In This Issue #89

- Call for Faculty and Staffers Nationwide to Endorse Stanford Faculty Letter to AG Garland
- University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) Hosts China Town Hall and Webinar on 10/19
- Dr. Wen Ho Lee Revisited - What Happened According to Daughter Roberta Lee in 2000
- Alert: New Requirement for Proposal Submission to DARPA

Call for Faculty and Staffers Nationwide to Endorse Stanford Faculty Letter to AG Garland

On September 8, 2021, a group of 177 Stanford University faculty members from more than 40 departments, including 8 Nobel laureates, sent an open letter to U.S. Attorney General Merrick B. Garland, requesting that he terminate the Department of Justice's "China Initiative."

Since then, 214 UC Berkeley faculty members and 167 Temple University faculty members have endorsed the Stanford letter and sent in their letters respectively.

If you are also concerned about this issue, the Stanford faculty members have created a website named Winds of Freedom to host the open letter and provide background and instructions on actions that you can take to collect signatories from faculty at your institution to either endorse the Stanford letter or send a similar letter.

With support from the organizers of the Stanford letter, APA Justice invites additional faculty members and qualified endorsers* from universities and educational institutions across the U.S. to endorse the Stanford letter. You can sign up here: https://bit.ly/EndorseStanfordLetter. We plan to close the campaign around November 3, 2021, and then send a letter with a list of endorsers to AG Garland. We have also created a Change.org petition to publicize and direct traffic to the sign-on form: https://bit.ly/30ukJFj.

Please help to spread the word to your colleagues and friends who qualify to endorse the Stanford letter. If not now, when? Join the nationwide campaign!

* For the purpose of this campaign, a qualified endorser is defined as a person with the current or former rank of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, lecturer, scholar, or administrator, who has a valid and verifiable .edu email address at an accredited university or similar educational institution in the United States. Titles and associations are for identification only; endorsers do not represent the university or institution. Where judgment on the status of an endorser may be needed, final decision will be made by the organizers of this campaign.
University of Tennessee Knoxville (UTK) Hosts China Town Hall and Webinar on 10/19

On October 19, 2021, the University of Tennessee Knoxville’s (UTK) Center for Global Engagement, in partnership with National Committee on U.S. China Relations and other UTK departments, will host a China Town Hall event for a national conversation on the implications of China's rise on U.S.-China relations and its impact on our towns, states, and nation. The national webcast will be led by Fareed Zakaria, CNN Worldwide host, columnist, and author. It will be livestreamed here: http://www.ncuscr.org/content/livestream

A webinar will follow with Shellen Wu, Director of Asian Studies at UTK, as moderator. Panelists include Margaret Lewis, professor of law at Seton Hall University; Virginia Harper Ho, Earl B. Shurtz Research Professor of Law at the University of Kansas; and Alan Enslen, Partner in the Washington, DC office of Womble Bond Dickinson LLP. Read more and link to the event at https://bit.ly/3AUXcut

Dr. Wen Ho Lee Revisited - What Happened According to Daughter Alberta Lee in 2000

On March 22, 2021, the Harvard Kennedy School's Institute of Politics posted a video titled Alberta Lee: The Wen Ho Lee Story: What Happened? on YouTube. Alberta Lee is the daughter of Dr. Wen Ho Lee. She spoke in a capacity auditorium in Harvard University on December 4, 2000, less than three months after Judge James Parker apologized to Dr. Lee and released him immediately from a courtroom in New Mexico. It is a rare and valuable video from a time before the term "webinar" and YouTube itself were even invented. It is unlikely many of you have seen it before.

From the video, there are lessons of racial profiling that will be familiar to many today. Please share your thoughts or questions with us at contact@apajustice.org after you watch the YouTube video: https://bit.ly/3unNKgl (1:09:54).
Alert: New Requirement for Proposal Submission to DARPA

DARPA stands for Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. There has apparently been a new requirement for proposal submission to DARPA, as reflected in this solicitation (HR001121S0040: AMENDMENT 1), which says in part (page 24):

University or non-profit research institution performance under this solicitation may include efforts categorized as fundamental research. In addition to Government support for free and open scientific exchanges and dissemination of research results in a broad and unrestricted manner, the academic or non-profit research performer or recipient, regardless of tier, acknowledges that such research may have implications that are important to U.S. national interests and must be protected against foreign influence and exploitation. As such, the academic or non-profit research performer or recipient agrees to comply with the following requirements:

... The academic or non-profit research performer or recipient must also utilize due diligence to identify Foreign Components or participation by Senior/Key Personnel in Foreign Government Talent Recruitment Programs and agree to share such information with the Government upon request.

... i. The above described information will be provided to the Government as part of the proposal response to the solicitation and will be reviewed and assessed prior to award. Generally, this information will be included in the Research and Related Senior/Key Personnel Profile (Expanded) form (SF-424) required as part the proposer’s submission through Grants.gov.
On September 20, 2021, DARPA also issued this Senior/Key Personnel Foreign Influence Risk Rubric or "risk levels" of Principal Investigators: https://bit.ly/2YPcFy1. According to the Rubric, a key personnel is categorized as at least *Moderate Risk* for having some foreign ties (*family, friends, professional, financial*), some of which are with strategic competitors (i.e., Russia, China) or other countries with a history of targeting U.S. technologies for unauthorized transfer.

It is unclear at this time whether or when the DARPA requirements may apply to other federal funding agencies.

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