0. Introduction of New Speakers

a. Steven Allan Kivelson, Prabhu Goel Family Professor, Stanford University
b. Les Wong, President Emeritus, San Francisco State University
c. Frank Wu, President, Queen's College, City University of New York
d. Santa Ono, President-Elect, University of Michigan; President and Vice-Chancellor, University of British Columbia

Christina Ciocca Eller, Assistant Director of Evidence and Policy, Office of Science and Technology Policy, The White House, postponed her plan to speak due to the rapidly evolving and advancing CHIPS+ bill, which contains uncertain implications on research security and civil rights of scientists and researchers of Asian or Chinese origin. She will be rescheduled to speak in September. Jeremy Wu and Gisela Kusakawa will give a report on the latest developments of the CHIPS+ bill in the meeting.

1. CAPAC updates

Speaker: Nisha Ramachandran, Executive Director, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus

Nisha provided the following updates on latest activities and developments at CAPAC:

- CAPAC devoted a lot of efforts to the CHIPS and Science Act, various forms of which were discussed on the past APA Justice calls.
- CAPAC identified four specific provisions in the Senate passed USICA Bill that were particularly of concern because they related to profiling or civil rights of Asian Americans, specifically scientists. CAPAC also worked on the House passed America COMPETES Act on similar fronts as well to ensure that the specific provisions would not be included.
- CAPAC actively participated in the Conference Committee on the Bipartisan Innovation and Competition Legislation to reconcile the Senate and House bills, and ensure none of the provisions that would harm the AAPI community were included in the final bill - this goal was achieved.
• CAPAC also worked actively with colleagues in the Senate and the House, as well as collaborated with community partners like AAJC and APA Justice, to prevent amendments like Senator Portman’s to be attached to the CHIPS and Science Act. The end result was that none of the provisions that would harm the AAPI communities were included in the final bill that was passed.

2. Repair the Damage Done by DOJ Wrongly Targeting Chinese Scientists

Speakers:

a. Peter Michelson, Senior Associate Dean for the Natural Sciences, Luke Blossom Professor in the School of Humanities and Sciences, Professor of Physics; Stanford University
b. Steven Allan Kivelson, Prabhu Goel Family Professor, Stanford University


On September 8, 2021, 177 Stanford faculty members wrote an open letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland, calling for the end of the "China Initiative." It soon became a nationwide movement. More than 3,100 faculty and researchers from over 230 institutions across all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, endorsed or sent in their own letters to AG Garland using the Stanford letter as a template. The Department of Justice (DOJ) announced the end of the "China Initiative" after 1,210 days of existence on February 23, 2022, although it may be in name only.

On June 29, 2022, Dean Michelson and Professor Kivelson, who led the Stanford open letter, published an opinion "Repair the Damage Done by DOJ Wrongly Targeting Chinese Scientists" in The Hill. Below are the thoughts they shared:

Peter Michelson:

• Even though the DOJ announced the ending of the China initiative, it really hasn’t gone away. The name “China initiative” went away, but we are still living with the consequences of it.
• A lot of work needs to be done to repair the damage done by the China initiative. The opinion published in The Hill and the follow-up pieces are part of the attempt to do that.
• One of the core foundational aspects of the research at American universities is openness, communication and collaboration. Immigration to the United States, particularly those working in STEM fields, have been crucial to the U.S. 45% of PhD workers in the STEM fields in the United States are immigrants. The U.S. needs to be open and bring talent to the United States and including China. The China Initiative did a lot to undermine the attractiveness of the United States as a destination for talent, and that is worrisome.
• The Hill article received positive feedback widely from academics, many of whom were caught by surprise by the public policies and legislation that were influenced by the anti-Chinese rhetoric and its implicit hostility. Many of the academics are outstanding physicists at premiere universities around this country and have secure positions. They call this country home and have accepted the American ideals and values, and yet this country seems to have turned on them. Those who were originally from China, found out by shock and stress that the China Initiative has curtailed their ability to collaborate with colleagues in Chinese universities, or more seriously hurt by the increased difficulty in visiting family and friends in China.

• Science and technology have been lost or are being lost due to blindsided hostility and paranoid actions taken by the U.S.

Steven Allan Kivelson:

• Their next articles will be about a small set of stories of Chinese scientists who made significant contributions to the U.S.
  
  o One example is Qian Xuesen, who received his education in China before the Communist Revolution, and did graduate study at MIT and Caltech. He made significant contributions to the US missile and rocket development programs, including work he did during World War II. He was one of the co-founders of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and was widely recognized for brilliant original contributions to many fields of science, both extremely practical and highly fundamental in the 1950s.

  However, he came under suspicion for having Communist sympathies, and consequently lost his clearance, and ultimately was placed under house arrest. Eventually, after spending 5 years under House arrest, he was allowed to emigrate to China.

  Once in China, Qian became a leading contributor to their missile and rocket development programs and to their nuclear program. He was known as the father of Chinese rocketry. Former Navy Secretary Dan Kimball said about Qian: “It was the stupidest thing this country ever did. He was no more a Communist than I was, and we forced him to go.”

  o The second example is someone Professor Kivelson knows personally, with whom he and colleagues have collaborated closely. This person is currently on the faculty of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and he played a central role in a major development in the field of physics.

  He is responsible for many of the key calculations that led to the identification of a variety of materials known as topological insulators that are both interesting as a new sort of quantum material and are potentially of technological importance. He was recently offered and accepted a faculty position at UC Santa Barbara, but his visa application has been rejected by the U.S. following a year-long ordeal. As a theoretical physicist, nothing he discovers is kept secret. It is his
goal to publish in preeminent international journals, and he has a long and successful record of doing so. As a result, the U.S. lost an opportunity to attract to our scientific establishment yet another of the best Chinese scientists.

Feedback or suggestions are welcome concerning actions that could produce policy changes.

3. The CHIPS+ or Chips and Science Bill

Speakers:
a. Jeremy Wu, Co-organizer, APA Justice
b. Gisela Kusakawa, Director, Anti-Racial Profiling Project, Advancing Justice | AAJC

On July 27, the Senate passed the CHIPS+ bill by a margin of 64-33 without an amendment by Senator Robert Portman of Ohio.

- After weeks of impasse at the bicameral Conference Committee to reconcile the House’s COMPETES Act and the Senate’s USICA bill, the Senate extracted and advanced a narrower bill focused on subsidizing the semiconductor industry. U.S. chipmaking companies threatened to invest in other countries with already established subsidy programs.
- Science provisions were also successfully attached by a group of 16 senators, including the incentives of doubling the National Science Foundation budget in 5 years, creating a new directory and a 10-billion-dollar network of regional technology hubs.
- This new bill titled CHIPS and Science Act passed the Senate by a vote of 64-34 on July 21, 2022.
- Republican Senator Robert Portman supported the bill, but included an amendment with the sponsorship of 5 other Republican senators.
- The Portman Amendment would require each executive agency on a new council to be responsible for assessing federal research security risks posed by persons participating in federally funded research and development. It would in effect mandate federal agencies to create and run its own mini-China Initiatives. It would also expand the State Department’s ability to deny visas and criminalizes non-disclosures of foreign funding sources on federal grant applications that are currently administrative processes, among other provisions.
- The Senate voted 64 to 32 to invoke cloture and limit debate on the bill without the Portman Amendment.
- Senator Portman made one more attempt to include his amendment by unanimous consent, but Senator Maria Cantwell objected to end the attempt.
- The compromise bill reportedly contains a host of provisions on research security. Among them are a government-wide prohibition on federal grantees participating in foreign talent recruitment programs that have “malign” intent, and a requirement that NSF-funded institutions disclose funding in excess of $50,000 they receive from foreign entities associated with any “country of concern.”
- The advocacy of a coalition of community groups including AAJC, APA Justice OCA, and United Chinese Americans, contributed to the exclusion of the Portman Amendment.
and other provisions that would harm the APPI community. It is crucial to expand the coalition to continue the advocacy work.

- CAPAC leadership has been absolutely crucial, not only with this issue, but with the end of the China initiative.

Gisela also added the following updates from Advancing Justice | AAJC:

- The coalition that had successfully pushed the DOJ to announce the end of the China initiative continues to monitor and prevent so many of the consequences and harms that come from it.
- It is crucial that this coalition expands to include many of the immigrant rights groups and education groups. Ongoing efforts with expanded coalition include:
  - Anti-racial profiling working group under the immigration Hub, which AAJC is co-leading with the Brennan Center.
  - Immigrant surveillance working group, with Asian American Scholars Form for individual academics and key university offices to ping Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Senate Offices.
  - Engagement meeting with OSTP and tell the individual stories of impacted scientists.
- CAPAC leadership has been crucial, with champions like Rep. Judy Chu and Senator Mazie Hirono.
- Need more individuals to share their stories about the harmful impact of the China Intuitive and other programs disproportionately target AAPI community members. The AAJC Anti-racial Profiling Project has a mechanism to protect the privacy of individuals and provide necessary support.
- Data and reports related to racial profiling against AAPI community are important as well.

4. Exploration to Create an Executive Network of University Leaders of Asian Descent

Speakers:
  a. Les Wong, President Emeritus, San Francisco State University
  b. Frank Wu, President, Queen’s College, City University of New York
  c. Santa Ono, President-Elect, University of Michigan
  
  - University of Michigan, Office of The President, President-Elect. https://bit.ly/3OqBtQY

Higher Education is seeing something of a surge in Asian American appointments to campus leadership. Asian American (AA) Chancellors, Presidents, Provosts, and Senior Administrators have recently been named to campus positions. Some are very new and begin
this summer 2022, some have longer terms, and a very few are retired. Asian American leaders have often risen to the top without mentors, support systems nor national venues to discuss how to sustain their leadership position. It has been too common to see the high expectations of AA leaders but the short fuse when minor and major challenges arise. That is, the slightest misstep, mishap, or misjudgment leads to termination. Similar indiscretions by others are rarely noticed, let alone lead to the end of administrative careers.

Les Wong and Frank Wu, with the support of Clarence Kwan and Jeremy Wu, are proposing an initial Zoom meeting to explore the creation of an Executive network of leaders of Asian descent. Les Wong was president for three universities and for a long time the only Asian American president on the President’s Council for the NCAA.

Frank Wu is president of Queens College, City University of New York and was the first Asian American professor to teach at Howard Law School, as well as the first Asian American to serve as dean of Wayne State University Law School in Detroit, Michigan. At Wayne State, he was the youngest law school dean in the nation at the time of his appointment (36).

Dr. Santa Ono is the President and Vice-Chancellor of University of British Columbia, and the President-Elect of the University of Michigan in the meeting. Santa will begin a five-year term as the university’s 15th president on October 13, 2022. He has been a university president for 11 years. He was at the University of Cincinnati (a large research university with 46,000 students) for 6 years, as Provost and President.

- The model minority myth is real, and the glass ceiling, or some called the Bamboo series, is real.
- Asian Americans may be overrepresented in some segments at the entry level, such as assistant professors in some disciplines. However, at dean, provost, president, chancellor, board of director levels, Asian Americans are dramatically underrepresented. Asian American women are tenured at lower rates. Some of that is because of the perception of overrepresentation.
- Asian American leaders are not receiving sufficient support for their career success.
- Initial efforts are under way to set the stage for a national organization to provide support for Asian American executives, new to their positions or in the pipeline about not only getting the job, but holding on to it.
- Initial vision and goals:
  - Provide general support.
  - Address bias, such as China initiative, or the glass ceiling, etc.
  - Cultivate the pipeline, help train those new professors, the new deans.
- All the other major ethnic groups have executive support groups for executives at higher-ed institutions and private corporations.
- The few pioneers like Dr. Ono has had a number of mentors informally that were helpful in advancing their careers as university administrators.
- Dr. Teik C. Lim was appointed by Dr. Ono as the Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Cincinnati. In January 2022, Dr. Lim was named as New Jersey Institute of Technology’s Ninth President.
5. Q&A and Discussions

6. Next Meeting

   Next Meeting: Monday, September 12, 2022