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 to acknowledge and celebrate 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, comprised of UWM staff and faculty (see bottom of next page for a list of committee members).

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

The AFSA Scholarship Program

The AFSA Scholarship Program recognizes outstanding Asian students at UWM for their academic excellence, leadership skills, commitment and contribution to the Asian community. All faculty and staff are encouraged to nominate eligible Asian students for the scholarships.

Two achievement scholarships ($500 each) and three honorary scholarships ($100 each) were awarded in spring 2006 for the 2006-07 academic year. We congratulate the scholarship recipients on their excellent records and wish them continued success. Deadline for submitting materials for the 2007-08 scholarship awards is April 2, 2007. For more information, please contact Zhong-Ren Peng at zpeng@uwm.edu.

AFSA Scholarship Recipients

ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS

Ms. Harpreet Kaur, Junior, Lubar School of Business Administration

I am a junior in Business Administration at UWM. My major is Marketing, with a minor in Business Spanish, and I plan to get a certificate in International Business. I am currently working as a Marketing & Sales Co-op student at Briggs & Stratton Corporation.

Receiving this award was a really big accomplishment because it assured me that all the hard work and effort I put into my education are really worth it. The best thing about this award was that it allowed me to express my pride for my heritage. Unlike other scholarships, it factored in what I do for my community, along with how I perform academically. It was an honor to know that what I have done so far is being recognized. Receiving this award has motivated me to work harder and do more during my time at UWM.

Ms. Jihyun Park, Master’s Student, College of Health Sciences

It is an honor to express my thanks to all AFSA members. I am a graduate student in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the College of Health Sciences. I have always believed that all human beings have an equal dignity that must be protected. Therefore, I tried to carry on my belief through my volunteer work and career. I have worked with people with disabilities for years in Korea. Now, I am getting a master’s degree in speech pathology in order to provide better services for people with communication disorders.

In 2006, I faced extreme financial challenges and other unexpected difficulties. At that time, I seriously considered quitting school. However, I was able to continue because of scholarships from AFSA and College of Health Sciences. They were not only a form of financial support, but also an incredible encouragement to complete my degree. Once more, I really appreciate your help and encouragement, and want to emphasize that what you do can have a great impact on a person’s life.

HONORARY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS

Mr. Lin Li, Senior, College of Letters & Science

I was born in Taiwan, Taipei. I came to the U.S. in 2004 for pre-med study. I plan to apply for medical schools at the end of this spring semester. Currently, I am preparing for the upcoming Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).
In Memory of Patana Norasith

In summer of 2004, a UWM Asian student died as the victim of an act of violence that took place in Milwaukee. Patana Norasith was working on her master’s degree in the Educational Psychology program. Originally from California, she was a high achieving student of Laotian background who held all the promises of a successful career and a rewarding life ahead of her. She had strong connections with her family who supported her academic endeavors.

After completing her first year of courses, Patana had a 4.0 GPA. She was interested in the academic achievement of Southeast Asian students in the United States, which was the research topic that she intended to pursue for her master’s thesis. Patana was very proud of her Laotian background and was trained as a skilled dancer in traditional Laotian dance forms. She was an engaging and friendly person who connected readily with others. Patana Norasith is truly missed by peers and faculty who valued her friendship.

2007 Steering Committee at your service: Swarnjit Arora, Adrian Chan, Patricia Goeman (co-chair), Linda Huang, C. J. Kim, Sue Lamborn, Hur-Li Lee, Gwat-Yong Lie, Zhong-Ren Peng, Channy Rasavong, Raji Swaminathan, and Hanh Quang Trinh (co-chair).

AFSA Scholarship Luncheon

Please join us for the first annual AFSA Scholarship Luncheon, which will be held in late March or early April, 2007. Pyong Choi from the UWM Dining Services will demonstrate the preparation of Asian dishes. Participants will have a chance to network, enjoy the prepared lunch, and take home the recipes. The cost of this fundraising event is $15 per person, which covers the cost of lunch and a contribution toward the AFSA scholarship fund. Look out for more information about this event!

New Asian Faculty and Staff Members

AFSA welcomes the following new faculty and staff to UWM:

Elvira Asuncion, Outreach Specialist, Urban Community Development; Pew Bose, Associate Lecturer, Center for Women’s Studies; Angela DeLeon, Associate Student Services Specialist, Dean of Students Office; Wenlian Gao, Lecturer, Lubar School of Business Administration, Lawrence Gomes, Professor L/I, Lubar School of Business Administration; Matoaki Kashino, Artist, PSOA – Music Department; Benjamin Kennedy, Administrative Program Specialist; Nan Kim-Paik, Associate Lecturer, History; Masako Lackey, Lecturer, Foreign Language & Linguistics; Aaron Lindberg, Advisor, Center for International Education; Donovan Miyasaki, Visiting Assistant Professor, Honors College; Arijit Sen, Assistant Professor, Architecture; Manu Sobti, Assistant Professor, Architecture; Koji Uryu, Visiting Assistant Professor, L&S; Chia Yang, Faculty/Instructor, History; Astrid Wagner, Associate Lecturer, Math/Science Education Research; Qingping Wu, Instructional Specialist, Arts & Liberal Studies; Shangping Xu, Assistant Professor, Geosciences; Shiyong Yan, Accountant, Cashiers Office; Xiaojing Yang, Assistant Professor, Lubar School of Business Administration; Hong Yu, Assistant Professor, Health Care Administration & Informatics.

Brown Bag Seminar Series

The AFSA Seminar Series will be held again in spring 2007. If you are interested in presenting on your research, travels, or expertise, please contact Professor Susie Lamborn at x5305 or e-mail her at slamborn@uwm.edu.