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Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and Congressman Frank Kratovil (D-MD) look on as Congressman Erik Paulsen (R-MN) shares his recollections of his ACYPL exchange.

2009 Summer Alumni Events

On June 2, ACYPL alumna **Senator Mary Landrieu** (Denmark, Norway, and the Netherlands '82) graciously hosted the New Congressional Members and Founders Reception at her beautiful home. The event honored ACYPL alumni who were recently elected to Congress, and ACYPL's founders who had the foresight to establish the organization 43 years ago. **Congressman Erik Paulsen** (Philippines '01) and **Congressman Frank Kratovil** (Taiwan '98) were on hand to share their ACYPL experiences with the crowd and to represent their freshman class colleagues. Founders in attendance included **Ambassador Charles Manatt, Bill Hybl, Randal Teague, Judy Black, and Danny Lee McDonald.**

Senator Landrieu spoke about how her experience on the delegation as a young state legislator gave her a small glimpse into international affairs that would prove to be so significant throughout her political career. Board President **Leo Jardot** (China '03) echoed her remarks while noting how rare and important it is that Republicans and Democrats share the ACYPL experience together. He also recognized other Congressional alumni in attendance, including **Congressmen Jim Costa** (Germany '82, '87), **Congressman Adrian Smith** (India '00, Tanzania '04) and **Congressman Ed Royce** (Germany '84).

ACYPL would like to thank the following sponsors of the reception for their generous support: **Allianz of America Corporation, Wyeth, Personal Care Products Council, BlueCross BlueShield Association, Entergy Corporation, Ken Gross and PMI Global Services, Inc.**

In July, ACYPL hosted our **13th Annual Alumni Reception** at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) annual meeting in Philadelphia. The reception took place at the National Constitution Center overlooking Philadelphia's Independence Mall. There was a great turn out of ACYPL alumni from all over the country, Board of Trustees members, corporate partners, and nominees. ACYPL Board of Trustees member and New Jersey State Senator **Joseph Kyrillos** (China & Hong Kong, '94) made remarks that emphasized the value of ACYPL exchanges in today's ever globalized world and stressed the importance of alumni staying involved with the organization to ensure the continued success of our programs.

ACYPL is very grateful to our reception sponsors, **Comcast** and the **International Council of Shopping Centers**, for making our participation in NCSL possible. We would also like to thank our **Alumni Host Committee**: Delegate Jon Cardin, Senator James Clayborne, Alfred DelliBovi, Senator Johnny Ellis, Jr., Angelo Genova, Tracey Hester, Dean Heyl, Alex Johnson, Eric Kirkhorn of Toyota, Senator Joseph Kyrillos, Jr., Rachel McGreevy, Jessica Monroe, Senator John Pippy, Damon Porter, Brad A. Queisser, Paul

Ruppert, Representative Rachel Storch, Representative Rick Taylor, Senator Gene Therriault, Representative Chelsa Wagner, Representative Jim Wansacz, Senator Jeff Wentworth, Rick Wiener, Representative Darrin Williams, Representative Sandra Williams, and Assemblyman John Wisniewski.



(L-R) Delegates Kamil Azhar, Mohamed Aden Hassan, Abdelmajid Naji, Joana Adesuwa Reiterer, and Karim Saad in front of AT&T Park in San Francisco before Giants game.

Inbound Focus: Western European Minorities

On May 9th, seven delegates from four Western European countries arrived in Washington, DC for a 10-day whirl-wind tour of the United States.

The Western European Minorities program is a new ACYPL exchange focused specifically on minority issues. Each delegate represented a minority group in their home countries of Italy, Austria, the United Kingdom and Norway. During their visit delegates examined various aspects of minority life in the US, including immigration, integration, employment, political involvement and access to education and health services.

The delegates agreed that a highlight of the trip was the opportunity to speak candidly with Americans of varied backgrounds about their

experiences as minorities in the US. A roundtable discussion with six young minority elected officials in California, including San Jose City Councilwoman **Madison Nguyen** (Australia '09), allowed for productive dialogue between the delegates and their American contemporaries.

In addition to meeting with elected officials, the delegates visited a few nongovernmental organizations serving minority communities. ACYPL alumna **Anne Im** (Israel & the Palestinian Territories '08), hosted the group in San Jose, California and they visited her office at the Asian American Association for Community Involvement (AACI) where they engaged with a group of senior citizens taking a break from their English as a Second Language class to play ping-pong and practice American line dancing.

In New Brunswick, New Jersey, the group was hosted by ACYPL alumnus **Edd Carman** (USSR '86) who arranged an exciting agenda for the group. They met with Jeanine LaRue, an African-American woman who is a vice-president at Rutgers University and a former city councilwoman and lobbyist, and with Upendra Chivukula, the first Indian-American elected to the New Jersey General Assembly. Delegate Joana Adesuwa Reiterer of Austria shared that the program helped to, "broaden [her] view on minority related issues" and influenced her future plans to "restructure [her] organization towards a better and broader network amongst minority groups in Western Europe."

Special thanks to **Anne Im** and **Edd Carman** for their invaluable contribution to this program, as well as Board of Trustees member **John Hurson** (Italy '93, Norway '91) for hosting the group for dinner at his home in Washington, DC.

ACYPL Celebrates 30 Years of Exchanges with China

In May 1977, an ACYPL delegation of 17 American political leaders visited China. This exchange was the first of its kind, and anticipated a time when the door between the US and China would reopen. Two years later, with the formal normalization of relations between the two countries, the American Council of Young Political Leaders and the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF) embarked on a sustained exchange partnership.

Much has changed since those early days of engagement. As President Obama noted at the recent US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue, "The relationship between the United States and China will shape the 21st century, which makes it as important as any bilateral relationship in the world." In key areas of shared concern-- economic development, global security, the environment, human rights, and public health-- a close, candid, constructive, and cooperative relationship between both countries offers a chance to make significant progress on core international public policy challenges confronting the world.

To commemorate 30 years of US-China relationships and the ACYPL-ACYF exchange partnership, ACYPL sent a 30-member delegation, comprised of 9 young political leaders and 21 alumni from three decades of exchanges, to China for a two-phase program. The 9-member delegation, funded by the US State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and Delta Airlines, began their trip in Shanghai where they met with business leaders, municipal government officials and visited the site of the 2010 World Expo. The group then travelled to Shaanxi Province where they visited the Xi'an high-tech development zone, toured a municipal hospital, and met with members of the Provincial Supreme Court. The delegation learned a great deal about the richness of Chinese culture with visits to see the Terra Cotta Warriors and the Big Wild Goose Pagoda.

After a day of climbing the Great Wall and taking in the magnificent architecture of Beijing's Forbidden City in the pouring rain, the young leaders were joined by their American alumni counterparts where discussions of China's astounding development and stories of past exchanges flowed late into the evening.

For the next four days, the entire delegation met with distinguished members of China's national government including **Mr. Ye Hafei**, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, **Mr. Yang Shaolin**, Acting Director-General at the Ministry of Finance, and **Mr. Li Yuanchao** (China to US '87), Chairman of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of China Central Committee. The group enjoyed a roundtable discussion with Beijing university students and an ACYF-ACYPL jointly organized forum exploring *US-China Relations@30: The Road Ahead* that included a particularly interesting panel on global economic challenges featuring **Dr. Qi Bin** (China to US '07), Director, Research Center, China Securities Regulatory Commission, and **Dr. Xiao Geng**, Director of the Brookings - Tsinghua Center.

A highlight of the anniversary program was a reception hosted at the United States Embassy and generously sponsored by ACYPL Corporate Partner, **The Coca-Cola Company**. The group was grateful for the opportunity to visit the recently opened, beautifully designed Embassy, to engage with Embassy staff, and to enjoy an evening of American comfort food. At the conclusion of our memorable stay in Beijing, the All-China Youth Federation graciously feted the American delegation, and many Chinese alumni, at a banquet that celebrated ACYPL's and ACYF's 30 remarkable years of shared friendship and highlighted the importance of our continued partnership in the 21st century.



The entire 30-member delegation with Deng Yaping (fifth from right), Deputy Director of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Village and Vice President of the Beijing Municipal Youth Federation.

ACYPL looks forward to reciprocating the kind hospitality we received throughout our stay in China when we host the Chinese 30th anniversary delegation next year in the United States.

Like all ACYPL programs, the 30th anniversary China program was a private-public partnership and was made possible through generous support from the US Department of States and from ACYPL Corporate Partners, **Abbott Laboratories, Delta Airlines, Wal-Mart, and Coca-Cola**. THANK YOU!



The delegates in Jericho.

Delegation Spotlight: US to Israel and Palestinian Territories '08

In this edition of the newsflash we want to highlight a recent delegation that has readily embraced ACYPL's message, programs and goals. The delegation that went to Israel and Palestinian Territories last year has really gone above and beyond the call in this regard. All seven members of the group have joined the Alumni Council, and 6 of the 7 are Charter members.

In February, **Cass Burton** co-hosted a group from Argentina and Uruguay in Austin, Texas. In May, **Anne Im** hosted the Western Minorities delegation in San Jose, California and in October **Eric Hutchings** will be hosting the

inbound Chinese delegation in Salt Lake City, Utah.

In addition **Elesha Gayman** has contributed to ACYPL, **Mark Takai** was a member of the host committee for our 12th Annual Alumni Reception in New Orleans and became a Charter Plus member of the Alumni Council, and **Eric Beane** attended the New Congressional Members and ACYPL Founders Reception in DC.

THANK YOU to the members of the delegation and their escort **Deb Sofield** for embracing the spirit and message of ACYPL, both at home and abroad.

ACYPL Honors Evening

Mark your calendars for ACYPL Honors Evening on **Wednesday, November 18th!** This year's event will be a cocktail party which will honor Organizing for America for all the work they have done in getting young people engaged in the political process, as well as a Republican member of Congress who has worked to advance ACYPL's mission. More details soon to follow, but tickets to this year's event will be only **\$250 for alumni and nominees**, so you have no excuse not to attend!

Staying Involved

One of the most important ways you can contribute to ACYPL is by nominating future delegates for outbound programs. We rely on our alumni to help us identify the next generation of promising young political leaders who would most benefit from an international exchange experience.

Nominees should be between 25 and 40 years of age at the time of travel, and they should be involved in government, politics, policy, advocacy, or government relations and possess the potential to assume a leadership role.

Typical nominees include exceptional state legislators, mayors, members of city and county councils, political party and policy leaders, and other political activists who have an interest in gaining international experience. To nominate someone, please visit our [website](#) and make sure to include that person's date of birth and an up-to-date resume.

Another important way to contribute is by hosting an international delegation in your community. We are always looking for new state hosts to help welcome the over 100 young, international leaders that we host in the US annually. State hosting allows you to strengthen ties in your own community, establish friendships with rising international leaders and greatly contribute to each international delegation's view of our national diversity.

While ACYPL foots the bill for the delegation we rely on state hosts to help us arrange meetings, secure hotel rooms and transportation, work with other local alumni to sponsor meals, seek corporate and individual contributions, and to join the delegation for meetings and events during their stay.

If you are interested in hosting an international delegation in your state or would like more information, please contact Libby Rosenbaum, at 202-857-0999 ext. 16 or rosenbaum@acypl.org

Alumni Happenings

Congratulations to... **Manny Flores** (China '06), **Laura Brod** (Turkey '03), **Laketa Cole** (South Africa '06) and **Kemp Conrad** (China '04) who were selected to participate in the East-West Center's *New Generation Seminar*, a two-week intensive educational dialogue and study tour in Hawaii, South Korea, and Vietnam that will focus on the global economic crisis and how it impacts Asia and US-Asian Pacific relations... Also congratulations to **Andrew Gillum** (Egypt & Jordan '07) and **Kevin Coughlin** (Turkey '00) who participated in a Youth G8 Planning meeting in Moscow in May, and **Krysten Sinema** (Morocco '05) and **Tony Payton** (Australia '08) who were selected to participate in the Council for the United States and Italy's Young Leaders Conference to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing America's urban centers.

Best of luck to... **Creigh Deeds** (Denmark '92) and **Bob McDonnell** (Germany '94) who will face each other in the Virginia Gubernatorial race in November.

