

TABLE OF CONTENTS

p. 1 - 4 upcoming events
 "what you don't know can't hurt you" ron aramaki
 minority affairs update - linda sun
 asian/pacific american experience class ron aramaki
 trotter house - \$35 policy. linda sun

p. 3 "asian-american culture" david sasaki

p. 5-6 officers tell all!
 treasurer anna seo
 social chair linda nan
 president linda sun
 - more officer profiles to come -

Articles, cartoons, personal ads, constructive criticism, ideas, comments, columns, the kitchen sink... anything is welcome! call for info... phone numbers inside.
 ~ editors

the asian american assoc. newsletter
 university of michigan 4319 mich. union
 ann arbor MI 48109



Yuri Kochiyama
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

p. 1 - 4 upcoming events
"What you don't know can hurt you" for Asians
minority affairs update - Linda Sun
Asian Pacific American experience class for Asians
brother horse - \$35 policy. Linda Sun

p. 5 "Asian American culture" David Sasaki

p. 2-6 officers tell all!
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University of Michigan
Ann Arbor MI 48109



Yuri Kochegorov
242 W. 136th St., #3B
New York, N.Y. 10021

the asian american association proudly presents:

january 23, 1984

no. 1



upcoming events

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION:

Our annual cultural event,
Dinner, Entertainment, Dance
on Feb. 4, details to come...

TRIP TO TORONTO:

First weekend, Spring Break.
Details next meeting, or
call Linda at 763-2922

FREE DONUTS! FREE HOT CHOCOLATE!

Trotter House--Friday, Jan. 27,
from 3 to 5 in the afternoon.

New members--we especially
encourage you to come!

ASIAN AMERICAN AWARENESS SERIES:

Call Ron Aramaki for details,
764-5248 (generally after AAA
meetings.)

asian/pacific american experience

FROM THE ASIAN AMERICAN REP-R. ARAMAKI

As the Asian American Represent-
ative at Minority Student Services,
you will be hearing from me from time
to time on what's happening around
campus. I will also try to focus on
topics that have special concern for
us as Asian Americans.

One such topic is the Asian/
Pacific American Experience Class
(American Culture 203).

The class is currently being
taught this Winter term M&F, 11:00-
12:30, room 3508 Frieze Bldg., by
Maggie Chon, Dennis Tachiki, and
Micheal Thornton. This is a class
which may be of interest to you for
several reasons... (cont'd on p. 2)

"what you don't know..." R.A.

We, as Asian Americans,
simply aren't recognized as a group
by the administration, et.al. We
are viewed as the Model Minority--
in no need of assistance or special
attention. We get confused with
foreign-born Asians. Decisive
statistics inflate the curves,
obscuring the facts and hurting
Asian Americans. Specifically...
(cont'd on p. 2)

minority affairs update

1. Trotter House Open House
on Sat., Jan. 28--will be open
to all minorities, ethnic groups
at Michigan.--Need assistance in
anyone of the following departments:
entertainment, food, set-up, flyer
distribution.
2. Newly--established Advisory
Committee to Trotter House and
the director of Trotter House.
-to assist and advise on policy-
making, rules and regulations of
Trotter House. (cont'd on p. 4)

trotter house--who's it really for?

"The \$35 Policy..." by Linda Sun

Recently, there has been some
concern expressed by Ellen Offen,
acting director of Trotter House,
of implications propagated by the
use of Trotter House facilities by
student organizations who request
an admission fee for their functions.

Based on a few exceptional
cases of negligent student organiza-
tions several years ago, and the
belief that the Trotter House image
was at stake (or rather that it was
being misread), it was proposed that
a \$35 charge be imposed as a deterrent
to student organization from charging
any kind of admission fee... (p. 4)

editor's note: ♪

the asian american newsletter -- it's
not just for breakfast anymore!



DON'T MISS THE OFFICER PROFILES!! read on...

"what you don't know can't hurt you" (cont'd from p.1) by ron aramaki

1. No formal recruitment of Asian Americans is conducted by the U. This is not the case with other minority groups.
2. The Opportunity Program does not make any concerted efforts at approaching Asian Americans.
3. Asian Americans are given little consideration for financial aid. Asian Americans are rarely approached for minority scholarships.
4. Minority Merit Fellowship Program guidelines have been changed, squeezing out ^{many} previously eligible Asians. Exclusion is based upon "overrepresentation" in certain fields and many are non-US citizens.
5. Far Eastern Languages Department--Native Chinese and Japanese Students are highly discouraged (or rather, restricted) from majoring in their respective languages. (This is not the case with other area Language departments)
6. Minority Women's Career Task Force--Only on Asian woman on this Task Force. This lack of representation reinforces notion that Asian are not minorities.
7. Affirmative Action Office--Although this office monitors minority hiring, there are no Asians in the office (for that matter, there were two minority staff--both black-listed, sorry, black-- last term in the entire office).
8. The office publishes two reports:
 Minority Report: Asians are included for statistics only.
 AAO Report: Subsection on Blacks, Hispanics, not Asian Americans.

Actions You Can Take

- Be curious about policies on campus regarding admissions, financial aid, minority concerns.
- Investigate, ask hard questions ("How does such-and-such effect AAA, myself?")
- Show visibility through AAA
- Attend University of Michigan functions and talk to administrators.
- *An extraction of the main points from Ron Aramaki's presentation on University Policies and Procedures affecting Asian Americans.

asian/pacific american experience class (from p.1) by ron aramaki

First, the class has had a long history. Through the efforts of many committed people, a class on Asian Americans had been presented on a sometime basis from 1972-1979. The class developed out of an awareness by Asian Americans that it was important to learn more about the history of our culture in America and the present problems confronting our community. Each of these early courses explored a particular subject--politics, history, literature, and the like. It was also important to educate non-Asians to the effects of stereotyping and racism. But the class relied on volunteer resources, and so was not consistent enough to become effective.

Several attempts to institutionalize an Asian American Studies Department were unsuccessful, but since Winter Term '80, the Asian American Experience Class was established as a tradition in the American Culture Department. This term marks the fourth consecutive year the course has been taught. The objectives remain the same and the topics have shaped up to cover all the important areas from history and anti-Asian legislation to current immigration and global affairs that affect Asians... (cont'd)

APAEAC (cont'd from p.2)

by ron aramaki

That tradition is in jeopardy. A low enrollment has raised concerns from the instructors. Lack of enrollment may be cause for the department to consider not keeping it on the course offerings for next year. So a second reason you may be interested in the course is its future. With its current lack of interest, it will not have one.

The reasons for having an Asian/Pacific American Experience Class now are just as valid as they were when far-sighted people lobbied dilligently: 1. by studying the Asian American experience, Asians can gain greater insight into the influences that have shaped their values and attitudes. 2. Distortions in history can be seen, and influences of racism and stereotyping on individuals and society. 3. A more realistic understanding of the second-largest minority group on campus can be gained.

For one or all the above, you may have an interest in the class. Perhaps you have a friend.

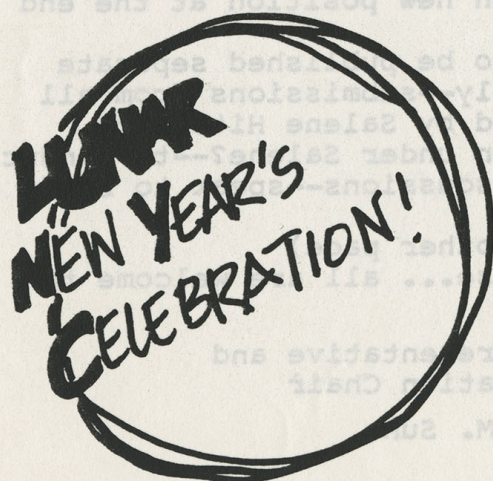
asian-american culture

by david sasaki

Asian-Americans or not, many people are confused about what AA culture really is. Do we cook in woks? Do we learn karate or kung-fu? Are we successful Americans who have become scientist, doctors and engineers? Should we do these things? Each AA answers and re-answers such questions throughout life. Our answers together reflect values, and standards which are the basis of our (participation in) music, art, science, literature, and the like. Culture is all the ways we respond to life. Thru projects such as the Awareness Series, the Lunar New Year, and Collage, the AA literary arts magazine, the other officers and I hope to promote your cultural exploration.

I believe it is important for every AA to carefully consider his or her place in AA culture and in the broader context of American culture. Too many of us unknowingly accept the values and standards of White America, the prevailing culture, and are reminded of our differences from whites only by visiting a Chinese restaurant or by watching a martial arts demonstration. We cannot have a culture by accepting white standards for five days and speaking our ancestors' language for two. Even non-Asians can do that.

Our culture should be neither empty ritual from our grandparents nor ersatz white American, but a meaningful way to clarify to ourselves and others what it really means to be Asian American.



Let's get cultural!

- variety of Asian dishes
- entertainment!

* Terry Watada, songwriter-poet

* Traditional Chinese Dance

* Tai Kwon Do Demonstration

- dance the night away!

TICKETS AVAILABLE: #3 MEMBERS

\$5 NON-MEMBERS

don't procrastinate! → #6 DOOR

'the \$35 policy...' (cont'd from p.1)**by linda sun**

There seems to be a general consensus, however, that the present and past policy of 'first come, first use' of Trotter House facilities has worked rather effectively. There haven't been any criticisms nor complaints from students concerning this matter as status quo has been and should be maintained.

It has been further argued that the implementation of such charge would be grossly contradictory to and defeating the purposes and functions of Trotter House; that in fact, the students would be hurt rather than helped.

The Minority Affairs Committee convened on January 10, for 2½ hours in deliberation of the need for a solution and viable proposals to such. There were many views expressed by the various minority groups, as well as proposals for a resolution...however no such conclusion was reached.

Through consultation with the newly-established Advisory Board to the Director of Trotter House as well as other concerned parties, Ellen Offen will soon come to her decision.

What's your opinion on this matter? We (and Ellen) would like to know!!!

***Let it be known that AAA interests in this issue are vital. We have continuously looked to the support of Trotter House in the process of carrying out and reaching our goals through the unrestricted use of its facilities. Until we are able to diminish our costs and actively seek alternate sources of funding (which are amongst our primary goals for 1984), we need to administer some fee (free from other financial constraints) for the essential carrying out of our duties and goals and for the continued existence of our organization. Please join us in the eradication of this impairing policy.

minority affairs update (from p.1)**by linda sun**

-members are as follows: Reeran Kim, Curtis Vance, Anit Yudkin, David Butler, Randy McDuffie.

3. New director of Trotter House recently appointed: Michael Swanigan, presently at Project Community, will take on new position at the end of January.

4. Minority Affairs Committee Newsletter--to be published separate from "Black Perspectives" newsletter, monthly--submissions from all ethnic groups/student organizations accepted by Salene Hitchcock.

5. Interested in serving as a Co-Chairperson under Salene?--to conduct meetings, write agendas, advise and lead discussions--speak to Lynda or Salene.

6. Trotter House and 'The \$35 Policy' (see other page)

7. Next meeting, Jan. 24, 8pm., Trotter House... all are welcome to attend.

Your representative and
Communication Chair

Lynda M. Sun

your officers for the 1984 year:

Faculty Advisor: Ron Aramaki 764-5248
 Trotter House Student Rep.: Reeran Kim 763-4692
 President: Lynda M. Sun 663-2232
 Cultural Chairperson: David Sasaki 994-1543
 Social Chairperson: Linda Wan 763-2922
 Communications Chair: Reeran Kim 763-4692
 Treasurer: Anna Seo 764-3998
 Editor for Newsletter: Fran & Dan Cheng 663-3199
 Mary Ann Cheng 668-7991
 Secretary: Jaye Lee 764-3913

IM BASKETBALL:

anyone interested,
 contact
 Deman Lim

**\$ meet your treasurer - Anna Seo**

Hi! My name is Anna Seo, a sophomore in LS&A. As a new treasurer for AAA, I will try my best to improve the organization. I promise to treat the organization's money as if it were my own. In fact, if I want a new sweater, it just may be. In all seriousness, my job will be to keep the money...but, not for my own personal benefits.

I would like to stress the benefits of being AAA member, for example, reduced cover charges for all of our functions, a chance to interact with other members, a chance to help plan for future activities, and an opportunity to contribute your valuable insights at the weekly meetings. Unfortunately, all of this can be yours only after paying a small membership fee. I realize our financial situations as students and I will try to keep it down to a minimum. Thank you for your attention and hope to see you this year.

social chairperson ~ Linda Wan

Hello everyone and welcome back to the new term! My name is Linda Wan and I am the new social chairperson for AAA. I'm excited about this organization and I think you should be, too. I've met many new friends in the clup and I find my association with other Asians to be very rewarding. One of the best ways to become involved with AAA'S is if you aren't already attend our social function. I realize that we all have different, individual tastes which also apply to what we like to do for fun.

So I hope to make up a social callender which is both as interesting and diverse as we are. Some ideas I have include chicken plucking, activities involving midgets with cheese whiz and inviting Wayne Newton to tea... But I'd like to add that I am open to more suggestions.

Furthermore, I feel that AAA news to become more prominent on campus. I want to see more of the Asians on campus at our social functions. Perhaps we can gain this recognition by stripping in the Diag but I really don't think we need to go to those extremes. I feel that if members of the club get enthusiastic and encourage other Asians to join that we won't need to "get naked."

All kidding aside, we do need some good activities in store for this year. But we need your support planning for and attending these functions. Once again, I have a few ideas of my own for social events but I would greatly appreciate your valuable inputs. So please keep me posted and see you at the meetings!

meet the president ~ Linda Sun

In the past, there have been several personal reasons for which one officer or another had to leave his/her position. These incidences were unfortunate and coincidental, but they could not have been helped. Our present reason for changing the structure of the terms that AAA officers are to hold is basically for continuity's sake. And so, this brings me to introduce myself and my goals for AAA... continuity and stability: two key words for the advancement of any organization

I first became involved with AAA as a freshman and have been an active member ever since. In the brief space of a year, I've observed and I've assisted. I believe that I am now prepared to lead the organization towards reaching our long-term goals and to make some significant contributions to AAA as a whole.

I'm beginning early, and I'd like to work hard and work rapidly... to accomplish and to act as a stabilizing force... for the longterm benefits of AAA.

I oftentimes have a slight problem in writing (and speaking) concisely, so please bear with me, should I begin to ramble incoherently. I will do my best, however. So, as succinctly as I can, these are my goals for AAA-1984:

IMMEDIATE PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES

1. Lunar New Year Celebration - Our annual cultural event: dinner, entertainment, and dance on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 (details to come).
2. COLLAGE: Asian American Images, our literary magazine. Underway, but in need of submissions, general assistance, etc.
3. Asian American Awareness Series (see calendar).
4. Other sports/social activities.

INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

1. Clearly define purposes, goals, and strategies of AAA as a student organization.
2. Clean out the office: update available information and resources, for efficiency.
3. Improve the structure of the officers: define roles and duties, stress communication and cooperation.
4. Make a formal and complete mailing list (computerize?).

EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION

1. Improve image, reach out to more Asians in and around the U (personal contact, the Michigan Daily, newsletters, flyers, etc.)
2. Interaction with other Asian groups around campus (inform, inquire, response, action, interaction).
3. Establishing contacts outside UM.
 - a. Other Midwestern universities and coastal universities.
 - b. With influential and significant Asian Americans around the US.
 - c. By subscribing to various AA publications
 - d. Establishing contact with other such groups/organizations (ie, ACJ, ECASU).

STRATEGY

1. UNITE: Stimulate interest, obtain reactions and responses; increase membership through improved communication efforts and more diverse, meaningful activities.
 2. INFORM: Inform Asian Americans of situations and socio-political issues in and around the University, community, across the State, through lectures, workshops and discussions and general research. These issues concern and affect all of us!!
 3. ACT: Act and react to let our voices be heard, to work towards the betterment of opportunities and situations for Asian Americans, together as a cohesive group of concerned, well-informed individuals.
- (Has it not been said somewhere before that there is...STRENGTH IN UNITY?)