Notes from President-Elect A. Lin Goodwin

I would like to begin my first letter to all of you by saying thank you for selecting me to serve as chair of SIG•REAPA. I greatly appreciate the honor and will endeavor to do the best job I can to forward our collective agenda and bring our issues to the forefront of AERA. In taking on this responsibility, however, I know I will also need the assistance of every member. Each one of you can play a part in building and supporting this important special interest group. For those of you who do not have the time to take an active role, continuing to maintain your membership and encouraging colleagues and students to join SIG•REAPA is an important and valuable way to participate in the organization. For those of you interested in a more substantive role, we could use your participation in a number of activities, including recruitment, proposal review, program planning for the 1998 meeting, fund raising, and of course editing our newsletter. I invite each and every one of you to contact me or anyone else on the executive committee to volunteer your time or share your ideas.

AERA 1997, Chicago

Given the end-of-year crush that everyone is probably experiencing, the 1997 annual AERA meeting is likely to be a fast fading memory. However, I want to thank all of you for your enthusiastic participation and to extend a special note of appreciation to Alan Shoho, outgoing chair, for an excellent program. Increased membership meant that we were able to sponsor two paper sessions, one invited address (by Dr. Celia Genishi from Teachers College, Columbia University), and four roundtable sessions. Our business meeting was well-attended with 30+ members in the room, while our annual dinner at Star of Siam was big fun. Over 20 of us went, ate delicious food, talked up a storm, and got a chance to interact on a more personal and intimate scale.

AERA 1998, San Diego

It is not, however, too early to begin thinking about next year’s meeting. I expect REAPA attendance to be in record numbers given the fact that so many of our members are from the California region. I am also hoping that we can create a program that puts us in closer touch with one another and gives us the opportunity to celebrate our accomplishments. Some of the things that I have been thinking about include some kind of fireside chat for graduate students, an award for best dissertation or best research, an intellectual social hour for networking and mutual professional exchange, and some kind of AERA mentoring activity where seasoned members are attached to first-time attendees. I would appreciate your thinking these over and giving me some feedback. I will be looking for your ideas as well, particularly in terms of next year’s invited speaker. Whatever you are thinking, please do give me a call at (212) 678–3788 or e-mail me at alg25@columbia.edu. I look forward to hearing from you and to coming to know every one of you. Thanks.
It’s been a few weeks since AERA’s Annual Meeting in Chicago. This year the SIG sponsored or cosponsored eight sessions. As program chair I was pleased to observe that all of the sessions were well-attended. The highlight of the SIG’s program was the invited address by Celia Genishi of Teachers College, Columbia University. Celia reminded us of the importance of being aware of whose perspectives are being taken when conducting research on children. Celia’s short skits were a powerful reminder of how differently children view situations from adults, especially researchers who may not be privy to the cultural context unless a prolonged engagement is undertaken.

As program chair, I want to thank SIG members Beth Kurtz-Costes, Jim Campbell, Stacey Lee, Eunsook Hong, and Lin Goodwin for serving as chairs and critics for SIG sponsored sessions. Their commitment to excellence exemplifies what the SIG•REAPA is about—building a community of scholars sharing a common interest.

The annual SIG•REAPA dinner was held at a Thai restaurant called the Star of Siam. Twenty-one people attended the SIG dinner and enjoyed a wonderful Thai meal together. It was nice to see old friends and greet new members into the SIG.

At the business meeting, Lin Goodwin reported on the SIG’s finances. A copy of her report will be in this newsletter and at the SIG’s web site <http://www2.hawaii.edu/reapa>. Based on her efforts to recruit new members and remind old members to renew their membership, the SIG has increased its budget (to approximately $2000). As Lin reminded us all, if you know of one person who might be interested in the activities of this SIG, please encourage them to join. Also remind a colleague who have allowed their membership to expire. A membership form can be found attached to this newsletter or downloaded from the SIG’s web page.

Following the treasurer’s report, I briefly addressed the status of SIG initiatives undertaken during the past few years. Of most concern was the development of an outlet for SIG-REAPA sponsored papers. Lin Goodwin and Jim Campbell discussed putting together an edited book or approaching a journal for a special issue. Given the SIG’s size (134 members), a SIG sponsored journal was determined to be impractical. Morris Lai, editor of the Pacific Educational Research Journal (PERJ), put out a call for manuscripts for the upcoming issue of PERJ and also discussed the reform of the PERJ.

To facilitate and support SIG members to publish their work, the leadership of SIG-REAPA will continue to alert members of potential avenues for publishing their work. If you are not a part of the SIG’s e-mail network and are interested in signing up, inquire with Kwang Suk Yoon at <kwoon@umich.edu>.

In fact, I recently received an announcement for submitting manuscripts for a special volume by the National Council of Teachers for Mathematics devoted to Asia/Pacific Americans. For details, contact Lin Goodwin <alg25@columbia.edu>.

The last piece of business at meeting was the election of new SIG Officers. Lin Goodwin from Teachers College, Columbia University was elected as President. Carrolyn Iwamoto from the National Board of Medical Examiners was elected treasurer, and Kwang Suk Yoon was elected secretary/e-mail facilitator. Congratulations to all the new officers!

As program chair and past-President, it has been an honor to serve the SIG•REAPA for the past two years. I promised Lin I would continue to be active and supportive of SIG activities, so I encourage everyone to get involved. As a nine-year member of AERA, I hope SIG•REAPA represents a place for those who have a common research and/or personal interest in Asian Pacific American educational issues to experience a more personal and stimulating touch while attending AERA. To sustain active growth and vitality in SIG/REAPA, we are actively recruiting new members, especially graduate students and early career scholars. This year I met and renewed some relationships with promising young scholars like Erika Yamasaki, Beloo Mehra, Ann Newman, Stacey Lee, Andrea Ceppi, William Greene, Young Rim Hur, Fay Shin, and Tan Phan. I hope the SIG•REAPA can continue to provide social support (and hopefully financial in the future). If you know of any prospective members, please send their names and addresses to Carrolyn Iwamoto at the National Board of Medical Examiners and she will send the necessary membership information.

Past President • 1997 Program Chair
Members’ Scholarly Activities

Thanks to all those who submitted items for this section.

OKHEE LEE
University of Miami


Fellowships and Honors

1996-1997. Fellow at the National Institute for Science Education funded by the National Science Foundation, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, University of Wisconsin, Madison.


1996. Invited Speaker, Research Symposium on current research on bilingual and second language education. Sponsored by the Bilingual Education Program at the University of New York-Buffalo and the Buffalo Public Schools, New York (1996, April)

Funded Projects


WEI-CHANG MAU
Wichita State University


KIMBERLEY ANN WOO
Teachers College, Columbia University

Ms. Woo has been selected to serve a 4-month internship with AACTE in a national competition focusing on gender research.

Ms. Woo also received an AERA Minority Fellowship to support her dissertation research on Chinese American high school girls. She will spend her summer working with Christine Sleeter at California State University at Monterey Bay, and will be immersed in data analysis and writing for her dissertation. That she will be living 4 blocks from the beach in Carmel is an interesting sidelong to her summer of dissertation duty.

NINA ASHER
Teachers College, Columbia University

Best wishes and warm regards for Nina’s recent appointment as an assistant professor of education at Penn State at the Delaware County Campus near Philadelphia. She begins August 18 in the Urban Early and Middle Childhood Program. Look for an article by Nina in *Taboo: The Journal of Culture and Education Spring*, 1997: “Apache Indian’s Syncretic Music and the Re-presentation of South Asian Identities: A Case Study of a Minority Artiste” (pp. 99–118).

CONGRATULATIONS!

Christine Sleeter is the 1998 AERA annual meeting program chair. Min Hong, a teacher in New York City and a doctoral student at Teachers College, was named AACTE/Met Life Fellow for her work with culturally and racially diverse students. Valerie Ooka Pang received the outstanding scholar award from AERA’s Standing Committee on the Role and Status of Minorities in Educational Research and Development. Ann D. Newman, a Coordinator in the Special Education Department of the Atlanta Public Schools, was named “Administrator of the Year” by teachers who held supervisory positions for the first time in their schools. Look for Xue Lan Rong’s article in the most recent volume of *American Educational Research Journal*, entitled “The Continuing Decline in Asian American Teachers.” Outstanding accomplishments by all!
SIG membership as of 3/24/97

Total: 111 (134 if memberships which expired in 1996 are included)
AERA members: 89 Regular, 21 Students
Non-AERA members: 1
Associations: 2

SIG membership rose from 107 to 111 between 1996 and 1997, an increase of 4%. There are some lapsed memberships: 23 members have not renewed since 1996. I will continue my efforts to reach out to them and urge them to maintain their subscriptions. Hopefully, with encouragement, many of them will renew (if they had renewed, our current number would be 134 instead, an increase of 25% over last year). Thus, the issue of REAPA presence becomes quite serious since the number of sessions this SIG (and every other SIG) is allotted depends on size. We cannot afford to lose ground and so we urge you to encourage colleagues and graduate students to join our membership and become active participants. We need your support and theirs.

Renewals for AY 96–97

We have 42 memberships expiring this spring, quite a large number (names in bold have not renewed since 1996). If your name appears here, please renew as soon as possible. If you know you will soon see someone who is on the list but who could not attend the annual meeting earlier this year, please pass on a friendly reminder. Slots allocated to us for next year’s meeting in San Diego depend on SIG membership numbers (and therefore your membership) as of 6/30/97. You might want to think about renewing now at the bargain rate of $15.00 for three years so that you can save yourself time as well as give SIG•REAPA the benefit of your continued support. When joining or renewing your membership, please remember to indicate whether or not you are a member of AERA and include your membership number.

SIG•REAPA Newsletter

If you have any ideas you would like to share with the rest of the membership, including editorials, short position statements, research summaries, job openings, requests for networking and collaborative opportunities, please consider submitting them to the next editor of this newsletter. [The position is now vacant; sign up now.]

AERA 1998, San Diego

The SIG is always looking for volunteers to review proposals and assist in SIG duties. If interested, please submit your name to the Program Chair or to any of the SIG officers.

Publication Possibilities—A Call for Papers

The SIG would like to gather unpublished papers and manuscripts from membership responding to the theme: Asian American Education—History, Issues, and Best Practices, and compile them into an edited volume. We feel there is a lot of good work out there (both theoretical and empirical) that is meaningful to our community but somehow does not get published. This project would collate such work and bring forward the voices of Asian American scholars and students around Asian American educational concerns. If you have unpublished work that was written in the last 2–3 years and are interested in responding to this call, please send your paper by JULY 1, 1997, to A. Lin Goodwin, 525 W. 120th Street, Box 31, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027.
Please provide your name EXACTLY as it appears on AERA rosters (check your mailing labels from AERA central headquarters).

Name ________________________________________________________________

Institution _______________________________________________________________________________________

Address _______________________________________________________________________________________

City _____________________________ State ___________ Zip _________________

Phone Office (_____ ) _____ –_________ Home (_____ ) _____ –_________

Fax number (_____ ) _____ –_________

E-mail ___________________________ @ ____________________________________________

Type of membership [Mark appropriate box; make check in US funds to SIG on REAPA.]

☐ New  ☐ Renewal

Regular

☐ 1 year $7  ☐ 2 years $12  ☐ 3 years $15

Student

☐ $5  ☐ $8  ☐ $10

Are you currently a paid-up member of AERA?

☐ Yes [AERA membership number ________________________________ ]

☐ No [Please help the SIG by joining AERA as soon as possible.]

Scholarly Interests [one or two sentences for our membership roster]:
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Send to:

CARROLYN IWAMOTO • Treasurer, SIG•REAPA • National Board of Medical Examiners • 3750 Market Street • Philadelphia, PA 19104 • (215) 590–9752 fax (215) 590–9449 • ciwamoto@mail.nbme.org
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Balance as of 3/24/97: $1914.44

Respectfully submitted to the SIG•REAPA membership:

A. Lin Goodwin
Treasurer, SIG•REAPA

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SIG • REAPA

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