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 conference was organized by the National
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 Representatives from all areas of
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 Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, Santa
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Sacramento
 Davis
ASU newsletter
 asian student union

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FROM THE EDITORS

Racism, oppression, exploitation, the Bakke Decision, community, Asian Student Movement, unity--these are words which you will find in this newsletter. If these words are unfamiliar to you or are just words with no significance--read on! This newsletter is put together by Asian Student Union members who have seen the need to clarify and make these words more relevant. The articles on campus activities serve to bring out what the interests and concerns of Asian students are. Articles on Anti-Bakke Decision activities will point out how the Bakke Decision and other similar issues are part of the racism, oppression, and exploitation of Asian students and minority people as a whole. Reports will also cover how the ASU's are an active force in fighting for the rights of minorities in America. We will write about happenings in the Sacramento/Davis Asian community, for we, as Asian students are a part of a larger people. The problems we face as Asian students have similarities with the problems faced in our communities. Asian American Studies serves the Asian student by offering resources and faculty who can teach about aspects of Asian history in America. In turn, we Asian students with support from our community, must take an active role in determining what is taught, what is relevant in today's situation.

This newsletter reflects the growing momentum among Asian student organizations to work together. There is strength in numbers, and the Asian Student Movement is growing with enthusiasm and spirit. The articles on the February 18th Statewide Asian Student conference and subsequent joint ASU activities in Northern and Southern California will try to give you an idea of how we are developing. It is important for Asian students to build and develop a coordinated and unified organization that will reflect the needs and concerns of all Asian students. This newsletter, ASU activities, and the founding conference of the West Coast Asian-Pacific Student Organization in April are important building blocks to deepening our unity and pushing forward the Asian Student Movement.

(excerpt from Third World Forum, vol. 3, number 8, March 2, 1978)

The workshop "Working with Other Third World Organizations" also discussed

(continued on page 6)

ASIAN STUDENTS UNITE

Over 200 Asian and Pacific Islander students from California, Hawaii, and Oregon participated in the West Coast Asian Student Conference held at Pasadena City College on February 18, 1978. The enthusiasm and spirit of unity brought together at this conference reflects the strong movement among the Asian student organizations to build a formal organization based on solidarity and mutual support.

"Build unity among Asian student organizations"- "Advance the Asian Student Movement"- "Continue the struggle" were put forth as the principles of unity. They serve as the basis of directing the collective work in our respective organizations and in helping guide work and plan activities.

The workshops offered at the conference signified the concerns of Asian students today. They also brought out the need for on-going Asian student organizations to take up these concerns, for issues like the Bakke Decision, Asian American Studies, and community and labor support, that has been prevalent throughout our history in America.

THE BAKKE DECISION

The workshop on the Bakke Decision discussed the impact of this decision on Asians and firmly disputed the myth of "reverse discrimination." The resolution which came out of this workshop supporting the work of the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC) was passed unanimously by the general body. Many Asian student organizations had participated in ABDC's work and some Asian student organizations had learned of the Bakke Decision only recently, but all conference participants could support this resolution as part of the struggle for Asian and other Third World peoples' rights.

THIRD WORLD ORGANIZATION WORK

The workshop "Working with Other Third World Organizations" also discussed

(continued on page 6)

NATIONAL ANTI-BAKKE CONFERENCE HELD

Over 650 people gathered in L.A. February 19th for the first National Anti-Bakke Conference. They came together to make plans for a spring offensive. This conference was sponsored by the National Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC).

Representatives from all areas of California, plus Hawaii, New York, New England, Boston, Chicago, Ohio, Tennessee, Washington D.C., and Atlanta attended. Two hundred organizations attended, including the statewide MEChA, West Coast Asian Student organizations, Black American Law Student Association, National Lawyers Guild, Student National Medical Association, community groups, workers organizations, and the National Committee to Overturn Bakke.

Local ABDC chapters came from Sacramento/Davis, Bay Area, San Jose, Santa Barbara, Fresno, L.A., New York, Atlanta, and Chicago.

The major decision made was to call for a spring offensive. After a thorough discussion, this was decided unanimously. This offensive will mobilize against the Bakke decision which will be made in May or June by the US Supreme court.

The first part of this plan is for a single march on Washington D.C. for April 22nd, to be sponsored by all anti-Bakke forces. A spokesperson indicated this joint activity by all the groups would have a much stronger impact on Bakke than each group doing their own thing. This plan is now being coordinated with groups of the East Coast.

The second part of the plan is a Week of Struggle/Semana de Lucha for a May 6-13. During this week large regional actions would be planned by the ABDC. On May 6th the East Coast demonstration would be held in New York and the southern action in Atlanta. On May 13th the West Coast demonstration would be held in S.F. and perhaps a Midwest action in Chicago. Organizers see this Semana de Lucha as a means to mount greater pressure on the Bakke Decision and to organize many areas besides California.

(excerpt from Third World Forum, vol.3 number 8, March 2, 1978)

SCC/SSU/UCD CAMPUS REPORT

SACRAMENTO CITY COLLEGE ASU

The SCC ASU is filled with energy and enthusiasm for the spring semester. Foremost on the calendar is the Multi-Cultural Bazaar, which will be done in conjunction with other Third World organizations on campus. The purpose of the Bazaar is (1) to bring T.W. groups together to exchange the culture and history of their people, (2) to build student and community awareness of each other's struggles, (3) to formalize working relationships among T.W. student groups to facilitate more unity and awareness among these groups. Tentative plans include crafts, food sales, fashions show, and continuous cultural performances...more details later! Another activity which SCC ASU is involved with is co-sponsoring a volleyball tournament and dance with Sacramento State ASU. We hope to strengthen ties and build friendships with one of our sister campuses.

In terms of past activities, SCC ASU has sponsored a picnic, party, bake sale, and culture day. These activities may sound all social, and maybe they were but there was a definite need for these "social" activities. At the beginning of the fall semester, there were many students who had never participated in any Asian organization. People were unsure of direction and purpose. They lacked knowledge of Asian American struggles and the significance of these struggles to their lives. They also lacked a sense of the Asian community, not realizing the possibility for enriched personal growth.

All activities last semester served as a spring board to resolve some of these problems. Students got the opportunity to make new friends, have fun, and have their consciousness raised about some problems of coping with American society. Community groups like the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition, Southside Peoples' Program Community, and Asian Community Center were particularly helpful in this respect. They distributed leaflets and gave slideshow presentations explaining the reasons for their

existence and the goals they wished to accomplish. In addition, SCC ASU took advantage of the opportunity to participate in regional events like the Northern California regionals and the West Coast Asian Student Conference. These events provided tremendous insight for improving our internal organization and planning future activities.

SCC ASU is progressing. Although the progress may seem slow, it is progress nonetheless. The important thing to remember is that we continue to have an open mind and strive to meet the political, cultural, and social needs of Asian students.

SACRAMENTO STATE UNIVERSITY ASU

The establishment of an Asian Students Union at Cal State Sacramento was an event long overdue.

During the summer of 1977, when a core group was being formed, numerous calls were made to the student activities office at Sac State from individual students who asked how they could get in touch with an ASU. Since the disintegration of the first Asian Student Union in the early 70's, no such organization has been in existence.

At the beginning of the fall '77 semester, a small group of students set up a literature table on campus and passed out flyers to as many Asian people as possible, informing them of an ASU organizing meeting. The core group would conduct the meeting, along with a few students at Sacramento City College (who were also in the process of establishing an ASU) and some people from the community.

During the leafletting period interest was high from passing students, many people expressing the feeling that it was about time an ASU was set up. Many of these students demonstrated their interest by responding to the flyers, making the turnout at the first organizing meeting very high.

"Fiesta Filipinas"

Pilipino Day will be held on Saturday, April 15, 1978 from 1-5pm at Freeborn Hall on the University of Ca., Davis campus. This event is sponsored by Mga Kapatid, the Pilipino Students Association of UCD.

"Fiesta Filipinas" was the chosen theme which will show the various aspects of the Pilipino culture. Presentations of native dances, songs, music, and poetry are included in the program. Native handicrafts and costumes are among the displays provided. Popular native delicacies will be sold.

Everyone is welcome to attend this enjoyable and entertaining event. There will be a preview showing of the program by Mga Kapatid at the UCD quad at noon on Friday, April 14, 1978.

Regent Yori Wada Speaking

Newly appointed Regent Yori Wada will be coming to speak at Davis on April 13th. The UC Davis ASU, Mga Kapatid, Asian American Studies, and AAFA (Asian Americans for Affirmative Action- a faculty/staff group) are co-sponsoring bringing Yori Wada to speak as part of AAFAA's distinguished speaker series. There will be an informal potluck dinner starting at 6pm, and Yori Wada will speak at 8pm with time for questions and answer discussion afterwards. This is presented as an educational event to acquaint the community with Asians in the public sector. The dinner and talk will be held in the UCD Rec Pool Lodge. Call Asian American Studies at 752-3625 for more information.

Asian Community Law Conference

The Asian Community Law Conference will be held on April 1 at UC Berkeley from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Recognizing the American legal system's lack of responsiveness to the Asian community, especially in poor neighborhoods, the conference will discuss the role of progressive attorneys and the feasibility of establishing community law programs. Implicit is the realization that a community lawyer is not only an advocate of the law, but

also assists in community development.

The conference will also address ways to make the law more available to Asian people and to educate individuals on how to protect themselves and to use the legal system to some advantage. There will be a strong emphasis on the strategies which can be employed in implementing the law to community needs.

The keynote speakers will reflect the concerns to be discussed in the workshops: Pat Sumi will talk about educational aspects; Ping Yuen Tenants Association will speak to housing problems in Chinatown. Harry Edwards of UCB and Don Tamaki of the Asian Law Alliance will also speak. The workshops will cover criminal law, immigration, housing, employment, education and the Bakke Decision.

Tule Lake Pilgrimage

The Sacramento/Davis area ASU's in conjunction with other ASU's in the Northern California area and the San Francisco and Sacramento Asian community is planning a Tule Lake Pilgrimage. Tule Lake was the site of a WW II concentration camp where Japanese Americans were interned. The Sacramento area Japanese community was first placed in the Tule Lake camp until it became a segregation center for those who, in the government's eyes, did not answer a loyalty oath correctly.

This pilgrimage is scheduled for June 3rd and we are expecting about 300 hundred students and community people to participate. Food, housing, and transportation will be provided. The pilgrimage is still in the planning stages and more details will come later.

Through this joint activity with the ASU's and community people, we hope to bring the Asian groups closer together and use this trip as a learning experience for the participants. Community members who were interned in the camp will tell of their experience and give us a better perspective of what happened during the time than what we can get from traditional sources. We can learn from the experience of the past to draw lessons for our struggles today.

In the near future we hope to be

FOUNDING CONFERENCE

The concept of a West Coast organization of ASU's is not new but the energy to initiate such a structure is. There is a growing trend to ward organizing on many campuses and the momentous drive from this has resulted in the first founding conference of ASO's on the West Coast in its' history.

As students we are in an exceptional position to act upon the many forms of oppression which face Asian people as well as all Third World people. With a West Coast organization, individual efforts in the anti-Bakke movement can be coordinated in the collective spirit with which such a blatant attack on the rights of Third World and other oppressed people can be overcome. Communication among ASO's can be developed, allowing people to share common experiences and difficulties. Jointly coordinated activities such as the Tule Lake Pilgrimage can be greatly facilitated by a West Coast organization. Social activities of each ASO can also be shared with students from other organizations which will help build the feeling of unity and identity among Asian people.

The founding conference is currently being coordinated by an ad hoc committee of representatives from all over the state. All those interested in helping plan are encouraged to join the members of the committee in structuring this unprecedented move in the Asian student movement. The Committee representatives at UCD are Cathy Ariki (758-2777) and Dave Okita (758-9046). Elaine Lew is representing the Sacramento area (451-7011). Please feel free to call them if you have any ideas and suggestions! The founding conference is planned for April 15-16, at San Francisco State University starting at 9:00 a.m.

CAMPUS REPORT (continued from p. 3)

Unfortunately, the core group was unprepared to handle the 50-60 odd people who showed. There was no organized program and the large crowd made everyone uptight. But the turnout was an indication of the tremendous potential which exists at Sac State. Another

meeting a few weeks later went much better: A lot of people came, everyone broke into committees, out of which came a lot of fruitful discussion. Some of the ideas which came out of the meeting:

(1) The establishment of some kind of Asian students center--an office or lounge where people could come to talk, study, eat, hang around.

(2) Having an Asian Awareness Week.

(3) A series of fund-raising activities, foremost among which would be a volleyball tournament to be followed by a dance.

Throughout the semester the ASU conducted and participated in various activities: a bakesale, joint picnic with Sac City, Bakke decision program, film showing, gettogether parties. Some of these were well-attended, others were not.

The first semester can be summed up this way: It began optimistically with interest by so many people. But the coordinators failed to follow up properly, so things fell apart somewhat. Even though several more people were added to the original core group, the ASU was faced with the prospect of largely starting over with the coming of the spring semester. However, there really wasn't a lot of disappointment because, from the beginning, the initial semester was seen as a first step towards creating a solid base.

There is once again a great deal of optimism. Lessons have been learned. Plans are being finalized for a limited Awareness Week. The volleyball tournament and dance will happen. Definitely.

There have been several new developments this semester: The weekly meetings will be scheduled at various times to insure that everyone has an opportunity to attend, high school outreach has been discussed, a program to critically evaluate all Asian Studies classes, a series of programs centered around a single subject, e.g. Asian literature, music, health care, women.

Sac State has been a active participant in efforts to develop a West Coast Organization of Asian student groups since the summer of 1977.

Principles of unity were decided upon in the fall. However, these points

were further clarified for the spring. This is an indication of the developing nature of the Sac State ASU. Things are growing and changing. Adjustments have been made throughout the year to deal with all situations.

The Sac State ASU is a young ASU and there have been some disappointments. There is no doubt, though, of the need and desire of having an Asian Students Union on campus. And because of this, there is faith that it will all come together.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS ASU

The UC Davis ASU is currently in the building stage. We are trying to have a perspective broad enough to suit the diverse needs of the Asian students at Davis, but specific enough to be able to get things accomplished. We are a social organization in the sense that we do have parties and dances, but we also encourage people to get involved in campus and community issues. We realize that to become involved in these issues there must be educational forums to inform our members as to the pros and cons of the issue.

As the year started, the ASU didn't have much of an organization, but a few concerned members started calling meetings and eventually a steering committee was formed. We were searching for a direction and wanted to get some activities planned. In our planning, we did have troubles getting people involved and getting things done, but we learned from our mistakes and struggles and now are 'settled in' to plan for spring quarter and next year.

The Davis ASU has been active and is currently involved in forming a West Coast body for all Asian Student Organizations. We work closely with other ASU's throughout the state in joint activities such as the Tule Lake Pilgrimage and the anti-Bakke movement. Dances and parties are being planned for next quarter as well as participating in Asian Day and other campus activities. We want to stress that the Davis ASU does not want to alienate anyone by giving the appearance of being too pol-

itical, or too social. We want a good mix of activities to meet the social, cultural, educational, and political needs of the Asian students on campus. To do this we need all the input and help we can get. If there is something you are interested in, please contact the ASU and share your ideas with us. Our next meeting is scheduled for some time in the second week of the quarter. Watch the Third World Forum or the Aggie for the time and location. For more information of if you want to talk to someone from ASU, contact Dave Okita at 758-9046, Cathy Ariki at 758-2777, or Dave Magdael at 758-6949 or leave a message at Asian American Studies at 752-3625.

TULE LAKE PILGRIMAGE (CON'T FROM P. 4)

doing extensive outreach to this area and plan future activities to offset some of the costs. For more information and if you would like to help, please contact Vivian Chikasawa 442-1353 in Sacramento or Dave Okita 758-9046 in Davis.

WEST COAST CONFERENCE (con't from p. 2)

the need for Asian students' involvement because of the common oppression we face. After discussion around building better understanding and unity by participating in joint cultural events or taking ethnic studies classes (the workshop participants proposed a resolution to establish a working relationship with other Third World Groups in political, social and cultural activities and to work towards establishing a formal coalition that would support the struggles of Third World people. This resolution was strongly supported by the general assembly.)

COMMUNITY/LABOR SUPPORT WORK

The workshop on Community/labor support work brought out resolutions to support the common struggles of Asian people in the community and in

the workplaces. All of the conference participants saw the need to take up the concerns of our communities like better bilingual health care of more low-rent housing within Asian communities. Likewise, all could support the struggles of the workplace like union representation for restaurant workers for better working conditions and minimum wages.

ASIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The workshop on Asian Student Organizations was initially conceived to focus on two basic components of any organization--purpose and structure. It soon became apparent to the workshop organizers that these two aspects could not be fully dealt with in one workshop. Hence two separate workshops on Asian Student Organizations were developed, "Perspectives and Programs" and "Structure and Outreach". The Perspectives workshop proposed a resolution defining the purpose of ASO's to meet the social, cultural, political, and educational needs of its members. This will insure the flexibility to adapt to changing student needs. The workshop on structure stressed the importance of democratic, collective leadership. The necessity of effective student outreach to maintain the flow of new ideas and values was also mentioned.

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES AND ASU

Asian American Studies and Asian Student Organizations have traditionally maintained a relationship of mutual support. A workshop was developed to explore this relationship further and draw from the experiences of other campuses in dealing with situations occurring around AAS. UC Davis spoke of the close association it has with its Asian Studies department and the unifying tenure battle which deepened the ties between AAS AND ASU. The situation at UC Berkeley illustrates a grimmer aspect of the relationship. At that campus the faculty essentially took control of the department from a community/student/faculty group to an arbitrary faculty committee. The resolutions

coming from this workshop reflect the concern that the conditions allowing this kind of take-over be abolished by requiring adequate safeguards for student and community involvement in AAS program planning.

ASIAN AMERICAN WOMEN

A workshop on Asian American women was initially planned for the WC conference. During subsequent planning sessions it became obvious that the topic, though being of great importance and interest, would be better served by a questionnaire with which more information on the status of Asian women's groups on each campus and the individual concerns of Asian sisters could be compiled. It was hoped that the role of women would be raised in each workshop and ideas exchanged in this manner. The possibility of an Asian Women's conference is not remote and with improved communications, ideas could be garnered and energies channeled for such an anxiously awaited event.

The questionnaire composed by the workshop organizers is reproduced below. If you have not answered this, your reply would greatly aid the effort being made to organize the diversely orientad but commonly based groups of Asian sisters on the West Coast. Compiled information will be distributed to all interested individuals upon request. Answers to the questionnaire can be sent to the following address:

Asian American Women
P.O. Box 9546
Stanford, Ca. 94305
(415) 328-6908

1. Please list any existing AAW activities, women's organizations, publications, classes, support groups, etc, on your campus or in your community.
2. Do you have any suggestions for inter-campus communications?
3. Would people from your campus be interested in planning/attending a future workshop of mini-conference on the concerns of AAW?
4. What are some topics you would like to see addressed. Some of our ideas are: AAW classes, women's role in the AA movement, organizing women's groups.

George Leong

ON NAMES

You ever wondered where you name
come from... sister?

why...don't nobody named Charlene
nor George in Africa nor

Asia. And the blackness of your
skin never told a lie that

you name wasn't a Miller...least
my folks stole me a lying Chinaman name.

that is...I ain't no Leong

why, where us yello monkeys

come from you wouldn't see a Leong

for miles-in fact them Leongs be talking

more different-some other kind of dialect.

SAMYUP

us folks be talkin'

SZEYUP

now i ain't puttin you down sister

just cause i got a chinaman name

it's just the man never let us breed out

of our culture...and how could we when

he robbed us of our womenfolk. and Hell

things were so bad in the old country

that the only way to buy out is to by

someone else's name-which means i might be

anyone's son. my daddy turned out to be

a son of grandpa's laundryworkin' comrade

some dude by the name of leong-

but reality is

as opposed to

like mbulu from miller

but don't they know-whatever name

they give us-jes make us feel like

one big family-so big you never pin a

clan down Say what your name again

i have a hard time with names so

to me you jes beautiful

sister

sister.

Staff: Cathy Arika, Elaine Lew, Derrick Lim, Neil Matsuoka, Dave Okita,
David Tsue, Charles Yee, and Diane Tomoda.

Any letter to the editors or criticisms of this newsletter will be welcomed
We also encourage anyone to join our staff and submit articles, art work,
poetry, short stories, and pertinent announcements to this publication.

Drop by or send your articles or letters to:

Asian Student Union
c/o Asian American Studies
T.B. 99 UCD
Davis, Calif. 95616

Asian Student Union
c/o Student Activities
6000 J St.
Sacramento, Calif.

Asian Student Union
c/o Student Activities
3835 Freeport Blvd.
Sacramento, Calif. 95822

*****CALENDAR of EVENTS*****

- March 28th - Tule Lake Planning meeting - Sumitomo Bank, 1331 Broadway, Sacramento - 8:30 P.M.
- March 30th - CSUS ASU/SPPC Benefit Film Showing: "White-Haired Girl" - CSUS campus, University Union, Redwood Room - 7:30 P.M. Donation: \$1.00 in advance, \$1.50 at door.
- April 1st and 2nd - SCC/CSUS ASU Volleyball Tournament - CSUS Women's Gym - 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.
- April 1st - SCC/CSUS ASU Dance - CSUS Women's Gym - 9 P.M. to 1 A.M. Sounds by the Bay Area's finest band, "Kickback." Price: \$3.00 in advance, \$3.50 at door.
- April 2nd - SPPC International Working Women's Day Program - William Land School, 1116 "U" Street, Sacramento - 7 10 10 P.M.
- April 7th - Sterns Miners Film Showing: "Harlan County" - SCC Student Center - 7:30 P.M. Donation: \$1.00.
- April 13th - Sterns Miners Speakers - SCC Student Center - 7:30 P.M. Donation: \$1.00.
- April 13th - UCD ASU - Speaker: Yuri Wada - UC Davis campus, Rec Pool Hall - Potluck dinner at 6 P.M., speaker at 8 P.M.
- April 15th - UCD's Mga Kapatid - "Fiesta Filipinas" - UC Davis campus - Freeborn Hall - 1 to 5 P.M.
- April 15th and 16th - West Coast Asian/Pacific Islander Student Founding Conference San Francisco State University - starting at 9 A.M.
- April 29th - SCC's BSU/MEChA/ASU Multi-Cultural Bazaar - SCC Quad - 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.
- April 24th to 28th - CSUS ASU Asian American Awareness Festival.