary Clinton to the Cook Islands.



Being taught to plait 'afa by a Samoan craftsman.



Presenting the U.S. Marine Band for a command performance for the Maori king. From left, Amb. Huebner, Kingi Tüheiti, Te Atawhai, and the Ambassador's spouse, Dr. Duane E.



receive information differently. I learned the important lesson that what matters is not what I say but what you hear and perceive.

Instead of settling into corporate law practice in Washington, DC as planned after law school, I moved back to the Pacific Rim to do a fellowship in public interest law in Los Angeles, then worked with a Japanese attorney in a California firm, handled cases in dozens of overseas locations for an international firm, and ultimately relocated to Shanghai to establish and manage an office for another firm, which is where I was living when President Obama nominated

me to become the ambassador to New Zealand and Samoa.

In Maori and Samoan cultures, one doesn't jump to the bottom line like so many Americans do. Rather, one acknowledges lineage and cultural forms, shares food and drink, builds a foundation for understanding, and then has the conversation. I credit my Luce Year both with propelling me into an exciting career and with teaching me in my formative years that culture is not just form. Culture, if understood and respected, is how you communicate effectively and build relationships with people. And that lesson has made all the difference in my life. 99

Ambassador David
Huebner is currently an
international arbitrator
based in Southern
California. He served
from 2009 to 2014 as the

United States Ambassador

to New Zealand and Samoa and was the first openly LGTBQ ambassador knowingly confirmed by the U.S. Senate in U.S. history (and the third U.S. ambassador known to be gay). His tenure was marked by significant improvement in bilateral relations, with commentators observing that relations became stronger and closer than they had been in decades. Before being appointed Ambassador, he worked as an international lawyer in Los Angeles, Shanghai, and several other locations, specializing in international arbitration and

mediation.

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"There I was, a gay, Black kid from South Carolina, in a newsroom in Thailand, witnessing one of the biggest democratic elections. It had nothing to do with me, but I can't think of a better experience to observe."

SEEING MY COUNTRY THROUGH A NEW LENS

Fleeing abroad to escape the oppression of racism, writers such as James Baldwin and Richard Wright inadvertently gained the perspective crucial for combating racial inequalities in the United States. Brandon Tensley seized upon this notion when the Luce Scholars Program opportunity arose.

Brandon worked at *The Irrawaddy*, a Burmese magazine based in Northern Thailand that was started by student journalists who were in exile from Burma in the early 1990s. "There is a certain clarity that comes from viewing your country overseas," Brandon said. Being a Black person in Thailand as the United States approached the 2016 election—President Obama was still in The White House, and Trump was running—guaranteed a lot of questions from the Burmese people Brandon encountered.

"I would get in a taxi, and the driver would ask me what I thought about Obama, what it felt like to be Black in the United States at a time when somebody like Trump was running for president. They would say, 'Man, this guy Trump will be your next president after you've had your first Black president. How does that feel?"

These questions forced Brandon to articulate the different relationships and dynamics, which, as a journalist, he found incredibly valuable. In hindsight, he realized that the Burmese were seeing something most Americans missed in the United States when it was happening.



"They saw very clearly that the Trump presidency was going to happen before Americans did, and they saw it as a white backlash against the first Black president," Brandon explained.

Brandon was traveling between two offices, one in Northern Thailand and one in Burma when they were covering the 2015 Myanmar election. The air was hopeful as people marveled at their chance to participate in the most democratic polls they had held in decades. The newsroom "was emotional, crazy, and exhausting." His colleagues—people who had lived in Burma for their entire lives, colleagues who had lived under different military regimes were excited about the sea change when they elected Aung San Suu Kyi.

"It was extraordinary. It is one of those moments, one of those nights

I'm most grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of. There I was, a gay, Black kid from South Carolina, in a newsroom in Thailand, witnessing one of the biggest democratic elections. It had nothing to do with me, but I can't think of a better experience to observe. What has happened to Burma since is such a sad study in contrast," Brandon said.

One of the biggest things Brandon came back with from his time in Thailand, which he tries to hold on to, is a journalistic hunger to learn and be more curious about something. He didn't know enough about anything when he was in Burma and Thailand. He spent so much time learning about his ignorance. He had to do a lot of research, call people, find out what was happening—basic reporting in many ways.

November 8, 2015

Under military rule since 1962, Myanmar (Burma) held its first contested national elections since 1990 in November 2015. Burmese citizens are photographed awaiting the results of what was by the National League for Democracy, widely celebrated throughout the country.





Brandon Tensley, reporter for Capital B.

Brandon now writes for *Capital B*, a Luce Foundation grantee. One of the issues he has followed closely is the voting rights litigation and the cases around redistricting and racial gerrymandering, which he said is *really, really complicated*.

"It's much less dramatic than what is happening in Myanmar; it's much more like watching a slow-motion car crash. I see these cases making their way through the courts and how different appellate courts rule, and it's like, my God, these cases are all going after the Voting Rights Act. First, this section and now this section."

And now, like the Burmese people who foresaw the American election, Brandon has a sense of foreboding about the future that keeps him grounded and committed to his reporting.

"It's as if the strategy is to chip away at the crowning legislative achievement of the civil rights movement until it becomes a dead letter. It's not a military coup. It's a much less eye-grabbing democratic decline, but I can see a path where ten years from now, the democratic safeguards we have don't exist anymore. 99



Brandon Tensley is the national politics reporter at Capital B, a first-ofits-kind, local-national nonprofit newsroom for Black audiences where

he covers the impact of policy and political movements on Black people in America. He also writes Everything's Political, Capital B's race and culture newsletter. Previously, he was a national political writer at CNN, where he covered the intersection of culture, identity, and politics and wrote Race Deconstructed, CNN's newsletter about race and identity. Prior to that, he was the associate editor at New America, a co-host of Slate's Outward podcast, and a contributing writer at Pacific Standard.

"It's a much less eyegrabbing democratic decline, but I can see a path where ten years from now, the democratic safeguards we have don't exist anymore."

LOSS OF FACE

Upon arriving at my placement organization in Thailand, I was met with tragic news—the leader and several staff members had died in a plane crash just days prior. The ensuing chaos left me adrift, unaware of what to do amidst the disarray. Despite the uncertainty, I sought alternative placements and contributing opportunities.

My quest led me to temporary roles and unexpected challenges, including a stint at the International Rescue Committee that ended abruptly due to a government raid. The impatient American in me was getting agitated. These experiences, though frustrating, served as profound lessons in cultural dynamics, how differences can inadvertently lead to misunderstandings, and the importance of patience and understanding.

In Thailand, 'loss of face' carries significant weight. It's more than mere embarrassment—it touches upon deep-seated cultural values. Sharing my grievances inadvertently caused discomfort for my colleagues. It was a lesson for me in the importance of cultural sensitivity and awareness.

Over time, I found myself adapting not only linguistically but also in mannerisms and tone, reflecting a deeper integration into Thai cultural norms. This transformation was even noted by my family during a visit and underscored the profound impact of immersion experiences on personal identity.

The challenges faced during my Luce Year were not unique; each cohort member grappled with similar obstacles. Yet, through these trials, we gained invaluable insights and emerged with expanded worldviews. The Luce Scholars Program's most significant impact lies in its ability to foster understanding and empathy through immersive experiences in unfamiliar communities. **99**

Karen Tumlin is a nationally recognized impact litigator focusing on immigrants' rights. Karen is the founder and director of Justice Action Center, a nonprofit dedicated to achieving greater justice for immigrant communities through impact litigation. She successfully litigated numerous cases of national significance, including a challenge to the Trump Administration's effort to end the DACA program and its Muslim Travel Ban, as well as the constitutional challenge to Arizona's notorious anti-

immigrant law. She formerly served as Director of Legal Strategy and Legal Director for the National Immigration Law Center, where she built a legal department of more than 15 staff who developed and led cases of national impact.

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OPENING AN APERTURE TO CULTURAL NUANCE

I was placed in Hong Kong working at the U.S.-China Law Project, an innovative initiative regarding the rule of law and democracy-related issues launched in the lead-up to the historic "handover" of Hong Kong from the United Kingdom to China in 1997. This placement also built upon my prior human rights work in Africa. The Project was spearheaded

by Jerry Cohen, a partner at the Hong Kong office of the international law firm Paul Weiss and the renowned founder of the East Asian Legal Studies program at Harvard. I was focused in my research that year on efforts to safeguard core human rights for the citizens of Hong Kong, which was to become a focus of immense international scrutiny in the years to follow. As part of my placement, I also undertook some work, through other Luce Scholar connections, with the Hong Kong Democratic Party on related rights issues, contributing to my political "fix" and furthering my policy interests.

Jerry believed one way to understand the region's political and policy dynamics best was to see them



Speaking with Secretary Hillary Clinton at the State Department about updates on Afghanistan and Pakistan political developments in 2012.



Assessing by military helicopter the extensive damage in Pakistan after the historic floods in 2010, traveling with then Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee John Kerry.



Briefing then Vice President Biden at the UN General Assembly meetings in 2015 about Afghanistan and Pakistan.



An interview with CNN's Christiane Amanpour about U.S. government efforts to successfully broker a government of national unity in Afghanistan after the contested elections there in 2014.

firsthand—and I readily agreed! I thus could travel to Taiwan as an official observer of the first democratic elections there in 1996, as well as undertake research in China. But I could also travel widely, including with other scholars, to countries and areas undergoing enormous changes in their economic development and their approaches to human rights and democracy, including Vietnam, Cambodia, and Tibet. The year was capped off with the phenomenal opportunity that more than half of our cohort took the Trans-Siberian Railroad together from Ulaanbaatar to Irkutsk and then to Moscow.

I wasn't sure at the time how this experience would translate into my career, but the Luce opened the aperture wider for me to combine a commitment to human rights and democratization issues globally with my policy and political interests. The opportunity to travel in Asia gave me remarkable context, which I have used in both my government and private sector work ever since, including an initial exposure to the region's geopolitics and culture and the complex interregional dynamics at play. I felt so lucky and privileged to be part of a very close group of Scholars who were all there in the true spirit of the program to absorb as much as we could, learn everything possible from our experiences and our relationships with each other, and then ultimately bring back and apply lessons we gleaned from this remarkable year, which so enriched our lives and our work. 99



Ambassador Daniel
"Dan" Feldman has
served in senior national
security positions in the
Clinton, Obama, and Biden

administrations, and as the U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan under President Obama. He most recently served in government as Chief of Staff and Counselor to Secretary John Kerry. Previously, he served as the director of Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs at the National Security Council and as Counsel and communications adviser to the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. Dan has been awarded the State Department's two highest awards, the Secretary's Distinguished Service Award and Distinguished Honor Award. He has recently returned to his legal practice at the global law firm Covington & Burling.

28 THE LUCE SCHOLARS

CIARITY AND COMPASSION THROUGH MEDITATION

Before my Luce Year, I worked in Senegal to promote education in communities where young girls were forced into early marriages. Prior to this, I lived in Israel, assisting African asylum seekers and gaining critical insights into the challenging realities of refugee resettlement and human trafficking.

When I was named a Luce Scholar, my goal was to be placed with an organization actively combating human trafficking. I chose Thailand as my placement, drawn not only by its significance to my mission but also by its Buddhist culture, which intrigued me deeply. Growing up in a family that embraced a variety of religious traditions—including Christianity, Islam, and Orthodox Judaism—and while I often took note

of Scriptures in these Holy Books mentioning meditation, it was not a practice I had learned. I found myself attracted to Buddhism, a faith that was new to me and remained to be discovered.

Living and working at a shelter in Thailand that provided refuge for girls who had endured unspeakable traumas, offering them a sense of community and protection from exploitation was both rewarding and challenging. Still, the emotional toll weighs heavy. My boss urged me to take a break, which led me to embark on a 10-day retreat at a forest monastery.

The retreat was a stark departure from my comfort zone. There were no beds—we slept on concrete slabs and wooden pillows. We had to

adhere to strict silence, which tested my endurance. Due to belief in the power of fasting, we received limited meals. I found solace in meditation. Initially, my mind was busy with worries and stressors, but as the days passed, a profound sense of calm enveloped me. By the fifth day, I had transcended the physical discomfort and entered a peaceful place.

Meditation became integral to my routine when I returned to my everyday life. When I think about my Luce Year, two things remain with me now: the gifts of love and trust from the girls motivates me, and the practice of meditation transformed me. This practice grounds me in moments of chaos and uncertainty. If given the chance, I would return to that center in Thailand in a heartbeat. 99

Ouleye Ndoye is a global leader in health and human rights. Her advocacy for girls and women has been highlighted by C-Span, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and Atlanta Voice, among other news outlets. Ouleye continues this work today with Georgia's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council where she is pioneering the development of best practices for how the state of Georgia will respond to agricultural labor trafficking. She is an Ambassador and past member of the Board of Directors for Wellspring Living, a nonprofit organization providing transformative care for victims of sex trafficking—and those at risk with specialized recovery services.



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN IDEALS AND REALITY

In Cambodia, my task was to help represent survivor groups before the International Court. These individuals had endured the horrors of the Khmer Rouge regime, either directly or through the loss of loved ones. My role was humble, more akin to that of an intern, yet it provided me with insight into the complexities of seeking justice on an international scale.

Meeting with survivor groups, reviewing their testimonies, and journeying to rural areas to update them on the progress of their cases, I witnessed firsthand the stark difference between the lofty ideals of justice and its practical implementation. The immense legal proceedings unfolding in distant courts seemed disconnected from the everyday realities of those seeking closure. For many affected by the atrocities, the passage of time had dulled hopes of swift retribution, compounded by the advanced age of both perpetrators and victims.

I had many questions: What truly constitutes meaningful justice in such circumstances? Is it merely the conviction or punishment of perpetrators, even decades later, or does justice entail a broader sense of restoration and healing for survivors? The court, both figuratively and geographically distant, appeared out of touch with the lived experiences of those it sought to serve.

It isn't easy sometimes, both in the United States and in Cambodia, to figure out what justice is. Returning home, I couldn't help but contrast the complexities of the Cambodian justice system with the relative robustness of our own. Despite its flaws, the American criminal justice system offers a level of accessibility and understanding that fosters a sense of hope for resolution within one's lifetime.

My experience in Cambodia left me with appreciation for the importance of bridging the gap between idealistic aspirations and pragmatic realities in pursuing justice at home and abroad. 99







EMBRACING JAPANESE GARDEN DESIGN WITH AN OPEN HEART

Julie Moir Messervy was an architecture graduate student at MIT when she discovered her passion for Japanese gardens while studying East Asian architecture and design.

"I opened a photo book on Japanese gardens and saw Saihoji, the Moss Temple; then Ryoanji, the famous 15-stone garden, and other masterpieces and became utterly obsessed," she recalls.

Japanese gardens are not only aesthetically pleasing, but also deeply rooted in cultural and philosophical principles that offer valuable lessons beyond just landscaping. Selected as a Luce Scholar, Julie was placed with Kinsaku Nakane, a renowned Japanese garden master (Sensei), with whom she worked for more than a vear.

"I started by wheeling wheelbarrows, then helped dig and plant, and eventually the crew taught me how to pluck pines. Most important was being able to watch as Sensei set stones," Julie reflects on her humble beginnings in the field. Her fellow scholars were living

completely different lives. "My friend Terry Adamson had a very professional city life in Tokyo. In Kyoto, I lived in a Zen Buddhist nunnery in a 3-mat room behind the gongs, eventually moving to a larger 6-mat room!" Julie said. "I commuted everywhere by bicycle. I'd bike to language school in the mornings and then either work on site or in Sensei's design office, or visit some of the 80 gardens he recommended seeing."

"Sensei always told me to view these gardens with an open heart; to figure out how energy flows between an observer and a landscape, and to always consider how designers could use that understanding to create gardens of beauty and meaning, whether Japanese-inspired or not," Julie reflected on her immersive experience. The lessons she learned during her Luce Year formed the foundation of her life's work as a landscape designer, author, lecturer, and now tech entrepreneur. "What I learned as a Luce Scholar is at the core of everything that I do. 99

Julie Moir Messervy, founder and CEO of Home Outside, is an award-winning landscape designer and author of nine books. In keeping with her decades-long mission to democratize landscape design, Home Outside has developed AI technology that shows people how to use plantings and good design to make their property more beautiful and climate-resilient. The company was recently nominated for Prince William's Earthshot Prize, the most prestigious global award for climate innovation. She founded Julie Moir Messervy Design Studio, a landscape architecture and design firm in southern Vermont. Her best-known work, the 3-acre Toronto Music Garden, was designed in collaboration with noted cellist Yo-Yo Ma and received the Leonardo da Vinci Award for innovation and creativity.



Professor Nakane—the garden master Julie worked with during her Luce Year—at Tenshin-en, the garden he designed for the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Julie was the project manager. Photo credit: MFA

WHO GETS TO TELL THE STORY?

The Luce was a spectacular experience in so many ways, but what I treasure most is how it gives way to what I call guerrilla diplomacy. That was the essence of its design sending young Americans with little to no experience to Asia to immerse themselves in unfamiliar territory.

Before my Luce Year, I had traveled to Mongolia. In preparing for that trip, I researched all that *The* New York Times had reported about the country. I found that everything written about Mongolia was by a journalist—granted, a revered journalist—who had only been there for one week. He didn't speak the language. He didn't live with Mongolians. But for all intents and purposes, he was the authority on Mongolia. I noted it but didn't interrogate it until I went to Korea.

Even though I was not working for The New York Times then, I'd still get calls from my buddies who would ask me: 'What should I write about Korea?' And really, they should be asking Koreans. It led me to think

about who gets to tell whose story. I became obsessed with primary sources. I didn't want a filtration system. I didn't want somebody else's perspective or economic pressure. The idea that there's primary voice sharing is vital to me. I think it is essential to democracy as well.

When I returned from Korea, I was acutely aware of how poorly mainstream media covered many places because the journalists were too far removed—from the place, the language, or the culture. I started to recognize it as a form of colonial journalism. And I wanted to do work that was an antidote to that.

That interest was a major catalyst in starting BYkids, a nonprofit organization that pairs master filmmakers with youth worldwide who create short documentaries that educate Americans about globally relevant issues. It is the exiled King of Tibet telling his story directly. It is a 19-year-old who was formerly incarcerated on Rikers Island telling his story. It is a Mozambican kid

who has lost both parents to AIDS documenting his life.

I've been on the front lines of reporting many histories in the making—the market crash of 1987, the democratization of South Korea, among others—but I have come to think everything is history. And I hope that the most historical thing I do is give people a platform to share their history. **99**



Holly Carter began her career as a writer and editor at The New York Times and was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. She started a nonprofit

documentary film production company, BYkids, to enable teens around the world to tell their stories through film and to share them on a global stage as a way to teach empathy, ignite important conversations, and inspire a new generation of social activists. The films broadcast nationally on public television, and the films and educational resources are distributed through PBS LearningMedia and Discovery Education, reaching hundreds of millions of viewers and students.



LISTENING, LEARNING, CREATING CULTURE

Bali is a utopic place in the mind of artists. Antonin Artaud, a famous theater visionary from France, had been provoked by Balinese work he saw at the Paris Colonial Exhibition in 1931. As a theatre maker and someone with an interest in mask making, I knew Bali was where I should spend my Luce Year.

The mask work I did in Bali is the most alive in my practice and life. A mask is a beautiful metaphor. Put the mask on as a cover and find an expanded version of yourself to give breath and life. I was learning how to carve masks in Bali and trying to accelerate my apprenticeship. The carvers I learned from were 12thgeneration mask carvers. They had worked their entire life on this form. In Bali, the apprentice sands the mask for ten years before being given the tools to carve it. That is the time signature in which reincarnation is entirely woven into the culture.

They call it rubber time.

Balinese culture is unique in its approach to time. Unlike in the West, there is never an urgency to get things done or to make something happen in a day. I once waited for eight hours at a ceremony because the priest was busy with something else. Performances can also go on for up to nine hours, from 9 p.m. to 4 or 5 in the morning. Unlike in the

West, where people diligently sit in their seats and watch the art, this is a community event where people come and go throughout the performance. Teenagers come for the fight scenes and leave during the boring parts, and everyone apart from the elders departs when the more philosophical sections begin. Then there's the romance, and people get interested and come back. You can hear the crickets chirp, the geckos go, and the gamelan from four towns away, adding to the overall ambiance of the experience.

In theatre, we talk about stage presence. One of my mentors wrote a book called *The Presence of the*







Performers in Bali staging new shows, where the practice of theatre making is constant. Performances occur frequently and can span many,



Actor. The premise is that with acting, you're always trying to live in the present moment, react to things as they are, listen, and be present to your scene partners. It's a Zen idea, but it's also an artistic one. It's similar to the Luce concept of immersing yourself in a community. Listening,

learning, and creating a sense of place in community and culture is essential.

Living in Bali changed every expectation and notion about how life basically works around this globe. It meant the world was much bigger, broader, wilder, and more interesting than I could ever imagine. **99**

Quinn Bauriedel is a co-founder and Co-Artistic Director of the OBIE Award-winning Pig Iron Theatre Company. Since 1995, Quinn has been one of the leading artists with the company, co-creating many of the company's 30-plus original works of theatre and touring them to venues and festivals in Brazil, Germany, Scotland, England, Romania, Poland, Peru, Italy, Ukraine, Lithuania, and Ireland, among others. Quinn has taught courses in acting and

movement theatre since 2002 at Swarthmore College. He has been on the faculty of the Headlong Performance Institute and has taught courses at Princeton University and workshops throughout the country and the world.



A masked performance in Bali, where the art of mask making is deeply engrained in the artistic practice of performance.

"The mask work I did in Bali is the most alive in my practice and life. A mask is a beautiful metaphor. Put the mask on as a cover and find an expanded version of yourself to give breath and life."

IT WAS A TURNING POINT

I wasn't looking for it, but I saw an ad for the Luce Scholars Program in the *Princeton Alumni Weekly*. I thought it was interesting, and I applied. My parents didn't understand this. They were both European immigrants, and they thought I should be happy to have a good journalism job. While my dad championed travel, he came to this country with nothing. He did not think it was a good idea to leave a good job to travel on a fellowship for a year. But when I got the Luce, I knew I was going.

I was placed with *The Nation*, an English-language daily that was published in Bangkok. I was still learning Thai and was far from fluent, and it became clear that I should focus my work on stories that required no facility with the language. At first, I wrote an analysis of the U.S. presidential debates and a few other stories about the American political campaigns, but of course that wasn't why I'd been sent to Thailand.

At the suggestion of a colleague, I started traveling to where fluency in Thai was of no use. I wound up writing about the peace talks between Vietnam and Cambodia. I spent a lot of time on the Thai-Cambodian border, where there were substantial refugee populations. In July 1989, I went to Burma and interviewed Aung San Suu Kyi in her home with a friend from Reuters. It was Suu Kyi's last interview before she was put under house arrest.

At the end of your Luce Year, they give you money to buy a ticket home. You can get that ticket anywhere, so I met my dad in Switzerland. There we heard the news of the quiet revolution in his native Poland, and later in the year we went to Poland together to see the changes first-hand. It was soon after that I got a job at the ABC News bureau in Berlin. I thought then and have thought often since: if I had just stayed in New York, and not had the experience of the Luce fellowship, I would have never gotten that job, or at least not for many more years. I knew that, and I think my father realized it, too.

I got to go to Eastern Europe after the collapse of the Berlin Wall to cover events and shifts that were profoundly important to the world and to my dad. He died of a heart attack only a few months later, in early 1990, but my mother and I always took great comfort in the fact that he had seen the course that I was on.

I've had a great life of engaging journalistic experiences, and later another career with the Asia Society that I'd never have had without the experience of the Luce Year, but my time as a Luce Scholar in Thailand remains among the most rewarding. The term *turning point* is overused, but there's just no question that becoming a Luce Scholar was a turning point for me. **99**

Thomas "Tom" Nagorski is the managing editor at The Cipher Brief, where he oversees coverage of global security, U.S.-China relations, mig ration trends, global economics, and U.S. foreign policy. Tom was a producer and editor with ABC News where he served as managing editor for international coverage and foreign editor for World News Tonight. He was the recipient of eight Emmy Awards and a Dupont Award for excellence in international coverage. From 2012 to 2021, he served as the executive vice president of the Asia Society. He is a graduate of Princeton University and serves on the university's advisory council for the Department of East Asian Studies. He is the author of Miracles on the Water: The Heroic Survivors of a World War II U-Boat Attack





ROOTS, HIP-HOP, AND CULTURAL INSIGHTS

Throughout his Luce Year, Anthony grappled with the concept of connection and rootedness, especially coming from a deeply rooted background in South Central Los Angeles.

"Much of my purpose in medicine and public health is deeply informed by my connection to South Central Los Angeles," Anthony reflected on his hometown. He constantly questioned, "What does a rooted connection mean in this place? What helps enable that connection?"

Meeting his cohort during the New York City Orientation provided the foundation for building tight-knit relationships, laying the groundwork for meaningful connections during their time abroad, even when there was a language barrier.

"It was very abstract, but it helped me dive in deep when I moved to Chiang Mai, Thailand," Anthony said.

Upon arriving in Thailand, he discovered a surprising avenue for connection through hip-hop. Despite initially feeling disconnected from the culture and language, hip-hop served as a bridge to understanding and bonding with the local community.

"Through encounters like meeting Zaa, a hip-hop artist with a similar immigrant experience to my own, I found unexpected points of connection and growth in our shared stories. I ended up creating a song with the hip-hop crew Zaa and I belonged to."

Anthony's placement in Thailand, working with refugees and public health, provided insights into contrasting healthcare systems, highlighting the influence of culture on healthcare behaviors. And then the COVID pandemic hit.

"Ours was the first COVID cohort of Luce Scholars. In March of 2020,

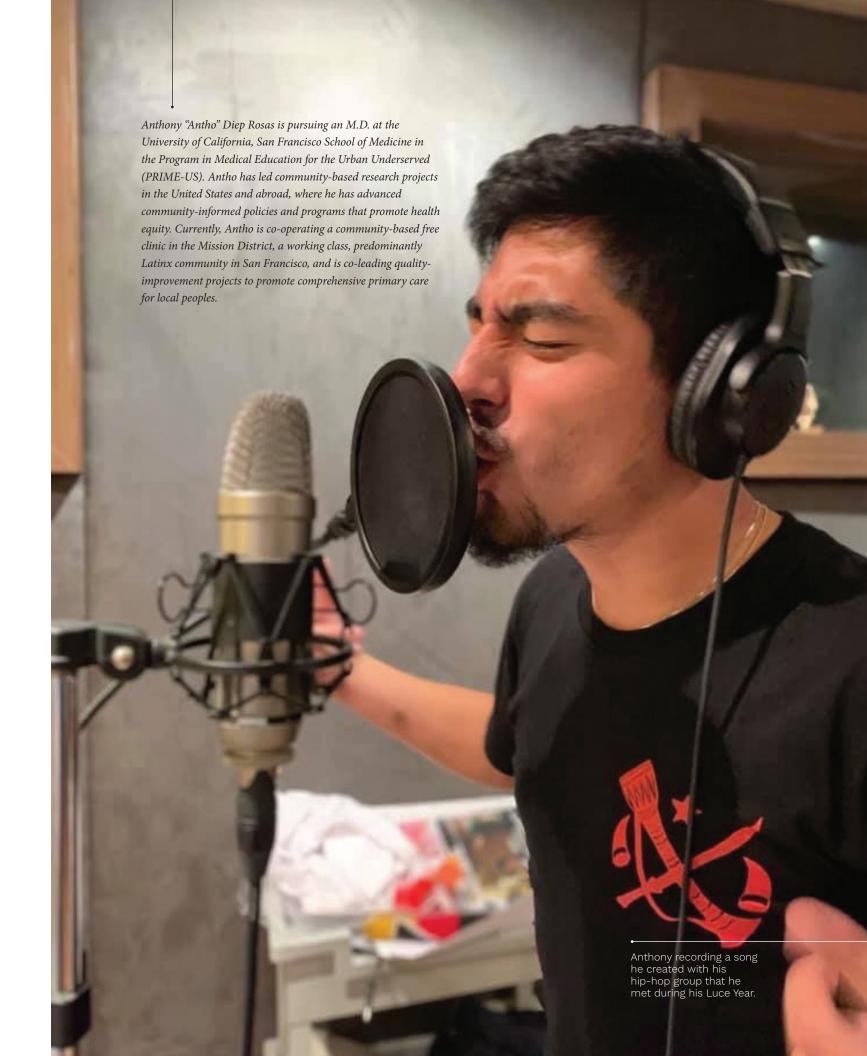
we were given three choices: go back to the States; stay in our country; or evacuate to another country," he said. He opted to go to Japan to shelter with his girlfriend—now wife—
Noa's family.

Throughout the time, he gained a unique perspective on how another country was responding to it, in contrast to what he saw in the States. In Tokyo, everyone wore a mask on the train. Meanwhile, in Michigan, where Anthony went to college, there were protests about mask wearing.

Discussing his insights on culture and healthcare, Anthony noted, "I was talking with my father-in-law and mother-in-law about culture and how that informs or interacts with the healthcare system. And, for them, it was collectivist. They felt a responsibility to each other to wear the mask; they felt a responsibility to that collective space, but also to protect the person next to them, to prevent an inconvenience."

Summing up his Luce experience, Anthony said that the Luce dug deep into his soul and rewired him, transcending professional development.

"The Luce deeply impacted my values, relationships, and worldview. Its emphasis on embracing uncertainty and fostering human connections has reshaped how I navigate personal and professional interactions, leading to personal growth and a deeper understanding of global interconnectedness. 99



TEA, TAI CHI, AND IASTING CONNECTIONS

During my Luce Year, I was placed in Shanghai, China and frequently visited the Tàikāng Lù or Tianzifang neighborhood, to visit a tea shop. I stumbled on this tea shop a couple of months after I arrived in China and slowly became friends with the owner. At first, he invited me to try different teas, and later, he invited me to a Tea Ceremony and Tai Chi. He welcomed me to stay and talk with him as long as I wanted. Sometimes we would talk late into the night. I would go back every week for tea sessions, and our friendship grew stronger as we learned more about each other's interests. We started running together and eventually started to do other activities together like painting, calligraphy, and running marathons. Our friendship deepened as we peeled ourselves back, getting to know each other better over time. I even started getting invited to his family holiday parties, which took some time.

Initially, the language barrier made it challenging to live in China. But I tried to speak Chinese with anyone who would listen to me, including taxi drivers and my university students. When I was applying to be a Luce Scholar, I thought I would go to Asia and learn about sustainability and then bring those practices back to the United States. But after about eight months, I finally had a coherent conversation with a taxi driver, and that's when I realized I was becoming more comfortable. I decided to stay for another year, which turned into six additional years. **99**

Ryan Dick is a climate optimist and builder of programs and teams who believes in the power of collaboration across stakeholder groups and geographies to solve our most pressing sustainability challenges. With a background in sustainable building design and operations, social enterprise, and sustainability strategy, Ryan has worked across industries and at the intersection of sustainable real estate, technology, and occupant and community engagement. He is the Leased Site Sustainability Director at Microsoft.



I landed in Korea in September of 2021, initially as a temporary measure while awaiting my visa for Taiwan. My sights were set on Taiwan for several reasons, primarily because its healthcare system closely resembled Maryland's all-payer model. However, uncertainties arose, and I had to decide—commit to Korea or hold out for Taiwan.

Stepping into Korea, I felt utterly out of my element. I had been immersed in learning Chinese and knew little to no Korean. Yet, I refused to let these barriers deter me. I began cold-emailing professors in Korea whose work interested me, and to my surprise, I received a call back from a doctor at Yonsei University.

Joining Yonsei as a visiting researcher in the Department of Healthcare Management and Policy, I dove headfirst into researching Korea's national health insurance program. While I understood the system theoretically, nothing could prepare me for the stark realities I encountered, especially amidst the COVID pandemic.

Walking into the hospital during the peak of COVID, I was confronted with scenes that challenged my preconceived notions. Despite the widespread belief that East Asian countries handled the pandemic well, I witnessed firsthand the strain on Korea's healthcare system. Doctors worked grueling 18-hour shifts, and patients undergoing chemotherapy were relegated to crowded hallways.

During my time in Korea, individuals like Dr. Han and Dr. Lee at Yonsei played instrumental roles in helping me navigate the complexities of the healthcare system. However, it was Song-Yun, the Luce point person, who truly became my lifeline. Her unwavering support—from helping me secure accommodation to navigating everyday life in Korea—was invaluable.

Interacting with fellow Luce Scholars and alumni, I discovered a shared sense of camaraderie and passion for exploration. Regardless of age or background, conversations with Luce Scholars were consistently stimulating, underscoring the program's enduring impact.

For me, the Luce Scholars experience was a transformative journey of self-discovery and growth. It was a year filled with daily adventures, shaped by my own choices and experiences. The Luce Year was the most exciting year of my life—one that was uniquely mine. It felt like the program gave me the tools, but I was the one crafting this experience for myself, with enriched connections forged and insights gained along the way. **99**



Jason Mazique is the Chief of Population Health at the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission, working toward ensuring that all Marylanders receive comprehensive, equitable, and affordable healthcare. Jason recently graduated with a Master of Philosophy in Population Health Sciences at the University of Cambridge in 2022, with a specialization in primary care research, service delivery, and policy shifts.



REFRAMING THE QUESTIONS



Jason with Tita Comodas during his Luce Year

After years of reporting on socioeconomics, I contemplated a shift toward becoming a social worker, lawyer, or doctor. The decision to apply for the Luce Scholars Program stemmed from this crossroads. Every journalist eventually grapples with the realization that they are observers rather than participants in the issues they cover. Unsure if I wanted to

Luce placement, not as a journalist, but with a nun overseeing a low-income housing project in the Philippines.

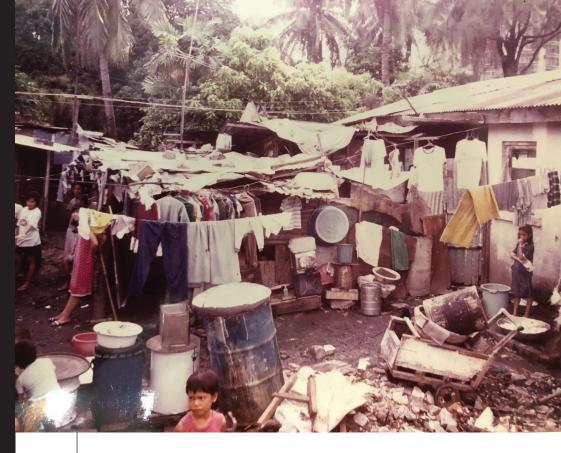
The nun initially assigned me to a dusty office, where I was buried under a stack of grant applications. After a few months of working at this desk, I met Sister Christine Tan, renowned for living with the communities facing barriers. I approached her with remain a mere observer, I accepted the a request to live with a local family.

Our second meeting led to a reluctant resident of the village, Tita, agreeing to take me in. Initially, our interactions were overly polite and formal. It wasn't until I clumsily botched a handicraft project that Tita and I truly connected. We were making paper bags out of newspapers, gluing them together. How could anyone mess that up? Well, I did. Tita laughed. She told me she was going to say that my bags were made in America. Her laughter at my mishap shattered the barriers, paving the way for genuine rapport.

Sister Christine emphasized that my role in the community should stem from the people's vision, yet their uncertainty left me questioning my purpose. Keeping a journal became my solace, gradually answering the questions I had come seeking.

While I could have pursued tangible initiatives like starting a clinic or advocating for affordable housing, my inclination was storytelling. Immersing myself in Tita's life story, I realized journalism was my calling. We talked about her economic deprivation but also her

"My friendship with Tita is one of the closest, most genuine friendships of my life, transcending barriers of education, gender, and nationality."



A photo of the community Jason lived in with Tita and her family.

faith, devotion to family, and personal aspirations.

These discussions expanded my understanding of poverty beyond conventional metrics, encouraging me to delve deeper into individuals' narratives to try to understand the way poor people saw their place in the world and beyond. It taught me that what a poor person thinks is important might not be what an outside analyst of poverty would think to ask.

My Luce experience fundamentally changed me, forging lifelong connections. My friendship with Tita is one of the closest, most genuine friendships of my life, transcending barriers of education, gender, and nationality. Tita's husband, Emet, earned his living as a guestworker in

the Persian Gulf, and all five of his children grew up to become overseas workers as well. 99

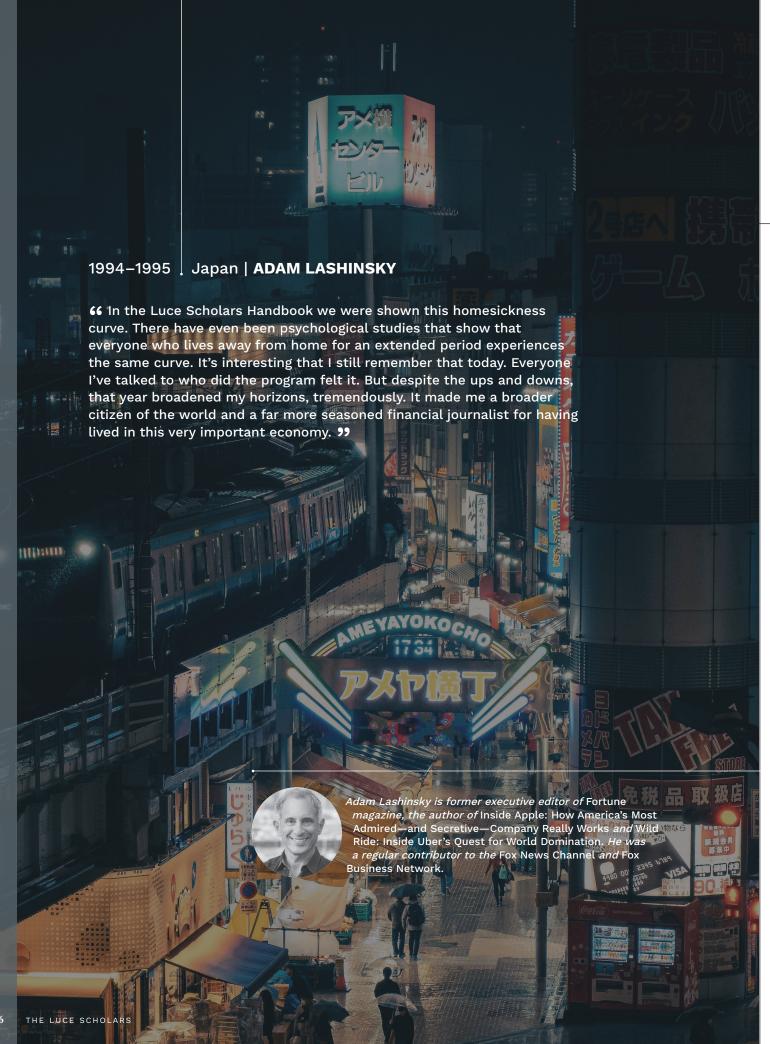


Three decades after Jason DeParle's Luce Year he wrote the book A Good Provider Is One Who Leaves: One Family and Migration in the 21st

Century. Spanning three generations, the book chronicled the age of global migration through the story of Tita and her family. Jason is a senior reporter for The New York Times and has written extensively about poverty and immigration. His book, American Dream: Three Women, Ten Kids, and a Nation's Drive to End Welfare was a New York Times Notable Book and won the Helen Bernstein Award. He is a recipient of the George Polk Award and was a two-time finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

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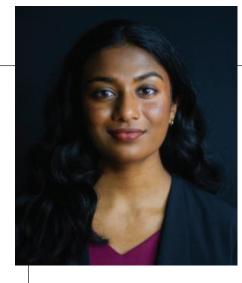




66







1998–1999 | **Singapore**

2012-2013 | **Thailand**

2015-2016 | **Cambodia**

EVAN FRAZIFR

My placement was in Singapore, but the organization was headquartered in Hong Kong, which had branches all over Asia. During my time on the Luce, I had the opportunity to travel to Hong Kong, China, Thailand, and Japan. While book knowledge is valuable, true understanding only comes from firsthand experience and immersion. Living in different places broadened my perspective, teaching me to think on a bigger scale and recognize that things are more connected than we realize. So often people get entrenched with a certain singular thinking, but once we open ourselves up and engage with diverse communities, it opens our minds to endless possibilities and highlights the shared humanity that unites us.

Evan Frazier is the president and CEO of The Advanced Leadership Institute, an organization aimed at cultivating African American executive leadership to strengthen companies, institutions, and communities across America.

JUSTIN HENCEROTH

I've lived abroad ever since I was a Luce Scholar, exposing me to a diverse array of expats, humanitarian workers, and various individuals. What I've noticed is that many expatriates tend to remain disconnected from the places they reside in. Typically, postings abroad are short-term, lasting 2 to 5 years at most. This transient nature creates a constantly changing community. The Luce Scholars Program, however, offers a unique opportunity to truly immerse in a specific place. It's about being deeply rooted in a country and actively engaging with its culture and society; to become integral parts of their host communities, even if it's just for a

Justin Henceroth is the co-founder and CEO of Zite, a digital platform for monitoring and managing physical infrastructure projects and networks.

VARSHA GOVINDARAJU

Everything about the Luce was very different from what I expected it to be. I thought I would strip back to basics, enjoy a year in Cambodia and then go to law school. But eight months into it, I found myself feeling unexpectedly at ease. I had established routines, friendships, and cherished spots. Despite the initial challenges, I reached a point of contentment, pondering how I could stay.

Varsha Govindaraju is a staff attorney in the Trial Division of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia.











1994-1995 | **Hong Kong**

DAVE VIOTTI

I was fresh out of graduate school, and this was one of my first professional experiences. Working in a multicultural office taught me invaluable lessons in navigating interactions with more experienced colleagues—humbling at times, but also rewarding when was able to contribute. That gives you a lot of confidence. It was a year of making mistakes and learning and growing, and I still look back on that year. Even now at 53 years old that year continues to enrich everything I do. The mindset I developed—to step into uncertainty with training wheels, to work through challenges, and emerge stronger, to advocate for social justice—has fueled the entirety of my career. It was an incredible experience that keeps on giving.

Dave Viotti is the Founder and CEO of SMALLIFY, a global innovation firm and method providing leaders and communities with tools to create positive futures for all.

2009-2010 | South Korea

ANDREW GRUEN

When I arrived at my placement—a journalism organization that published in Korean—I barely spoke Korean. They assigned me a desk in the corner of the office, the farthest from the CEO. Over the course of the year, my ability to communicate increased. I did the projects that needed doing and fixed things that needed fixing, and I gradually earned my place within the team. I developed new products. I did some investigative reporting. Eventually, I was invited to travel with the CEO to his hometown for a ceremony. He and his son later visited me in Minnesota, staying with my family. He taught my mom and me how to make bibimbap, one of my favorite Korean dishes. When I returned to Seoul two years later to do fieldwork for my Ph.D., my desk at the company had moved. I was assigned a seat next to the other key people on the team. The program expanded my world in ways beyond measure, and I am eternally grateful.

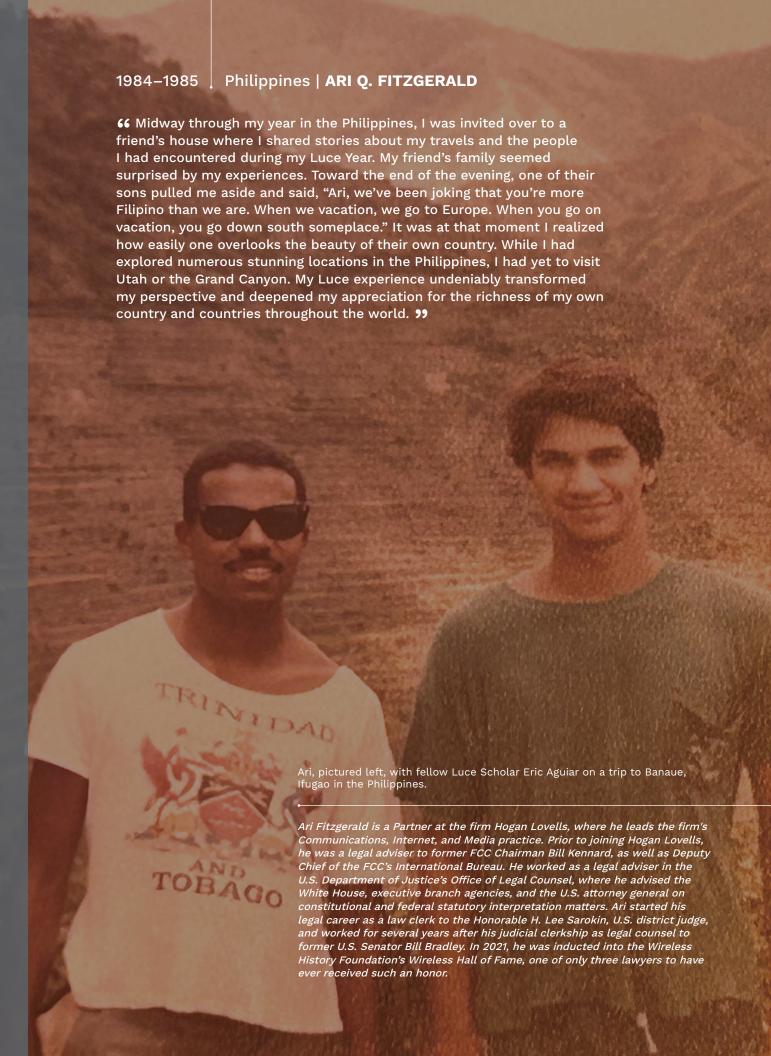
Andrew Gruen is a manager of Strategic Initiatives for Facebook's Open Research and Transparency (FORT) team, an affiliate at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University. 1995–1996 | **South Korea**

KRISTIN RECHBERGER

Living in Korea for a year as a Luce Scholar in 1995 was a transformative experience that imbued in me an invincible sense of possibility. It not only instilled in me the audacity to chase my dreams fearlessly, no matter where they led, but also granted me the ability to forge connections with individuals from all corners of the globe. From my work at the Educational Broadcast System in Seoul to diverse engagements throughout the region, and ultimately to pivotal roles at National Geographic and the founding of Dynamic Planet, the Luce Scholars Program propelled my career, profoundly enriching both my personal and professional journey.

Kristin Rechberger is CEO of Dynamic Planet, a firm that helps advance and invest in markets that restore nature. Prior to founding Dynamic Planet in 2012, Kristin was Senior Vice President of Global Programs and Partnerships at the National Geographic Society.















2003-2004 | South Korea

1987-1988 | South Korea

2011-2012 | **China**

RAVI KAVASERY

Each individual Luce Scholar's experience at their work placement is unique and influenced by their prior work background. Personally, I grew a lot from the bonds I built professionally. However, what became very clear to me very quickly was that some of the most impactful moments during my time on the Luce were rooted in my curiosity, openness to Korean culture, and eagerness to learn the language.

Ravi Kavasery, M.D. is Vice President, chief medical officer of provider performance, quality, and affordability at Blue Shield of California, a nonprofit health plan.

MARY MAZZIO

My experience as a Luce Scholar taught me that we are more alike than we are different, irrespective of all the elements that contribute to a fraying social fabric. That philosophy and knowledge have infused all my work, where we strive to bring together people of different perspectives, and I am so very grateful for my Luce experience.

An award-winning documentary film director, Olympic athlete, and former law firm partner, Mary Mazzio is Founder and CEO of 50 Eggs, Inc., an independent film production company dedicated to making socially impactful films.

CHRISTOPHER MAGOON

Moving to a place where you don't speak the language and are unfamiliar with the culture humbles you, forcing you to exist in a somewhat dependent state. This realization taught me that I don't always require all the answers or need to be an expert.

Christopher Magoon, M.D. is a staff psychiatrist with the Center for Anxiety, Trauma, and Prolonged Grief at Massachusetts General Hospital.



2010-2011 | China

At our wrap-up, I was taken aback by the depth of connection and intimacy I felt with this group. It was a moment of surprise, as I realized the strong sense of camaraderie I had developed with individuals who, truthfully, I hadn't spent much physical time with—given our dispersion across Asia. Our interactions were largely confined to email chains, punctuated by brief visits to scholars in Jakarta, Seoul, Shanghai, and Ulaanbaatar, typically only for weekends. Yet, it was the shared experience that bound us together.

—Ted Alcorn '10

Ted Alcorn reports on health and justice and teaches public health at Columbia University and NYU.



LIFE ON THE LUCE

50 YEARS OF LUCE SCHOLARS

1974-1975

James P. Butler • JAPAN
Heather Willson Cass • JAPAN
William F. Davnie • INDONESIA
Donna A. Demac • SINGAPORE
Robert S. Dohner • SINGAPORE
Lawrence E. Fenster • INDONESIA
Peter F. Hayes • HONG KONG
Bryan C. Jack • JAPAN *
Jeffrey C. Laurence • JAPAN
Michael R. Martin • HONG KONG
Donald W. Quander • MALAYSIA
Diana R. Silimperi • TAIWAN
Suzanne E. Siskel • INDONESIA
Ned S. Stoughton • PHILIPPINES

1975–1976

Terrence B. Adamson • JAPAN
Peter A. Barnes • HONG KONG
David W. Grogan • HONG KONG
James K. Harlan • INDONESIA
A. Willem Kymmell • JAPAN
John A. Mathieson • TAIWAN
Julie Moir Messervy • JAPAN
Jonathan S. Miller • JAPAN
Mary Laurie Phillips • MALAYSIA
Richard L. Rugani • SINGAPORE
Missie Rennie Taylor • PHILIPPINES
Steven A. Wartman • INDONESIA

1976-1977

Joann N. Bodurtha • JAPAN
Susan H. Brawley • JAPAN
Catherine W. Brown • JAPAN
Donald T. Hughston • SOUTH KOREA
Camara P. Jones • PHILIPPINES
Wayne A. Koonce • JAPAN
Marc S. Micozzi • PHILIPPINES
Deloy C. Oberlin • INDONESIA
Lynn Sharp Paine • TAIWAN
Marion M. Preston • MALAYSIA
James R. Richardson IV • HONG KONG
Barbara R. Shoback • JAPAN
Irene M. Solet • PHILIPPINES
Ralph G. Steinhardt • PHILIPPINES

1977-1978

Martha E. Avery • INDONESIA
Robin Broad • PHILIPPINES

Laurie Ellen Christensen • MALAYSIA
Thomas F. Darden II • SOUTH KOREA
Gary R. Edson • JAPAN
Michael J. Freiling • JAPAN
Douglas J. Hamill • THAILAND
James P. Hennessy • INDONESIA
Reginald E. Ishman • PHILIPPINES
Steven Koch • PHILIPPINES
John F.O. McAllister • PHILIPPINES
Carol L. McDonald • MALAYSIA
Diana Krumholz McDonald • INDONESIA
Anne M. West-Wepsala • SOUTH KOREA
William C. Wilka, Jr. • SINGAPORE

1978-1979

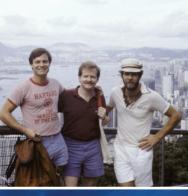
Scott M. Ageloff • SOUTH KOREA
John K. Allen • MALAYSIA
Charles K. Bergman • TAIWAN
Kathryne L. Bernick • MALAYSIA
Lynne C. Breslin • JAPAN
Robert A. Butkin • PHILIPPINES
Ralph A. Child • INDONESIA
Beverly E. Hashimoto • TAIWAN
Flora N. Katz • INDONESIA
Jonathan R. Kaufman • HONG KONG
Bruce A. Kimball • JAPAN
Debra S. Knopman • TAIWAN
Kevin R. McDonald • PHILIPPINES
Michael O. Rich • JAPAN
Daniel A. Waxer • SOUTH KOREA

1979-1980

Kenneth Peter Alduino • PHILIPPINES
Gerald Casenave • TAIWAN
Max Friedman • SINGAPORE
Paul A. Gigot • HONG KONG
Bruce M. Goodwin • JAPAN
Leslie Margolin Gorin • MALAYSIA
Gerald C. Levinson • INDONESIA
John E. Marcom, Jr. • SOUTH KOREA
Anne M. Pincus • SINGAPORE
Deborah Ford Rathnam • JAPAN
Michael L. Riordan • PHILIPPINES
Debra Y. Romero • PHILIPPINES *
Robert W. Tranchin • JAPAN
Michael F. Wenke • SOUTH KOREA
Jill M. Willis • JAPAN

1980-1981

Eileen M. Costello • TAIWAN
Robert T. Fancher • SOUTH KOREA











Adrian A. Fisher • MALAYSIA
Randall M. Fort • JAPAN
Michael L. Gerlach • JAPAN
Joshua R. Ginsberg • THAILAND
Karen M. Kaplan • TAIWAN
John W. Kasckow • JAPAN
J. Grant McGuire • MALAYSIA
David H. Schneider • PHILIPPINES
Kimberly Till • JAPAN
David W. Trotter • HONG KONG
Charles A. Welborn • MALAYSIA
Robert A. Yancey • PHILIPPINES
Robert B. Zoellick • HONG KONG

1981–1982

Alan F. Atkisson • MALAYSIA
Mary E. Braddock • INDONESIA
Montgomery C. Brower • HONG KONG
Robert F. Campany • TAIWAN
Susan Lee Campbell • TAIWAN *
Cynthia Ford Davison • PHILIPPINES
Martha J. Fray • HONG KONG
Bruce G. Gellin • PHILIPPINES
Edward P. Gilbert • SINGAPORE
Stephen C. Haus • JAPAN
Alice R. Markowitz • MALAYSIA
Alan S. Murray • JAPAN
James C. Snipes • THAILAND
Barry S. Volpert • SINGAPORE

1982-1983

John C. Bussey • HONG KONG
Gary M. Cohen • JAPAN
Timur F. Galen • JAPAN
Spencer S. Griffith • HONG KONG
Douglas N. Hamilton • JAPAN
Leonard A. Hockstader • MALAYSIA
Steven T. Kargman • SINGAPORE
Lucy Elizabeth Peterson • INDONESIA
William H. Rees • SOUTH KOREA
John H. Rex • SOUTH KOREA
Sonia Y. Rosario • JAPAN
Hope S. Rugo • PHILIPPINES
Patrick A. Taylor • PHILIPPINES

1983-1984

Thomas C. Agoston • SINGAPORE
Kenneth D. Balick • JAPAN
Michael J. Carroll • PHILIPPINES
Fayre J. Crossley • HONG KONG
Kevin B. Dwyer • MALAYSIA *
Diana L. Farmer • SINGAPORE
Carolyn Cantlay Hart • THAILAND
Gary J. Katzenstein • JAPAN
Richard T. Kenney • THAILAND
J.D. McClelland • PHILIPPINES
Dennis J. Scannell, Jr. • SOUTH KOREA
Joshua D. Schor • JAPAN
Michael E. Specter • HONG KONG

Michael E. St. Louis • INDONESIA Ann Kaufman Webster • JAPAN

1984-1985

Eric I. Aguiar • PHILIPPINES
Lisa A. Beyer • HONG KONG
Andrew J. Delaney • THAILAND
Kim Eveleth • TAIWAN
Ari Q. Fitzgerald • PHILIPPINES
T. Michael Hird • PHILIPPINES
David Huebner • JAPAN
John R. Knight • MALAYSIA
Susan B. Manoff • THAILAND
Anita C. Meyer • JAPAN
Rebecca A. Schatz • JAPAN
Arthur V. Shaw • THAILAND
Paul W. Sperduto • TAIWAN
Marcie J. Tyre • INDONESIA
Mary I. Yarbrough • MALAYSIA

1985-1986

David M. Brisbin • PHILIPPINES
Colleen M. Collins • PHILIPPINES
Edmond I. Eger III • MALAYSIA
Randall L. Exon • INDONESIA
David M. Gruppo • JAPAN
Lucia V. Halpern • THAILAND
Donna S. Jones • INDONESIA
Byron D. Joyner • SINGAPORE
Benjamin D. Levine • JAPAN
Carlos R. Martinez • PHILIPPINES
Edward E. McNally • CHINA
Sarah H. Pedersen • JAPAN
Mary Heim Sadick • INDONESIA
Margaret A. Scott • HONG KONG
Susan M. Wallace • HONG KONG

1986-1987

Peter L. Bain • HONG KONG
Lester L. Barclay • THAILAND
Jennifer S. Burton • JAPAN
Jason P. DeParle • PHILIPPINES
Joseph C. Finetti • THAILAND
Christopher L. Goodwin • INDONESIA
Gregory Larsen • PHILIPPINES
Carl H. Moor • JAPAN
James C. Peterson • SOUTH KOREA
Barbara Ernst Prey • TAIWAN
Richard E. Read . THAILAND
Jonathan T.M. Reckford • SOUTH KOREA
Jennifer Ayer Sandell • THAILAND
Mark J. Sands • HONG KONG
Thomas I. Whitman • INDONESIA

1987-1988

Lisa Armstrong • THAILAND Steven K. Barg • HONG KONG Edward C. DuMont • THAILAND

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mikel A. Durham • THAILAND
Norman M. Feder • SINGAPORE
Richard S. Jacobs • INDONESIA
Thomas R. Lubin • THAILAND
Mary C. Mazzio • SOUTH KOREA
Christopher A. Myers • MALAYSIA
James P. O'Conor • SOUTH KOREA
Aniruddh D. Patel • TAIWAN
Peter H. Rude • PHILIPPINES
J. Adam Schwarz • INDONESIA
Jonathan A. Shimony • JAPAN
Timothy R. Tangherlini • SOUTH KOREA

1988-1989

Jeffrey C. Bitzer • INDONESIA *
Michael J. Corbley • CHINA *
Amy R. Forbes • THAILAND
Jerry V. Glover • TAIWAN *
Todd C. Hart • THAILAND
Thaddeus F. Herrick • INDONESIA
Justin J.T. Hughes • MALAYSIA
Sung Hui Kim • SOUTH KOREA
Thomas G. Nagorski • THAILAND
Henry J. Ritchotte • INDONESIA
Patricia Schoor Rube • JAPAN
Grant R. Simons • THAILAND
Lillian G. Woo • MALAYSIA
Jonathan B. Zax • CHINA

1989-1990

Charles H. Abelmann • MALAYSIA David R. Battino • JAPAN T. Nicholas Dawidoff • THAILAND Joseph A. DiCara • THAILAND Raymond B. Farrow III . TAIWAN Jennifer C. Feikin • MALAYSIA DeWitt A. Godfrey • JAPAN Christina Gomez • BRUNEI Adam Kolker • JAPAN Robert T. Lester • INDONESIA J. Brady Lum • MALAYSIA Dorothea A. Markakis • INDONESIA Terri D. McFadden • TAIWAN Kathleen Healy Merrell • INDONESIA Beniamin R. Miller • TAIWAN Mira Bergstrom Norcross • TAIWAN Robert J. Spinner • HONG KONG Mark J. Usellis • MAI AYSIA

1990-1991

Erica C. Avrami • MALAYSIA
Scott A. Bommer • JAPAN
Holly Ornstein Carter • SOUTH KOREA
Ellen Eisenlohr Dorn • SOUTH KOREA
Charles J. Hanemann • TAIWAN
Paul E. Harney • JAPAN
Joshua J. Litwin • INDONESIA
Ryan O. McDonald • TAIWAN
Mark C. Medish • JAPAN

Mark R. Miller • MALAYSIA
Keith Reeves • MALAYSIA
Julia Sass Rubin • THAILAND
Don A. Saroff • SOUTH KOREA
Leon J. Waxer • TAIWAN
Michael C. Whitlock • INDONESIA

1991-1992

Wayne L. Aponte • JAPAN Ron D. Benioff • INDONESIA Christie Blom Callaghan • INDONESIA Cynthia H. Chou • CHINA Pamella J. Dana • PHILIPPINES Mary Davis Michaud • THAILAND Donald R. Esposito • JAPAN Michael L. Falk • SOUTH KOREA William Scott Gregory • TAIWAN Elinor H. Hirschhorn • THAILAND Jonathan C. Karp • HONG KONG Kathleen D. LaPorte • TAIWAN Robert M. McKenna • JAPAN Dana C. Nifosi • THAILAND Michelle D. Onello • THAILAND Meghan L. O'Sullivan • INDONESIA Mark S. Sandy • JAPAN Steven J. Spinner • HONG KONG

1992-1993

Eric A. Anderson • HONG KONG Anthony A. Blass • HONG KONG Catherine Brown Collins • INDONESIA Gregory K. Davis • TAIWAN Juliet K. Eilperin • SOUTH KOREA Gordon E. Fairclough • THAILAND Jennifer A. Groman • MALAYSIA Susan Douglas Kelley • HONG KONG Satu P. Limaye • JAPAN Sean P. McDevitt • SOUTH KOREA Kathryn L. McGinnis • THAILAND Heather Lynch Menzies • INDONESIA Helen E. Quinn • JAPAN Brian J. Rogers • MALAYSIA Kevin J. Starke • PHILIPPINES Mark K. Wiedman • TAIWAN Mark R. Williams • THAILAND

1993-1994

Kari Van Nevel Buckard • TAIWAN
Patricia M. Callahan • THAILAND
Jeanne de Guardiola Callanan • THAILAND
Shelley C. Clarke • CHINA
John E. Crandon • JAPAN
John H. Fargis • CHINA
Timothy C. Geisler • CHINA
Alistair N.R. Goodman • THAILAND
Sharon L. Greenberger • SOUTH KOREA
Lorraine A. Guthrie • JAPAN
Daniel H. Hudnut • MALAYSIA
David J. Kennedy • SOUTH KOREA











Rogan T. Kersh • JAPAN
Jonathan S. Leff • JAPAN
James P. Roberts • THAILAND
Johnathan L. Robertson • HONG KONG
Harriet R. Stosur • INDONESIA
Terri L. Willard • PHILIPPINES

1994-1995

Rebecca M. Bratspies • TAIWAN
Kristine A. Campbell • INDONESIA
Dennis Stephen Cervantes • PHILIPPINES
Ariela R. Dubler • THAILAND
Calli Fuller • MALAYSIA
Albert W. Johnson • TAIWAN
Adam D. Lashinsky • JAPAN
Amy Lesser Monsarrat • JAPAN
Michael Newman • SOUTH KOREA
Roderic E. Norman • HONG KONG
David J. Richter • CHINA
Nancy A. Schellhorn • INDONESIA
Elizabeth Ashley Steel • THAILAND
David C. Viotti • HONG KONG
Justin W. Zackey • CHINA

1995–1996

Marc Johnson Alexander • INDONESIA Flizabeth A. Bancroft • INDONESIA Andrew T. Chan • HONG KONG Jason R. Cox • SOUTH KOREA Michael A. Dal Bello • CHINA Daniel F. Feldman • HONG KONG Cheryl A. Frankiewicz • INDONESIA Heather H. Graham • CHINA Terry A.C. Gray • THAILAND Andrea Higgins • INDONESIA Ashby M. Kinch • MALAYSIA Kristin D. Rechberger • SOUTH KOREA Edward R. Renwick • CHINA Lane J. Savadove • INDONESIA Amit Sevak • CHINA Steven A. Sills • JAPAN William R. Steiger • PHILIPPINES Scott B. Wilkens • HONG KONG

1996-1997

Katie Wiltrout Applegate • SOUTH KOREA
Gawain F. de Leeuw • SOUTH KOREA
Jennifer Beam Dowd • INDONESIA
Daniel V. Dowd • CHINA
Catherine M. DuRant • SOUTH KOREA
Bradley D. Fusco • TAIWAN
Rebecca Mowbray • INDONESIA
Aparna Mukherjee • PHILIPPINES
David M. Plaut • TAIWAN
Maureen E. Quigley • VIETNAM
Abigail S. Reyes • PHILIPPINES
Barak D. Richman • VIETNAM
Michael G. Rogol • SOUTH KOREA
Lance C. Schideman • CHINA

Jeffrey D. Schulden • THAILAND James M. Smith • HONG KONG Amy E. Weaver • HONG KONG Frederick F. Wherry • THAILAND

1997-1998

Alexander T. Andreichuk • HONG KONG Julie Appiah Finn • MALAYSIA Brendan F. Bellew • VIFTNAM Lisa A. Bosler • THAIL AND Stephanie Elizondo Griest • CHINA Harley Feldbaum • THAILAND Nicole M. Fraser • INDONESIA Kerren L. Hedlund • PHILIPPINES Brendon M. Levitt • JAPAN Edmund J. Malesky • VIETNAM Jacinda Mawson Nicklas • MONGOLIA Beniamin A. Olken • INDONESIA Michael E. Robertson II • INDONESIA Monica Washington Rothbaum • JAPAN Steven J. Sanders • JAPAN Joanna P. Slater • HONG KONG Lareina A. Yee • CHINA

1998-1999

Elizabeth Crane • THAILAND Moana M. Erickson • HONG KONG Amanda E. Fine • MONGOLIA Evan S. Frazier • SINGAPORE Brooke E. Frewing • MALAYSIA Anne G. Kasmar • THAILAND Joshua F. Kurlantzick • THAILAND Daniel P. Mason • THAILAND Karin B. Monsler • TAIWAN G. Manning Rountree • SINGAPORE Theodore D. Ruel • THAILAND John P. Saxe • JAPAN Samuel J. Sober • SOUTH KOREA Chadwin B. Thomas • PHILIPPINES Angus Thomson • JAPAN Ron M. Wilson • JAPAN Anthony A. Yang • HONG KONG

1999-2000

Elizabeth M. Addonizio • CHINA
Heidi M. Brooks • VIETNAM
Helen V. Cantwell • MALAYSIA
Diana Wu David • HONG KONG
Joseph A. Harris • THAILAND
Anna H. Hepler • SOUTH KOREA
Gregory S. Hillson • JAPAN
Jeffrey L. Horwich • JAPAN
Hélène C. Lesterlin • TAIWAN
Willard McCloud III • HONG KONG
William J. Norris • TAIWAN
Justine A. Rosenthal • CHINA
Alice M. Shumate • MALAYSIA
Matthew H. Stremlau • CHINA
Karen C. Tumlin • THAILAND

Philip A. Verhoef • THAILAND Suzanne F. Wiltgen • MALAYSIA

2000-2001

Karim Amer • VIETNAM Quinn Bauriedel • INDONESIA Jennifer Kim Cutie • THAILAND Katherine M. Scharf Dykes • MONGOLIA Alex G. Hanafi • THAILAND Jeremy A. Huff • TAIWAN Tyler K. Kelley • INDONESIA Timothy D. Kiefer • CHINA Nicholas Kukrika • INDONESIA Joshua D. Lanning • MALAYSIA James H. Mackey • CHINA Maeghan T. Leroy Maloney • SINGAPORE Bradley J. Murg • PHILIPPINES Anne Countiss Prentice • HONG KONG Ricshawn Adkins Roane • PHILIPPINES Anna-Maria M. Soellner • HONG KONG Jacob M. Taylor • JAPAN Sandhya Vasan • SINGAPORE Gerardo A. Vildostegui • JAPAN Sam L. Wilcke • SOUTH KOREA

2001-2002

Jonathan L. Ang • THAILAND Craig R. Cornelius • THAILAND Toby F. Dalton • SOUTH KOREA William C. Faries • INDONESIA Jonathan J. Finer • HONG KONG Sara Rollet Gosman • VIFTNAM Caroline Hennen Haakenson • THAILAND Justin S. King • TAIWAN Leonardo Martinez • INDONESIA Ali A. Mehfar • MONGOLIA Allison H. Moore • CHINA Kimberly Palmer • JAPAN Laura Israelian Petras • PHILIPPINES Jeffrey M. Prescott • CHINA Jason E. Prince • JAPAN Katherine A. Rope • THAILAND Michael P. Williams II • CHINA

2002-2003

Ben S. Ball • SOUTH KOREA Elizabeth H. Brown Riordan • THAILAND Ryann M. Collins . CAMBODIA Michael J. Coren • CAMBODIA Zina Deretsky • MONGOLIA Serena M. Eley • JAPAN Yaron Y. Glazer • CHINA Kian Gohar • CHINA Robyn Greenstone • JAPAN Elissa A. Hendler • VIETNAM Valerie J. Karplus • CHINA Kellev V. Lawrence • TAIWAN Jamin C. Morrison • JAPAN Paul Olivera • JAPAN J. David Phillips • CHINA

Nirav D. Shah • CAMBODIA Radhika J. Shroff • THAILAND Maria E. Stalford • VIETNAM

2003-2004

Matthew W. Brewer • CHINA Richard B. Brooks • THAILAND John Robert Cochran • CHINA Flynn M. Coleman • HONG KONG Carl Erik Fisher • SOUTH KOREA Meghan E. Frank • CHINA Amber Nicole Hallett • SOUTH KOREA Ravi R. Kavasery • SOUTH KOREA M. Grady Mathai-Jackson • THAILAND Ronald L. Newman • CHINA E. Willis Nottingham III • TAIWAN Sarah H. Sable • CHINA Holly C. Salmon • JAPAN Cherington L. Shucker • CHINA Scott R. Worden • CAMBODIA

2004-2005

Alexis S. Chiu • CHINA Ann U. Collier • HONG KONG Marie V. Doezema • JAPAN Richard J. Hermes • THAILAND Margaret A. Hiesinger • VIETNAM Elena S. Lesley • CAMBODIA Alex P. Ortolani • HONG KONG Michael J. Osofsky • HONG KONG Nathan D. Rich • CHINA Martha G. Roberts • VIETNAM Jana S. Rumminger • MALAYSIA Daniel L. Schar • MONGOLIA Arianna M. Shirk • TAIWAN Lauren C. Turner • SINGAPORE Amy J. Wendholt • CHINA

2005-2006

Jason M. Anderson • CHINA Patrick Ayscue Tse • CAMBODIA Samuel A. Bazzi • INDONESIA Mark Dvorak-Little • PHILIPPINES David D. Foster • CHINA Lauren A. Keane • CHINA Mirra O. Levitt • VIETNAM Elizabeth A. Mandeville • CAMBODIA Charles G. Mayer • MONGOLIA Ayelish M. McGarvey • CAMBODIA Jonathan L. Robbins • THAILAND Nathaniel F. Stankard • SOUTH KOREA Matthew V. Tompkins • CHINA Veronica Valdivieso • VIETNAM Rubiahna L. Vaughn • MALAYSIA

2006-2007

Sarabeth Berman • HONG KONG Liana Bianchi • CAMBODIA David F. Chapman • VIETNAM











Natash T. Degen • CHINA Melissa Gilliam • TAIWAN Jacob D. Leibenluft • HONG KONG Nicholas Love • JAPAN Hollin Dickerson Luh • INDONESIA Kalyani A. McCullough • THAILAND Elizabeth Marie Melchionna • THAILAND Helen P. O'Reilly • PHILIPPINES Roberto C. Padilla • SOUTH KOREA Brandon E. Reavis • CHINA Nicole E. Ripley • THAILAND Eunice Park Robertson • TAIWAN F. Cheston Thacher • CHINA Jamila Trindle • CHINA Joseph H. Walla • THAILAND

2007-2008

Edward M. Carlson • JAPAN Aaron T. Creek • PHILIPPINES Sachin S. Desai • TAIWAN Rvan D. Dick • CHINA Dane A. Erickson • CHINA Elizabeth L. Forwand • INDONESIA Laurel S. Gabler • THAIL AND David E. Gilbert • INDONESIA Ming Lauren Holden • MONGOLIA Selena W. Hsu • CHINA Angela E. Kilby • INDONESIA Miles D. Killingsworth • JAPAN Mark Gabriel Little • CHINA Wen-Chih Yu O'Connell • SINGAPORE Samuel J. Polk • INDONESIA Zarah M. Rahman • VIETNAM Michael A. Solis • SOUTH KOREA

2008-2009

Sean A. Colenso-Semple • THAILAND Charles N. Edel • CHINA Ku'uipo Curry Fales • JAPAN Anne Marie W. Gan • CAMBODIA Jesse A. Green • JAPAN Kenneth Brooks Hickman • SINGAPORE Zachary D.C. Hill • MALAYSIA Allison K. Jones • VIETNAM Matthew D. MacGregor • VIETNAM Noah T. Metheny • THAILAND R. Marshall Morales • JAPAN Jenna B. Morey • INDONESIA Sheila A. Ongwae • HONG KONG Jeremiah William Schwarz Jr. • SINGAPORE Ian D. Simon • SOUTH KOREA Michael T. Tarrant • SINGAPORE Micah S. Ziegler • HONG KONG

2009-2010

Nicholas B. Anderson • HONG KONG Michael L. Chaitkin • CHINA Jennifer E. Cimaglia • VIETNAM Jelena Z. Diordievic • THAILAND Jason L. Ferguson • TAIWAN

Nathaniel J. Gleicher • SOUTH KOREA Andrew G. Gruen • SOUTH KOREA Brittan K. Heller • SOUTH KOREA Yongiun Heo • VIETNAM Rachel Harper Hughes • THAILAND Jeremy A. Jangord • JAPAN Jeffrey K. Miller • HONG KONG Kate E. Otto Chebly • INDONESIA Lauren A. Weeth-Feinstein • INDONESIA Mark J. Wehling • CHINA Micah West • LAOS

2010-2011

Theodore E. Alcorn • CHINA Alexander M. Baron • TAIWAN Blair W. Benham-Pyle • CHINA Rebecca P. Buckwalter-Poza • HONG KONG Jesse Burk-Rafel • MONGOLIA Henry K. Cheng • THAILAND Colin L. Felsman • CHINA Lvnsev R. Gaudioso • VIETNAM Michelle M. Henry • THAILAND Paul J. Kellner • INDONESIA Rayden Llano • JAPAN Michael L. Machala • LAOS Claire T. Markgraf • CHINA Shira Milikowsky • SOUTH KOREA Juliana Montgomery • SINGAPORE Ouleye Ndoye • THAILAND Gillian F. Ouandt • CAMBODIA Julia A. Simon . INDONESIA

2011-2012

Adriana S. Akers . CHINA J. Christopher Beam • CHINA Perla De Anda-Cunningham • THAILAND Zim Flores • INDIA Michael C. Gründler • MONGOLIA Daisy Larios • SOUTH KOREA Christopher Magoon • CHINA Kanika Metre • INDONESIA Michael A. Mian • HONG KONG Rosalyn E. Plotzker • VIETNAM Héctor Salazar Salame • INDONESIA Mackenzie Evan Smith • INDIA Christopher J. Stanfill • LAOS Nazneen F. Uddin • MALAYSIA Abbie L. VanSickle • CAMBODIA Craig M. Western • TAIWAN Bessie M. Young • JAPAN

2012-2013

Aimee G. Bailey • CHINA Lauren E. Buckley • THAILAND Madelon F. Case • VIETNAM Ana Maria Cruz Hill • CHINA Justin W. Henceroth • THAILAND Amber M. Koonce • PHILIPPINES Brendan P. Lehnert • CHINA Reid J. Magdanz • LAOS

Erin A. McGonagle • CAMBODIA Christopher J. McLaurin • CHINA Andrea Nieves • INDONESIA Cody M. Poplin • INDIA Daniel M. Rubin • INDIA Daniel C. Rudin • PHILIPPINES Abigail P. Seldin • HONG KONG Renata M. Sheppard • TAIWAN Dana Toy • SOUTH KOREA Jennifer A. Zelnick • CAMBODIA

2013-2014

Benjamin A. Bissell • CHINA William F. Broderick • CHINA Samantha G. Chadwick • TAIWAN Martin A. Chorzempa • CHINA Matthew P. Cortland • TAIWAN Claire Duvallet • CAMBODIA Ervn R. Eby • LAOS Genevieve E. Gebhart • LAOS William D. Leimenstoll • THAILAND Adam B. Lerner • INDIA Gene B. Merewether • SOUTH KOREA Megan Mills-Novoa • VIETNAM Jeremy I. Pivor • INDONESIA Henry L. Ross • THAILAND Ava Saed • MALAYSIA Tamara T. Shogaolu • INDONESIA Nicholas J. Thompson • CAMBODIA Tarlise N. Townsend • VIETNAM *

2014-2015

Jacob P. Bogart • THAILAND Benjamin J. Chin • THAILAND Joshua A. Cole • SOUTH KOREA Matthew D. Cook • INDONESIA Joshua B. Freedman • CHINA Nicole S. Gunawansa • JAPAN Joël J. Hage • CHINA Michelle Huang • CAMBODIA Cindy K.Y. Lung • TAIWAN Katherine G. McDaniel • CAMBODIA Kyle W. Niezgoda • SINGAPORE Andrew T. Peters • JAPAN Will Poff-Webster • INDIA Kevin E. Schell • THAILAND Katherine M. Schuler • PHILIPPINES Audrey C. Stienon • INDONESIA Meaghan C. Tobin • TAIWAN

2015-2016

Sista Jakelin Bonilla • THAILAND Nickolas K. Clarke • CHINA Jenny A. Cooper • SINGAPORE Lauren E. Dubowski • INDONESIA Varsha L. Govindaraju • CAMBODIA Charlotte M. Lee • THAILAND Samuel W. Lewis • LAOS Aubrey Menard • MONGOLIA Christian A. Oldham • JAPAN

Paul E. Shortell • MYANMAR Laura E. Shunk • CHINA Amarynth N. Sichel • SOUTH KOREA Alessondra T. Speidel • JAPAN O'Mara Taylor • INDONESIA Brandon A. Tensley • THAILAND Nicolas J. Thorpe • VIETNAM Diana D. Won . SOUTH KOREA Lanier M. Zimmer • MYANMAR

2016-2017

Isabel K. Ball • THAILAND Alyson Curro • MYANMAR Emily J. Dickey • NEPAL Gracelee Lawrence • THAILAND Jennifer Leigh • JAPAN Elizabeth A. Linton • SINGAPORE Alexandra M. McDougle • CAMBODIA Jessie A. Moravek • NEPAL Kaytie N. Nielsen • INDIA Dustin B. Palmer • MYANMAR Rebecca M. Peters • CHINA Anne M. Pevton • THAILAND Robert P. Rogers • VIETNAM Rebecca D. Schectman • MALAYSIA Evan J. Silver • INDONESIA Nathan M. Truong • TAIWAN Jennifer Y. Tu • TAIWAN Mohammad U. Zia · INDONESIA

2017-2018

Varun K. Aery • CAMBODIA Sakaria L. Auelua-Toomey • SOUTH KOREA Daniel J. Block • INDIA Christina A. Cilento • LAOS Monique K. Claiborne • SOUTH KOREA Jillian L. Correia • JAPAN Joshua M. Feinzig • TAIWAN Benjamin M. Fleischacker • CHINA Cyrus M. Ghaznavi • JAPAN Martha B. Isaacs • SINGAPORE Cassidy S. McDonald • CHINA Neil J. Noronha • INDIA Corey K. Ruder • JAPAN Elena M. Swartz • NEPAL Kadiata M. Sy • INDIA Bryan E. Vadheim • VIETNAM Sophia E. Wallach • SINGAPORE

2018-2019

Rishi N. Ahuja • INDIA Leah G. Everist • NEPAL Robert W. Greene • CHINA Kelsey L. Harpham • VIETNAM Casey S. Herrick • CHINA Matthew LoCastro • INDONESIA Robert J. MacGregor • VIETNAM Andrew Maguire • VIETNAM Laura M. Marsolek • INDIA Phillip J. McGloin • CHINA











Nikolas Y. Oktaba • INDIA John T. Phillips • TAIWAN Madeline R. Rita • CAMBODIA Olivia M. Route • THAILAND Dominiquo D. Santistevan • MYANMAR Rachel M. Stamler-Jonas • THAILAND Seheri S. Swint • THAILAND Mayra Tenorio • SOUTH KOREA

2019-2020

Lama Ahmad • INDONESIA Sophie C. Barterian • SOUTH KOREA Adam Barton • JAPAN Davis S. Butner • CHINA Samuel G. Campbell • VIETNAM Jesse L. Chase-Lubitz • JAPAN Anthony Diep Rosas • THAILAND Aaron M. Karp • JAPAN Michał Mateiczuk • INDIA Molly McGuigan • PHILIPPINES Connor W. Morency • INDIA Alfonso Morgan-Terrero • CHINA Frank Najarro-Izquierdo • LAOS Lara M. Norgaard • INDONESIA Lewis J. Page • INDIA Kiryl Puchyk . SOUTH KOREA Zoë W. Sobel • NEPAL Melia M. Wong • HONG KONG

2020-2021

Melanie Arroyave • SOUTH KOREA Gavin Brehm • SOUTH KOREA Jackson T. Brook • CAMBODIA Ariel Chu • TAIWAN Austin G. Coffey • SOUTH KOREA Jennifer Dikler • SOUTH KOREA Maya L. Foster • SOUTH KOREA Annika Freudenberger • CAMBODIA Halo Lahnert • TAIWAN Heather M. Nelson • VIETNAM Wesley J.Y. Price • SOUTH KOREA Roman Shemakov • TAIWAN Bakari A. Sibert • SOUTH KOREA Noor E. Tasnim • JAPAN Summer-Solstice Thomas • CAMBODIA Shivram Viswanathan • TAIWAN Bennett S. Weissenbach • NEPAL Saifeldeen B. Zihiri • SOUTH KOREA

2021-2022

Michelle Abou-Raad • THAILAND Maame A. Boatemaa • SOUTH KOREA Margaret G. Burns • VIETNAM Fiona G. Carter-Tod • SRI LANKA

Elena I. Castellanos • SOUTH KOREA Zachary T. Denton • THAILAND Eva G. Dickerson • THAILAND Jason C. Mazique • SOUTH KOREA Harrison C. Nugent • JAPAN Jackson D. Pearce • CAMBODIA Noah Perales-Estoesta • THAILAND Nihaal K. Rahman • JAPAN Yazmina Sarieh • SRI LANKA Matthew J. Shorten • JAPAN Evan N. Tims . NEPAL Jonathan M. Villela • THAILAND Jordan J. Walker • SINGAPORE William D. Wheeler • CHINA

2023-2024

Tatyana Nieves Brown • TAIWAN Lolayemi S. Charles • VIETNAM Elspeth E. Collard • LAOS Taylor O. Hamilton • JAPAN Isabelle A.J. Han • TAIWAN Ouinton Havre • THAILAND Layan Ibrahim • MALAYSIA Ndeye K. Ndione • INDONESIA Kamryn Nelson • TAIWAN Reem Nemmassi • MALAYSIA Caleb-Matthew K. Olaso • NEPAL Louisa Ortiz • LAOS Giselle Schmitz • TIMOR-LESTE Marie Angelique Southern • SOUTH KOREA Sarah Toscano • SOUTH KORFA Edward Tran • THAIL AND Coleman L. Yorke • SOUTH KOREA Mary Caroline Yuk • MONGOLIA

2024-2025

Esha Adnan Diogene U. Artiles Roger A. Burtonpatel Giancarlo S. Ceja Awa M. Cisse Saffiyah Coker Sean M. Dunnington Jocilyn Gilbert Adriana Golden Emma Hotz Jason Juang Diana C Kachman Anna M. Lenaker Nikhil Mandalaparthy Neyha Naveed Yu-Shing Ni Warisha Siddiqui Kirk Patrick H. Testa





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