Welcome to AFSA

The Asian Faculty and Staff Association (AFSA) at UWM was founded in 2002. The purpose of this organization is to bring together people of Asian heritage on this campus and acknowledges and celebrates the diverse Asian cultures. AFSA proudly recognizes the growing number of Asian faculty and staff at UWM and encourages everyone to actively get involved and network with each other.

AFSA is led by a steering committee composed of staff and faculty. We recognize the hard work of individuals such as Swarnjit Arora, Linda Huang, C. J. Kim, Hur-Li Lee, and Gwat-Yong Lie for making AFSA a reality.

Become an AFSA member today! Get involved and help this young organization thrive and flourish. For additional information about AFSA, visit www.uwm.edu/Org/afsa.

The Scholarship Program

The AFSA Scholarship Program recognizes outstanding Asian students at UWM for their academic excellence, leadership skills, their commitment and contribution to the Asian community. Two $500 scholarships are awarded to an undergraduate and a graduate student.

These scholarships were awarded for the first time in spring 2004. The award recipients are Kai-Yu Wang and Tao Lee. We congratulate them on their excellent records and wish them continued success. AFSA encourages all faculty and staff to nominate eligible Asian students for the scholarship. For more information please contact C. J. Kim at 229-3158 or e-mail her at cjkim@uwm.edu.

Coming Soon: Brown Bag Series

October 20, 2004: Noon-1 pm
UWM Libraries, Room W301

Security in Korean Peninsula
Presenter: Professor Sunwoong Kim, Department of Economics

November 17, 2004: Noon-1 pm
UWM Libraries, Room W301

Afghanistan, Kashmir and the North West Frontier of Pakistan - Hot Spots of South Asia
Presenter: Associate Professor Swarnjit S. Arora, Department of Economics and Director of the Institute for Survey and Policy Research

Don’t miss these informative and interesting sessions. Note: You may bring your lunch to these sessions. However, please be discreet when you bring food and drink to the Library building.
UWM Asian Faculty and Staff Achievements

UWM Asian faculty and staff is a visible and growing group at the UWM community. There are currently 190 Asian faculty and staff at UWM as of fall 2004. Among them 110 are faculty members, which account for 13.4% of all UWM faculty members. Our group has been growing over the years. For example, 25.5% of all new faculty hires were Asians (14 out of 55) in fall 2003 and 22.2% of all new faculty hires were Asians (12 out of 54) in fall 2004. Similarly, the increase of Asian academic staff at UWM is also remarkable, rising 33.3% from fall 2003 to fall 2004. As a group, we are very active in research, teaching and services, and have made significant achievements.

Over the last five years since 1999, there have been seven Asian faculty members who received UWM Foundation/Graduate School Research Award (Drs. Tien-Chien Jen, Ryoichi Amano, Eun-Ok Im, Zhong-Ren Peng, Yehua Dennis Wei, Kyoung Ae Cho, and Lian Li), which accounts for 28% of all research award recipients. There are also three Asian faculty members who received Undergraduate Teaching Award (Drs. Abbas Hamdani, Byoung Kim, and Carrie Yang Costello), which accounts for 16.7% of all Undergraduate Teaching Award recipients; and one Academic Staff Outstanding Performance Award recipient (CJ Kim).

At the same time, there are 17 Asian faculty members who are among the UWM’s top researchers with substantial extramural research grants (more than $250,000), which account for 17% of all top researchers. These 17 Asian Faculty and Staff have obtained more than $12 million of research grants based on the UWM Graduate School’s record of top researcher list for 1999-2003.

In addition, many Asian faculty and staff members have won great recognitions in their own fields. For example, Professor Sunny Kim of the Economics Department is co-editor of International Economics Journal, housed at the UWM campus. Associate Professor Swarnjit Arora of Economics and the Institute of Survey and Policy Research has been invited to be an editor of a special issue on Off-shore Outsourcing of the Indian Journal of Economics and Business. He also received UWM Student Association Outstanding Faculty Award, Warner Bloomberg Award for distinguished service in the interdisciplinary field of future studies and urban issues, and Hind Rattan Award, highest service award presented by the Prime Minister of India. Assistant Professor Grace La at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning received the Faculty Design Award in 2003 and New Faculty Teaching Award in 2002 from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, as well as three other architecture design awards. Professor Pradeep K. Rohatgi, director of the Center for Composite Materials, received the NRI Institute Award of Excellence in 2004.

Kudos and best wishes to all!

2004 Steering Committee at your service: Swarnjit Arora, Adrian Chan, Linda Huang, C. J. Kim, Alice Kuramoto, Sue Lamborn, Hur-Li Lee, Gwat-Yong Lie, Vanaja Menon (Co-Chair), Zhong-Ren Peng (Co-Chair), Kalyani Rai, Channy Rasavong, and Hanh Quang Trinh.