

**PROMOTING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN GOVERNMENT**

**Upcoming Events:**

- January 19, 2019— FAPAC Annual Holiday Party at Fortune Restaurant
- February 15, 2019 — Civilian and Uniformed Services Award Nominations Due: <https://fapac.org/awards>

**In This Issue**

President’s Message	1
FAPAC Announces Theme for 2019 AAPI Heritage Month	1
Installation of FY 2019 -2020 National Board of Directors	2
Selection of 2018-2019 Committee Chairs	3
FAPAC Recognizes CDP and LSP Graduates	3
FAPAC Honors First Responder Teams at OCA-DC 45th Annual Gala	3
FAPAC Participates in PPALM Annual Meeting	3
White House Hosts 2018 National AAPI Leadership Summit	4
FAPAC Charters Las Vegas and STAR Chapters	4



**Federal Asian Pacific American Council**

**FAPAC**

P.O. BOX 23184 | Washington, D.C. 20026-3184 | [www.fapac.org](http://www.fapac.org)

December 2018

Unite Our Mission by Engaging Each Other

Volume 2019 Issue 1

**President’s Message**



Congratulations to the newly sworn in FAPAC Elected Officials!

The ceremony for the Installation of the Fiscal Years (FY) 2019-2020 National Board of Directors (NBOD) was well attended. Not only were we privileged to hear from a variety of inspirational speakers, we took the opportunity to formally recognize all the volunteers who served with total commitment and dedication to make FAPAC the best organization!

In addition, we warmly welcome the newly appointed Committee Chairs for FY 2019 during this month.

As we turn the page on another FAPAC fiscal year (October 1 to September 30), we approach FY 2019 with immense excitement and enthusiasm. I can’t think of a better way to start this journey than by focusing on the FAPAC’s 5-year Strategic Plan, which spans fiscal years 2018-2022. The Plan outlines our priorities and core values. We rely on the values of volunteerisms partnership, diligence, service, accountability, integrity, and teamwork to guide our path to continuous success throughout the journey this year and in the future. Both the NBOD and the National Board of Operations (NBOO) all play a key role in meeting FAPAC’s Strategic Goals, through a nine-point plan: (1) promote career development, (2) initiate college outreach, (3) advocate a culture of Diversity and Inclusion, (4) enhance training and education opportunities, (5) activate affirmative employment initiatives, (6) increase membership benefits, (7) improve organizational effectiveness, (8) expand community partnership and (9) support regions and chapter development.

These goals advance our mission to elevate Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in the Federal and District of Columbia governments. Each NBOD and NBOO member will embrace the Strategic Plan and incorporate it into everything they do for FAPAC and its members as they perform their leadership role. Along with our distinguished board members, I pledge to serve FAPAC and its members with total commitment, dedication, dignity, respect and inclusion.

Here’s to another spectacular year!

Best wishes,  
Olivia Adrian

**FAPAC Announces Theme for 2019 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

FAPAC has proudly announced the theme for the observance of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May 2019: *Unite Our Mission by Engaging Each Other*. This year’s theme is a continuation of our “Unite” series and focuses on leadership and engagement to advance the AAPI community.

Results from the 2018 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey indicate that 68% of Federal employees government-wide felt an overall sense of engagement based on three categories: leadership, supervisor relationship, and their roles in the workplace. The Office of Personnel Management defines engagement as “An employee’s sense of purpose that is evident in their display of dedication, persistence and effort in their work or overall attachment to their organization and its mission.” This year, FAPAC will leverage the compelling mission of public service by equipping government leaders with the necessary skills and knowledge to continue increasing employee engagement and make our communities better places to live and work. Unite Our Mission by Engaging Each Other encourages AAPI participation in civic engagement and empowers leaders at all levels.

FAPAC invites all employees of the Federal and DC governments, including the military, to the 2019 National Leadership Training Program (NLTP) - a reputable training opportunity for public servants. The 34th Annual NLTP will be held at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama on



May 13-16, 2019 and is a celebration of AAPI Heritage Month each May. The NLTP offers high-quality training, networking opportunities, and practical strategies for personal and professional development as it relates to the 2019 theme. During this three-day training, FAPAC recognizes high-performing individuals with a presentation of the Civilian Awards, Uniformed Services Awards, and a \$5,000 Distinguished Public Service Scholarship. The NLTP will also host a free career exhibition and development programs for students and Veterans interested in public service. Visit [www.fapac.org/NLTP](http://www.fapac.org/NLTP) to learn more.

The NLTP Kick Off Meeting took place on November 17, with monthly meetings planned through April. Members interested in supporting the NLTP as a participant, volunteer, speaker, sponsor, or exhibitor are encouraged to visit <https://fapac.org/nltp2019> for more information.



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**Save the Date**

- May 13-16, 2019 —34th National Leadership Training Program in Huntsville, AL: <https://fapac.org/nltp2019>

**FAPAC NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President:**  
Olivia Adrian, DOI

**Vice President**  
Kevin Lee, FAA

**Vice President of Operations**  
Fahmida Chhipa, USDA

**Vice President of Finance Management**  
Jane Yang, PBGC

**Vice President of Technology and Media**  
Peter Nguyen, FAA

**Executive Secretary**  
Rene Lau, DOD

**Treasurer**  
Lily Ho, DOD

**Auditor**  
Chuan-Ming Li, NIH

**Immediate Past President**  
Grace Spence, VA

**Installation of FY 2019-2020 National Board of Directors**



FAPAC members, partners, sponsors, and honored guests warmly welcomed the new elected officials of the National Board of Directors on October 5, 2018.

Holly Ham, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, delivered an inspiring keynote address that traced her journey as a refugee from Vietnam to her current role to increase access to and participation in federal programs in which Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are underserved.

In addition, Rear Admiral Matthew W. Sibley of the U.S. Coast Guard provided special remarks, and retired Major General Antonio Mario Taguba conducted the Installation Ceremony. The term of office began on October 1, 2018 and ends September 30, 2020.

Congratulations to FAPAC’s new leadership team:

- President: Olivia F. Adrian (DOI)
- Vice President: Kevin Le (FAA)
- Vice President of Operations: Fahmida Chhipa (USDA)
- Vice President of Finance Management: Jane Yang (PBGC)

- Vice President of Technology and Media Communications: Peter Nguyen (FAA)
- Executive Secretary: Rene Lau (DoD)
- Treasurer: Lily Ho (DoD)
- Auditor: Chuan-Ming Li (NIH)
- Regional Director: (RD-5) Xinzhi Zhang (NIH)

The ceremony also presented FAPAC President's Award, which recognizes exceptional leaders and outstanding performances by individuals who supported FAPAC’s mission within the period from October 2016 through September 2018. The complete list of award recipients can be viewed at: <https://fapac.org/news/6727733>

“I wanted to express my warmest and heartfelt gratitude to the Members of the National Board of Directors and the National Board of Operations who supported me during the last 2 years,” said Olivia F. Adrian, who will be serving her second term as FAPAC President. “I want to recognize the important contributions of our volunteers who continuously dedicate and commits to support the mission of FAPAC and make a difference in someone’s career each day.”



**Selection of FY 2019 Committee Chairs**

On October 22, the FAPAC National Board of Directors announced the selections of all the Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Chairs. The term of these appointments are for 12 months, ending September 30, 2019.

“Each year that FAPAC has been in existence has brought new accomplishments and each year new goals are set for greater achievements,” FAPAC President Olivia F. Adrian remarked. “This year, we have new Team Leaders and our agenda is very ambitious. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but with everyone’s support we can be successful!”

Congratulations to the FAPAC Committee Chairs!

**Standing Committees**

- Program Committee: Cailine Kim (VA)
- Public Relations Committee: Thao Tran (DOI)

- Nomination and Election Committee: Liqun Wong (DOJ)
- Affirmative Committee: Kenneth Bailey (NOAA)
- Membership Committee: Selina Lee (Navy)
- Chapter Committee: Katherine Toth (OPM)
- Conference Committee: Kelly Sewell (DOI)
- Constitution and Bylaws Committee: Raphael Choi (DOJ)
- Ethics Committee: Gerald Tiqui (NASA)

**Ad Hoc Committees**

- Sponsorship Committee: Marina Milton (Treasury)
- Awards Committee: Teresa Brown (USDA)
- Community Outreach Committee: Lan Caohuy-Rifkin (FBI)



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**Join FAPAC:**

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**Contribute to the Newsletter:**

Contact Public Relations Chair Thao Tran at [thao.tran@fapac.org](mailto:thao.tran@fapac.org) with any comments or future article submissions.

View past newsletters at [www.fapac.org/newsletters](http://www.fapac.org/newsletters)

**Newsletter Contributions**

**Contributors:** Olivia Adrian, Cailine Kim

**Editors:** Kelly Sewell, Darrick Lee

**Photo credits:** Thong Vu, Thong Nguyen, Olivia Adrian

**FAPAC Recognizes CDP and LSP Graduates**

On November 9, FAPAC celebrated the 2018 Career Development Program (CDP) for High Performers and Leadership Shadowing Program (LSP) Graduation at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

FAPAC's CDP for High Performers is an effort in support of the Federal government's vision to achieve and maintain a diverse, inclusive, high performing workforce. It seeks to provide members and participants with a career development experience that opens up different pathways of learning and growth within their organizations while encouraging participants to practice their leadership responsibilities and to address their interest for career development through FAPAC. Forty-four participants were selected for the 2018 program (21 mentors and 23 mentees).

The LSP program is a unique opportunity for FAPAC members to observe how FAPAC national elected officers serve their members at large, gain insight on the leadership role in FAPAC, and develop their interest in serving FAPAC in the future through an elected position or appointment as committee chair.



**FAPAC Honors First Responder Teams at OCA-DC 45th Annual Gala**

On October 13, 2018, FAPAC participated in the OCA-DC 45th Annual Honor Awards Gala at the New Fortune Restaurant in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

This year, OCA-DC honored the Asian Pacific American First Responder Teams from Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS), Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD), and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. The event also honored the esteemed career of Montgomery County Executive, Ike Leggett, who will step down from his outstanding public service tenure as County Executive in January 2019.

Founded in 1973, OCA - Asian Pacific American Advocates is a national organization of over 100 chapters and affiliates dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). OCA's policy priorities include immigration, education, fair treatment and broadband access.



*FAPAC participates in OCA-DC 45th Annual Gala. Left to right: Jane Yang, Hong Hitchings, Christine Chen, OCA-DC Chapter President Mary Tom, FAPAC President Olivia Adrian, Montgomery County Executive Isiah (Ike) Leggett, Patricia Fern, Fahmida Chhhipa, Teresa Brown, unidentified, Fred Cheng.*

- Mentee of the Year:** Lisa McManamay, VA
- Mentor of the Year:** George Eisenbach, VA
- Best Project:** Jasmine Gatti, HHS
- Recognition Award:** Dr. Puri Subramaniam, VA
- Achievement Award:** Rochelle Urquhart, BLM
- Diversity Award:** Xiabing Feng, DOC

**FAPAC Participates in PPALM's 11th Annual General Membership Meeting**



*FAPAC supported PPALM at 11th Annual General Membership Meeting. Left to right: Former Secretary of Veteran Affairs Eric Shinseki, Linda Miller, Peter Nguyen, Major General Antonio Taguba, Kevin Le, Trina Le.*

On October 7, 2018, FAPAC supported the Pan-Pacific American Leaders and Mentors (PPALM) at their 11th Annual General Membership Meeting & Reception. The event showcased senior civilian and military leaders and professionals, and provide a platform for young aspiring leaders to network with mentors.

Pan-Pacific American Leaders and Mentors (PPALM) is an all-volunteer organization comprised of military and civilian professionals committed to mentoring and promoting professional development, retention and the advancement of Asian American and Pacific Islander leaders—Active, Reserve, National Guard, and DoD civilians.



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**Newsletter Contributions**

**Contributors:** Olivia Adrian, Cailine Kim

**Editors:** Kelly Sewell, Darrick Lee

**Photo credits:** Thong Vu, Thong Nguyen, Olivia Adrian

**White House Hosts 2018 National AAPI Leadership Summit**



*FAPAC President Olivia Adrian at the 2018 National AAPI Leadership Summit.*

The White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI) hosted the National Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Leadership Summit at the White House on November 13, 2018. The summit was coordinated by the WHIAAPI, the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), and the Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (National ACE).

Holly Ham, WHIAAPI Executive Director, delivered opening remarks, followed by the morning keynote address from Henry Childs, national director of MBDA. During his speech, Childs highlighted data across various industries that show that AAPIs, while having significant roles at the professional level, are limited at the management and executive levels.

The agenda also included two panel discussions. The first focused on experiences, trials, and tribulations from a panel of key federal and corporate executives. The second discussed key leadership development and advocacy from the private, public, and non-profit sectors. In the afternoon keynote address, the Honorable Noel John Francisco, 48th solicitor general of the United States, concluded the summit by encouraging continued commitment and passion to build a pipeline of AAPI leaders across the country.

The objective of the event was to raise awareness to the lack of AAPI representation at senior levels and to help advance more AAPI leaders in public, private, and nonprofit organizations. As these core values are directly aligned with FAPAC’s mission, FAPAC leadership participated in this opportunity to help promote and engage in the continuous collaboration across industries and sectors to build up AAPI leaders in business and government.



**FAPAC Charters Las Vegas and STAR Chapters**

FAPAC welcomed two new chapters to its family in November - the Las Vegas chapter and the STAR chapter.

The Las Vegas Chapter was approved on November 12, 2018 to serve FAPAC members in Las Vegas and the surrounding region.

Additionally, FAPAC approved the Southern Tennessee Valley and Alabama Region (STAR) chapter on November 28, 2018. FAPAC STAR is a geographical chapter serving the



*FAPAC Las Vegas Chapter Officers. Left to right: Maria Romasanta (Secretary), Russ Prado (Auditor), Samantha Long (non-officer), Milly Okamura (Treasurer), Patrick Jacobs (President), Gil Cristobal (Vice President), Yvette Scott-Butler (Senior Advisor).*



*FAPAC STAR Chapter. Left to right: Darrick Lee, (FAPAC), Sara Yoon (STAR Secretary), Lien Moore (STAR Vice President), Olivia Adrian (FAPAC President), Angela Newcomb (STAR President), Yong Castillo (STAR Treasurer), Julie Kelly (FAPAC).*

Redstone Arsenal; Huntsville, AL; and surrounding areas. The chapter is open to all federal employees in the region, with initial participation expected from agencies co-located at the Redstone Arsenal, which includes but is not limited to NASA, MDA, FBI, US AMC, USACC, and ATF.

Congratulations to both chapters and its officers!

For more information about FAPAC chapters, visit <https://fapac.org/chapter> or contact [chapters@fapac.org](mailto:chapters@fapac.org). The FAPAC Chapter Committee Chair, Katherine Toth, can be reached at [Katherine.Toth@fapac.org](mailto:Katherine.Toth@fapac.org).