Charles Morrison, the 2017 Building Bridges awardee, has dedicated his professional life to advocacy of a strong Asia-Pacific community. As President of the East-West Center from 1998 until the end of 2016, Dr. Morrison led the most important U.S.-based institution for promoting America’s “soft power” in the Asia Pacific region. When Morrison took over the Center’s leadership, its funding from the US Congress had been significantly reduced in the mid-’90s and the organization had gone through a major staff reduction. Morrison reorganized the Center’s structure, developed important non-government sources of financial support, and had worked tirelessly – and with much success – to maintain and even increase Congressional support for the Center’s mission.

In his 18.5 years as the East-West Center President, Morrison created and inspired the conception, organization and funding of numerous policy-oriented research, exchange and dialogue projects. The Center became a popular venue for American Secretaries of State and foreign leaders to deliver policy addresses and for bilateral negotiations between American and Asia-Pacific diplomats and trade officials. Charles is respected throughout the region as an expert on US policy toward Asia and on regional cooperation. He has written extensively on APEC, Japan and U.S. relations with Asia.

A native of Montana, Morrison received a PhD from Johns Hopkins’ School of Advanced International Studies. After a stint as Legislative aide to Senator William Roth, Morrison was associated during the 1980s and ‘90s with the Japan Center for International Exchange. Prior to becoming the East-West Center’s president, Morrison spent several years at the Center, including as head of the former Institute of Economics and Politics. From 2005 to 2012, he also served as international chair and co-chair of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Committee. After retiring as East-West Center President on December 31, 2016, Morrison has continued to serve as a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Center.

In 1960 the U.S. Congress established the East-West Center for precisely the mission of serving as a bridge between America and the Asia Pacific region. Congress saw our then new state of Hawaii as an ideal location to promote better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the US, Asia and the Pacific. The Center, our 2017 institutional awardee, for over 50 years has brought people together to exchange views, build expertise and develop policy options. The U.S. Congress provides funding for the Center, with significant additional support coming from foundations, other regional governments, corporations and individuals.

The Center’s activities include research, education, exchange programs and dialogue. In recent years, the Center has developed a highly respected expertise in leadership training. As a non-government organization, the Center has frequently been able to bring together government representatives and private persons from countries or political movements that are suspicious or even hostile toward each other. Examples include a recent two-year project that took Indian and Pakistani journalists on reporting trips to their neighbor countries; many programs that brought together political figures and journalists from Taiwan and mainland China; discussions about history between prominent Japanese and Koreans; and occasional programs that have included participants from North Korea.

The Center has an extraordinary network of 62,000 alumni, with thousands organized into active chapters throughout the Asia Pacific and US. The alumni support the Center’s work, often serving as key organizers for programs in their countries. The Center also cooperates with some 1100 partner organizations. PCI is proud of its close association with the EWC, beginning in 2005 with PCI’s support in Los Angeles for the first of many Korea US Journalist Exchange Programs. PCI has also collaborated with the EWC in organizing a series of large Asia Pacific media conferences. Our two organizations have long recognized that we share the common goal of promoting understanding, helping Americans and Asians to listen to each other and to work together to develop a peaceful and prosperous region.

Dr. Charles Morrison and East-West Center will be honored at the 2017 PCI Annual Award Dinner on Feb 23, 2017. He will give a speech on “The Power of Positive Public Diplomacy.”

Charles Morrison, East-West Center
Teaching at Williams; Trump and Custer
By Donald P. Gregg

January 26, 2017, will be my final class at Williams, at least for this year. This will be my seventh year as an adjunct faculty member, teaching during the four-week Winter Study period.

I have 20 students in my class, out of the 92 who applied. As usual, they are curious, intelligent and articulate. The subject of my class is “CIA and the Politics of Intelligence.” This subject, interesting enough in itself, has been rendered truly fascinating by the background noise of Donald Trump’s inauguration, his contentious statements, and the widespread, tumultuous reaction to them.

During the second week, I was asked to give a talk at the Williams Faculty Club about my views of the incoming Trump administration. I said that I had had meetings with eight previous presidents, and that Trump did not remind me of any of them. I went on to say that as I looked back into American history to find a person who reminded me of Trump, one man jumped into clear focus. That was George Armstrong Custer, killed with all his men in the battle of the Little Bighorn River in 1876.

The parallels obviously begin with the golden hair featured by both men, but run far deeper than that. Vanity, wild ambition, wanton behavior with women, disdain for the thinking of others and boundless self-absorption are characteristics fully shared by both men.

Pulitzer Prize-winner Larry McMurtry’s short book "Crazy Horse," is loaded with derogatory quotes about Custer, including details of his brutal treatment of American soldiers under his command.

And so Custer died, having ignored warnings from his Crow scouts that he was facing a massive array of Native Americans determined to defeat him. He emerged from death as a tragic hero, the valiant centerpiece of thousands of "Custer’s Last Stand" paintings, once depicted glamorously by Errol Flynn.

I no longer think of him as I did as a boy, which is why he came to mind at as a counterpart to Trump. I ended my talk at Williams by saying that Trump as president is bound to encounter a political version of the Little Bighorn battle, perhaps precipitated by him, perhaps not, and that his ability to deal with the problem, and to survive it, are open to question.

In the Q and A following my talk, I was asked what I thought the Trump administration would amount to. I said that in my almost ten years working in the White House, June 1979 - February 1989, I had seen the White House have to turn inward to defend itself from massive hostile political pressure deriving from the seizure of American diplomats by the Iranians in 1979, and the Iran-Contra scandal of 1986.

When the White House is forced to use much of its creative energies to defend itself, many issues are left unaddressed, and many new issues are not undertaken. That, I suspect, will be the fate of the Trump administration. I sincerely hope that I am wrong.

Below is the message Chairman Gregg sent to his students before the class started.

Welcoming message to incoming students

I very much look forward to meeting you all one week from today. This will be my seventh Winter Study period at Williams. Each year is quite different, in terms of what the world confronts us with, and what we carry with us into the class. I have added a new dimension to my life by writing a book aimed at ten-year-olds that seems to be interesting adults as well. It’s called The Scarred Double Eagle, set in the 1920s, with flashbacks to the Indian wars of the 1860s. I’ll have a copy with me, and have already committed to writing a sequel. I’ll get on that as soon as we finish up Winter Study on January 26.

Re: the world, I am flummoxed by it. I do not know what to make of Mr. Trump, and do not like what I see. I’ve had one meeting with him which left a bad taste in my mouth.

I cannot remember a time when the world seemed to be so short of world-class leaders. The Pope is magnificent, and so, in her way is Angela Merkel. I have great respect for Obama, but he has been handcuffed by a Congress, and a society, still deeply afflicted by racism.

As I look over notes from past classes, I recall well urging you to "think like intelligence officers." By that I meant cutting behind appearances toward reality, never treating a human being like an object, and always seeking to think vicariously about those people with whom you have problems. What makes them tick?

This year, I’ll also be seeking to get more of you to consider entering public service. Making a difference is as important as making a buck, and if you can do both, you’ve got the world by the tail.

I’ll be looking for honest feedback from you on the course, all the way through. For the third year, I will be using my memoir, Pot Shards, Fragments of a Life Lived in CIA, the White House and the Two Koreas, as the main text. This was strongly supported by last year’s class. You may feel differently, and if so, please let me know about it.

All the best until next week,

Donald P. Gregg ’51
James T. Laney chair professorship at Yonsei

In 2017, PCI will assume responsibility for the James T. Laney chair professorship at Yonsei University in Korea. The professorship was created in 2013 by an anonymous private donor in honor of former US Ambassador to Korea James T. Laney, who has contributed greatly to Korean-American goodwill and to the promotion of specialized study in the field of international diplomacy.

The James T. Laney distinguished visiting faculty must be a scholar who has made significant contributions to improving US-Korea relations or conducted excellent research in the field of international diplomacy. Former ROK ambassador to the US, UK and KEDO, Lee Tae-Sik, was the first Laney professor for 2014-2015. Professor Choi Young-jin, a career diplomat who served as ambassador to the UN and US was appointed for 2016-2017 to teach international diplomacy at Underwood International College (UIC) of Yonsei.

Laney’s association with Korea began in 1947 when he served there in the US Army Counter-Intelligence Corps. According to his Emory University biography, the experience in Korea so changed his thinking about the world that by the time he returned to Yale in 1950 to finish the studies interrupted by his military service, he had determined to enter the ministry and was later ordained as a United Methodist minister.

In 1959, drawn by what he had seen in Korea, Laney returned to Seoul and taught at Yonsei University until 1964 while serving as a Methodist missionary.

Laney was dean at the Candler School of Emory University from 1969 to 1977, then the president of Emory from 1977 to 1993. Emory named its graduate school after Laney in 2009.

Laney served as US ambassador to South Korea from 1993 to 1997. As the top US envoy in Korea, he played an important role in resolving the first North Korean nuclear crisis in 1994.

He was educated at Yale, holding undergraduate, divinity, doctoral and honorary degrees from the university. He holds 22 honorary degrees from universities in the United States, Great Britain, Japan, Korea and Africa, including an honorary degree from Emory. He has received medals for distinguished service from the United States and Korea, the Wilbur Cross Medal from Yale, the Emory Medal, and the General James Van Fleet award from the Korea Society.

Throughout his long life, Dr. Laney has made innumerable contributions to the advancement of US-Korea relations, while forcefully promoting academic research in the field of international relations.

Conveying his appreciation of the chair in his honor, Dr. Laney said, “My earlier connection with Yonsei makes this all the more meaningful for me,” and “being associated with that (Underwood) family in the distinguished university of Yonsei is a deep and enduring privilege.”

At Risk: America’s Strategic Leadership in Asia

By Desaix Anderson

Two of Donald Trump’s foreign policy pronouncements during his campaign – his cavalier comments about American alliances in Europe and Asia, and his Asia-Pacific economic strategy – are cause for deep concern.

The President-elect calls NATO “obsolete,” questions the validity of the NATO alliance to the Baltics, praises the Brexit crack in European Unity, exhibits an alarming infatuation with Russia, ignoring subversion in the Ukraine and intrusion in U.S. elections. Trump’s views on NATO, and his casual suggestion that Japan and South Korea should consider building nuclear weapons, questions the U.S.’ commitment to alliances and principles that have promoted post-World War II peace and prosperity. Trump’s cabinet nominees are unquestionably credible.

In Asia, where I worked as a diplomat for forty years, Trump’s phone calls and tweets have shaken our stable relations with China, our bedrock alliances with Japan and South Korea, and is a matter of deep concern to all our friends in Asia. The challenges to our economic health and national security posed by a rising China are real, but we cannot manage our complex relationship with Beijing as transitory commercial transactions. We need a sustainable strategy, rooted in economic reality. And we need partners.

Opening markets for U.S. exports is a good place to start. Some two million jobs were lost in the nineties, coinciding with China’s joining the World Trade Organization. Workers in the industrial upper mid-West suffered greatly. But as Brookings Institution scholar Mireya Solis, as other serious economists, has found, “the predominant force behind losses in manufacturing employment has been technological change (85 percent), not international trade.”

Sadly, during the campaign, both Trump and Clinton wrongly attributed sectoral job losses to trade agreements like NAFTA, and both opposed the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). TPP actually improves upon all previous trade agreements by including enforceable provisions on labor rights and preserving the environment. TPP also includes the strongest provisions ever negotiated to protect U.S.-origin intellectual property. TPP would bind twelve nations representing $28 trillion of economic output, roughly 40 percent of global G.D.P. and one-third of world trade, to open their markets and adhere to high standards. This would truly level the playing field for U.S. workers and companies.

The biggest loser if Washington abandons TPP will likely be the United States worker, especially those engaged in agriculture or automobile manufacturing. China would be the biggest winner. Seeing a possible U.S. retreat from East Asia, Thailand, Cambodia, and the Philippines have already started moving closer to Beijing. If we reject TPP, others, including TPP partners Japan, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand, will likely choose to join the Chinese-led...
A View Toward Excluded Asia
By Fumio Matsuo, Journalist and PCI Board Member

Shortly before World War II's end, as a child I was in Fukuoka City, Japan and experienced an air raid by B-29 bombers. Moved by these personal "bonds of war," since 2005 I began advocating a conciliatory exchanges of visits -- to the atomic-bombed city of Hiroshima by America's president, and to Pearl Harbor by the prime minister of Japan. In 2016, both those visits were realized, and the holding of these "ceremonies of reconciliation" left me with a great sense of accomplishment. As a journalist who has spent long years observing the Japan-U.S. relationship, I felt that, after 71 years since the end of the Pacific War, a sense of reconciliation had finally come between the two countries.

But there are still steps that remain to be taken. There are still issues that divide Japan and the US and Japan's reconciliation with Asia remains incomplete.

In 1995, 50 years since the end of the Second World War, at Dresden, Germany, the bombing of which by American and British air raids resulted in heavy human losses, the former enemies had taken part in a ceremony of reconciliation. It took twenty-one more years before Japan's took place, and its nature involved the special relationship between Japan and the United States. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, speaking at a pier adjacent to the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial, made reference to the "spirit of tolerance" embraced by the American people after the war, going so far as to note the "goodwill and assistance" extended to Japan during the postwar occupation. Soon after the war's end, American culture began to enter and have effects on Japan almost overnight. Not a single American soldier was murdered by a Japanese during the occupation.

In this sense, Mr. Abe's visit to Pearl Harbor can be commended for having achieved as much as he could up to now. It was also a historic occasion for Mr. Obama, whose tenure ended mended for having achieved as much as he could up to now. It was astute diplomacy on Mr. Abe's part to have visited Pearl Harbor prior to Trump's inauguration.

Mr. Trump's election was made possible through his having moved a silent majority that may share his view. I think it was astute diplomacy on Mr. Abe's part to have visited Pearl Harbor prior to Trump's inauguration.

But with the election of President Trump, who has heralded the slogan "America First," the Japan-U.S. relationship may become more strained. Various difficult problems up to now between the two countries had been sugar-coated, but as Mr. Trump is known to put priority on "deals," they are likely to become major points of confrontation, which may in turn lead to a reassessment of the postwar Japan-U.S. alliance.

Also, while Mr. Abe appealed to the "power of reconciliation" in his speech, he avoided any mention of the war damage inflicted upon the peoples of Asia. China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson, prior to the event, commented that "It would be complacent [for Japan] to think that only going to Pearl Harbor will completely wash away the historical wrongs of the Second World War," adding the message that, "It would be better to convey the spirit of reconciliation shown at Pearl Harbor throughout Asia."

Following its rapprochement with the U.S., as its next agenda Japan should initiate "final reconciliations" with China, Korea and other neighboring countries. In particular, I would suggest they be conducted at Nanjing and Chongqing in China, where many died at the hands of the Japanese military. I'd even like to see Mr. Abe join with Russian President Putin in laying wreaths at the memorial in Khabarovsk, to Japanese who perished during their internment in Siberia.

At Risk: America's Strategic Leadership in Asia
(continued from page 3)

alternative Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). RCEP excludes the United States, and does not include the safeguards on labor rights, food safety, the environment, government procurement in TPP. Our TPP partners are dismayed. Vietnam, particularly, feels betrayed, since it has pinned its fundamental reform and strategic hopes on links to the U.S. via TPP.

By contrast, saving TPP, or improving it, would give the U.S. new leverage to use with China. Beijing would come under pressure to allow independent labor unions and protect the health of its workforce. Economic competition fostered by TPP would provide a more effective response to unfair trade practices than imposing a 45% tariff on Chinese goods. Such a tariff would only initiate a trade war neither country can win. A Trump tariff would hit the American poor and middle class the hardest, raising prices on staple goods like clothing and consumer electronics, and disrupt the supply chains of American companies. The impact on our East Asian allies would undermine the prosperity that has been fundamental to regional stability, and, in effect, turn Asia over to China. This would be a phenomenal strategic mistake for the United States.

Rather than protectionist measures, we should embrace globalization, and deal with it - by strictly enforcing trade agreements, encouraging small scale enterprise development, retraining workers, expanding vocational schools, strengthening our public education system, and repairing our crumbling infrastructure. We can compete through strength, not weakness.

Our next President should reconfirm immediately and unequivocally America's commitment to our alliance partners and our mutual obligations. He should pledge joint work to integrate the global economy, including passing TPP, rather than retreat behind walls. That would be the best way to keep America great, preserve our values, and keep faith with our allies. To fail to do so will launch America on a steep decline in our global strategic stature and imperil America's leadership.

PCI board member Desaiu Anderson is chairman of the board of directors of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation.
Project Bridge 2016-2017

Project Bridge 2016-2017 program started with the welcoming dinner and first workshop on December 3rd, 2016. The program is running in earnest under the able leadership of Christina Kam, PB 2015-2016 Group Leader and now a Program Coordinator for PB 2016-2017.

Hello! My name is Rocio Terry and I am an Adjunct Assistant Professor at USC where for the past five years I have been teaching for the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. I am also glad to see that an additional focus of this program is to increase diversity and inclusion so that riots do not again occur. Needless to say, our country is undergoing a very strenuous time in regards to diversity and acceptance—not just tolerance—in light of recent political events, as well as the highly publicized police brutality and police killings. If we can educate our youth regarding acceptance, empathy, understanding, love, and how to truly appreciate the uniqueness of every culture, let alone the uniqueness of every individual, we will all live in a much safer and happier society and world.

2016-2017 Los Angeles Youth Ambassadors

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Josue Gomez</td>
<td>Theodore Roosevelt High School</td>
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<td>Shea Husband</td>
<td>Antelope Valley Students on the Academic Rise High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith Kim</td>
<td>El Camino Real Charter High School</td>
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<td>Lorena Magaña</td>
<td>Lynwood High School</td>
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<td>Sheila Milon</td>
<td>John Marshall High School</td>
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<td>German Rodriguez</td>
<td>Ambassador School of Global Leadership</td>
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<td>Alexandre Spino</td>
<td>Aliso Niguel High School</td>
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<td>Jessica Tran</td>
<td>San Gabriel High School</td>
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2016-2017 Los Angeles Group Leaders

Hello! My name is Rocio Terry and I am an Adjunct Assistant Professor at USC where for the past five years I have been teaching for the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. I am also glad to see that an additional focus of this program is to increase diversity and inclusion so that riots do not again occur. Needless to say, our country is undergoing a very strenuous time in regards to diversity and acceptance—not just tolerance—in light of recent political events, as well as the highly publicized police brutality and police killings. If we can educate our youth regarding acceptance, empathy, understanding, love, and how to truly appreciate the uniqueness of every culture, let alone the uniqueness of every individual, we will all live in a much safer and happier society and world.

As an aspiring pharmacist, I believe cultural awareness encourages empathy to provide better care for patients. That is why I have chosen to volunteer for Project Bridge, as it opens doors for students to learn and experience new cultures. I strongly believe that bridging cultural gaps in today’s melting pot will provide a deeper understanding of not only ourselves, but also of others. I am excited to share my experiences with this year’s Youth Ambassadors, and to watch them grow into future leaders of today’s society.
Project Bridge 2016-2017  
Teaching Assistant  
Daniel Park  

Being born and raised in Hawaii, I was always exposed to different cultures, people and languages. It was always fascinating to notice how people of such diverse backgrounds could coexist in one community, which got me to realize the importance of being culturally informed and sensitive. By working with our Youth Ambassadors, I hope to share my insight and experiences, exposing them to the idea of bridging the gap between cultures and guide them down a path of becoming great leaders.