Renew Today

2015 FAPA MEMBERSHIP

Renew your FAPA membership and continue to be a force of advocating for Taiwan in Washington, DC! Members enjoy full access to all FAPA activities locally and nationwide throughout the year. Renew before June 30th to secure eligibility to vote in the “2015 FAPA Board of Directors – At Large Election”

Contact Christopher Lin at cdlin@fapa.org for details!
【President’s Corner】

I strongly believe young people are the future of Taiwan and of FAPA. On addition to our grassroots advocacy work in DC and the rest of the world we need to closely work with them. We need to help them grow, understand what they think and support their activities.

Therefore, in December 2014, I updated the FAPA Board on the by YPG and FAPA supported group of students/young leaders from Taiwan (Overseas Taiwanese for Democracy, or OTD). I also encouraged our chapters to financially support them. The birth of OTD was initiated by FAPA, and it is currently operating independently. (https://www.facebook.com/overseasiainesefordemocracy/timeline). FAPA is supportive of OTD's activities. However, OTD is not a sub-organization of FAPA. More than 30 groups of young people from the US and Taiwan have joined this coalition. Most of the young OTD members were involved in the 330 Rally and they have been coordinating activities, including the KANO movie US tour. Each group also has their own activities locally, and every group in the coalition has helped each other with resources and experience sharing. OTD also helped initiate a “g0v” workshop at DC in November; more than 40 young people joined the event. g0v (g0v.tw) is created by computer engineers. It advocates transparency of information, and seeks to prevent abuse of governing power. The next g0v workshop will be held in NYC.

I encourage each chapter to actively encourage young people to join FAPA workshops and the YPG annual national conference, and if relevant, OTD activities. Each one of us should also try our best to attend their activities to show support.

On the ITASA front, again this year we will continue to participate in all regional meetings. On Feb. 14, Henry Lin and I went to East Coast ITASA to give them an “Identity Workshop”. The response from about 30 students was very positive, and I invited them to join the Congressional Advocacy workshop.

By February Chieh-Ting Yeh joined FAPA as part-time YPG coordinator. Since then, Ting has traveled to Boston, NY and NJ to meet with YPG members figuring out how to attract more young people to strengthen our organization. I am thrilled to have Ting as part of the FAPA family. He is motivated, well versed, and has extensive organizational experience.

Our new VP, Peter Chen(left picture) is a young lawyer, and he has already initiated many new approaches, including better way to meet with Congressional representatives, and organized speeches to attract young Taiwanese Americans. At the time of this report, Peter, Ting and I will be in Taiwan meeting with Sunflower Movement leaders’ discussion future collaboration between them and FAPA.

In DC, HQ continues to work with Congress and the Administration. Last year we visited the State Department and AIT 15 times, and I have already visited DOS/AIT twice this year. Our relationship with DOS/AIT is gaining traction. We even invited DOS officials to our meetings, and they have agreed to join 2015 TAC/EC and Thanksgiving dinner. With the 2016 Taiwan Presidential election approaching, FAPA will again introduce Taiwan’s Presidential candidate to Congress and Administration, creating an opportunity for the policy makers from the two countries to have better dialogues and understanding.
因此，我於 2014 年 12 月向全国委员大会报告 YPG 的近況以及 FAPA 所支持的一群台湾留學生所组成的「海外台湾青年阵线」（OTD，海台青）。我鼓励我们的分会给予他们财务上的支援。OTD 是由 FAPA 所发起促成的，而現在他們已獨立運作（https://www.facebook.com/overseastaiwanesefordemocracy/timeline），FAPA 持續支持他們的活動。然而，OTD 並不是 FAPA 的附屬機構。超過三十個台美青年團體已經加入這個陣線，而大部分的 OTD 成員也曾參與 330 反服貿遊行的海外串連，並持續舉辦包括 KANO 電影的美國巡迴等活動。每個參與的團體在自己的地區也有舉辦活動，且團體之間除了在資源上互助，並會互相分享經驗。去年十一月，OTD 也曾協助於在華府舉辦的「gov 零時政府」（gov.tw）工作坊，而參加此次工作坊的青年超過四十位。「零時政府」是由電腦工程師所設立，主張政府資訊公開透明，預防政府濫權，下一個「Gov 零時政府」工作坊將於紐約市舉辦。我呼籲各分會積極鼓勵年輕人參加 FAPA 的工作坊以及 YPG 的年會，同時也可鼓勵他們參加 OTD 的活動。我們本身也應積極參與他們的活動以展現我們的支持。

在 ITASA 方面，今年我們會持續參與他們各區的活動。本會 YPG 成員 Henry Lin 醫師與我於 2 月 14 日參與東岸的 ITASA，並主持了一個「自我認同」的工作坊。來參加的學生超過三十位，反應也相當熱烈，而我也邀請他們來參加 FAPA 的國會訓練營。葉介廷先生（左圖）於二月加入 FAPA 成為半職的 YPG Coordinator。加入我們的團隊後，介廷已經行訪波士頓、紐約，以及紐澤西，拜訪當地的 YPG，尋求可以吸引更多年輕人來壯大 FAPA 的方法。我很高興介廷可以加入我們的大家庭。他是一個有行動力，表達清晰的年輕人，且有豐富的組織經驗。

我們新任副總會長陳正義先生是一位年輕的律師。他上任至今已為我們帶來許多新氣象，包括與國會議員會面的不同方式，以及安排演講活動以吸引年輕的台美人。本文刊出時，陳律師、介廷以及我本人將會在台灣與太陽花學運團體的領袖碰面，討論他們與 FAPA 未來合作的契機。

在華府，總部持續與國會以及行政部門合作。去年我們拜訪國務院及 AIT 達 15 次，而今年我也已經拜訪他們 2 次了。我們與國務院及 AIT 的關係與日俱進，我們甚至邀請了國務院官員參與我們的活動，而他們也已經同意參加 2015 的美東夏令會以及感恩節餐會。當時間漸漸接近 2016 的台灣總統大選，FAPA 將再次向美國國會及行政部門介紹台灣的總統候选人，提供兩國決策者有更多對話機會，並更加相互了解。
NOVEMBER 2014 U.S. GENERAL ELECTIONS

On 4 November 2014, elections were held in the United States for all 435 seats in the House of Representatives, and for 36 out of 100 seats in the US Senate.

In the House, the Republicans gained 12 seats for a total of 244, while the Democrats went down to 186 seats. John Boehner (R-OH) will remain speaker and Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) minority leader.

From the 2014 CTC members 13 retired or lost in the primary. Three ran for Senator and one for Governor, but were defeated. One CTC member, Rep. Lee Terry (R-NE), narrowly lost his election. This brings the new membership of the CTC for 2015 to 133.


Major changes took place on the Senate side, where the Republicans gained 8 or 9 seats for a total of 54, while the Democrats went down to 45 seats, with two seats remaining with Independents. This means that Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) is now majority leader, and Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) minority leader.

In addition, changes in the leadership positions of the foreign affairs committees took place. In the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Robert Menendez (D-NJ) stepped down, and Bob Corker (R-TN) became Committee chair. The chairmanship of the Subcommittee for Asian and Pacific Affairs in the SFRC went to Senator James Risch (R-ID).

Conclusion: The election results are good for Taiwan. Traditionally, Taiwan has done well when the US had different parties controlling the White House and Congress. In those cases, Congress was more willing to challenge the administration, and push for better relations with Taiwan.

TAIWANESE-AMERICANS EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH HONG KONG PROTESTERS

On October 2nd 2014, FAPA expressed its strong support for the demonstrators in Hong Kong in their struggle for democracy.

FAPA President Mark Kao, Ph.D. stated: "As a nationwide Taiwanese American organization that promotes freedom, human rights and democracy for the people of Taiwan, FAPA extends a hand in solidarity to our friends in Hong Kong during their protests calling for more freedom, human rights and democracy for the people of Hong Kong."

Dr. Kao concluded: "Let me finish by echoing the words of Steve Chabot, the chairman of the Asian Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the U.S. House of Representatives: “I think that we have to be very wary when it comes to trusting some of China's promises. We are seeing it now in Hong Kong. And I think that Taiwan has to be very careful that they don't get attracted into a situation that might seem like it is a good thing upfront, but once you get involved with China you may find that you can't get yourself out of their clutches."

FAPA CALLS ON PRESIDENT OBAMA TO STAND UP FOR TAIWAN DURING VISIT TO CHINA

In a letter dated November 3, 2014, FAPA President Mark Kao appealed to President Obama to "reaffirm America's support for freedom, democracy and human rights in Taiwan" during his visit to China in early November when he attended the APEC summit in Beijing.

Dr. Kao concluded: "In the meantime, Taiwan has transformed itself into a vibrant democracy, and as we saw
with the Sunflower Movement this spring, the people of Taiwan don't want to be pushed into an unwelcome embrace with China. We firmly believe it is a core US interest to help protect and nurture this young democracy. We therefore urge you to move towards a "One Taiwan, One China" policy that warmly welcomes Taiwan as a full and equal member of the international community. That would indeed be a change the American people can believe in."

TAIPEI TIMES 11/06/14: Bringing real cross-strait stability. By Mark Kao (高龍榮) concluding:

TAIWANESE-AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS CALL FOR MEDICAL PAROLE FOR FORMER PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

The organizations write: “While the Republic of China just celebrated the 103rd anniversary of its founding in China in 1911, the democratically elected former president of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian, is languishing in a Taichung jail. As a matter of fact, today, on November 11 it has been 6 years since Chen was sent to jail.”

FAPA President Mark Kao concluded: “Chen’s continued physical and psychological deterioration is an ongoing human rights nightmare for Chen and for Taiwan as a country. The Taiwan authorities need to understand that Chen’s imprisonment is severely damaging the international image of Taiwan as a free and democratic nation.”

REP. CHABOT (R-OH) CALLS FOR CHEN SHUI-BIAN MEDICAL PAROLE

At the Asian Subcommittee hearing in the U.S. House of Representatives on December 2, 2014 Subcommitteee chairman Steve Chabot (R-OH) renewed his and Subcommittee ranking member Eni Faleomavaega's (D-SA) call for medical parole for former Taiwan president Chen Shui-bian.

Transcript: "...[Outgoing Congressman and Subcommittee Ranking Member Eni Faleomavaega and I] together traveled to different parts of the world - mainly in Asia. And last year we were together in South Korea, Japan and Taiwan. We met with heads of state - including in a prison - with former president Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan whom I think we both agree has been imprisoned long enough. And for whatever he did he certainly served a penalty for that. And we certainly think that justice has been served and he should get humanitarian parole. I don't want to get sidetracked too much, but I feel very strongly about this particular issue and I know Eni does as well..."
TAIPEI TIMES 12/14/15: ELECTIONS BRING HOPE FOR A BETTER TAIWAN

By Mark Kao (高龍榮) concluding: The impact of the Nov. 29 elections goes way beyond domestic issues: The results were a rejection of the way President Ma Ying-jeou’s administration has handled international relations and cross-strait affairs. Under Ma’s rule, Taiwan has hardly gained any international space.

Cross-strait affairs are, of course, the most crucial issue. No one is against having good relations with China, but this engagement needs to be balanced, transparent and respectful of the freedom and democracy Taiwan has achieved. Ma’s rapprochement policy toward China is only leading Taiwan further into international isolation, making the nation increasingly economically dependent on China, so that eventually Taiwanese will have no choice regarding their future.

TAIPEI TIMES 12/27/15: US SHOULD NORMALIZE TIES WITH TAIWAN

By Mark Kao (高龍榮) concluding: On Dec. 17, US President Barack Obama and Cuban President Raul Castro announced that the US and Cuba would normalize relations after 53 years. It was the end of one of the last vestiges of the Cold War… If Obama can normalize relations with a regime that is still not democratic in Cuba, then certainly he can find ways to move toward normalization with a free and democratic Taiwan. That would be the kind of change everyone can believe in.

FAPA CRITICAL OF THE BUREAUCRATIC DELAYS DURING CSB RELEASE

(Washington, D.C. – January 5th 2015) Today, former President of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian was released on medical parole enabling him to receive adequate treatment for his medical conditions in a home environment.

FAPA President Mark Kao, Ph.D. stated: “The conditions imposed by the Ministry of Justice are totally outrageous in view of the fact that the former President suffers from a number of severe, chronic physical and mental ailments. Attaching these conditions is akin to playing political football with the health of President Chen. It will also not bring about a much-needed political reconciliation in Taiwan.”

REP. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN TWEETS ABOUT MEETING WITH FAPA OFFICIALS

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) tweeted about her meeting with FAPA staff on January 22:

Taiwan is a vital democratic ally + friend of the United States. We must make our relationship even stronger.

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARING WITH SECRETARY KERRY

On February 25, 2015, the House Foreign Affairs Committee held a hearing titled: "Advancing U.S. Interests in a Troubled World: The FY 2016 Foreign Affairs Budget." Secretary of State John Kerry was the sole witness.

The following exchange took place between long-time Taiwan friend Rep. Steve Chabot (R-OH) and Secretary Kerry:

Rep. Steve Chabot: "In mid-January, Taiwan's President Ma decided to release Taiwan's former President Chen Shui-bian on medical parole. As you may know, my Democratic
Colleague Eni Faleomavaega and I visited former President Chen in prison where he was suffering from a whole range of medical conditions - multiple strokes, severe depression, Parkinson's disease, on and on - and we beseeched President Ma to issue a medical parole.

"He ultimately did – I give him credit for that – but it was only for thirty days and he will probably, unless there is some change, be taken back. His condition was just startling, and I would urge you to look at the case. I know this is an internal problem, but "a country," Taiwan, (the PRC doesn't like that) but they ARE a de facto country, and I know that we for the most part consider that to be the case although it is not necessarily our policy, and you can't tell them what to do, but I would urge the administration to look at that matter and to the extent that we can exercise some reason on the Taiwanese government that it be made permanent so that he can stay with his family."

Kerry: "Will do."

Chapter Activities

分會活動報告

CA-LA  California – Los Angeles Chapter

01/07/2015, CA-LA Chapter proudly co-sponsored its first event of the year with Orange County Chapter in welcoming Ben Hedges aka 郝毅博 of 「老外看台灣」 (Lao Wai See Taiwan) to Taiwan Center as our guest speaker on his experience as a reporter and television personality in Taiwan. Mr. Hedges shared his thoughts on the sunflower movement, Mayor Ko of Taipei, and other news events. He revealed that he chose to study in Taiwan instead of China because he did not want to pay his tuition to Chinese government. Mr. Hedges also shared his belief that Taiwan’s future should be determined by Taiwanese and not by China.

The event attracted a strong audience of 150+ attendees, consisting of FAPA Members, non-members, and non-Taiwanese Americans. The event attracted a substantial number of second and younger generation Taiwanese American audience. We were fortunate to welcome back our previous Chapter Presidents, including Mr. K.C. Chen, Mr. George Liu, Dr. John Lin, Ms. Darice Lee, and Mrs. Hilda Lin, as well as former National President Mr. John Chen!
02/20/2015. 数位分會員與 Brad Sherman 眾議員見面，谈到台灣最新的政治情勢發展，包括太陽花學運及九合一選舉所反映的民意，也向 Sherman 議員表達台美人對協助母國台灣更民主、安全及繁榮的心願，並希望美國國會對台灣爭取國際地位的提昇助力以一臂之力！(文、圖由前分會長陳國昌提供)

11/22/2014 CA-OC YPG Study Group: CA-OC YPG members, Ya-Ting Yang, Sophie Lin, Maggie Chiang, and Cynthia Tsai have formed a study group. The first meeting was held at Taiwan Center to focus on the food safety issue in Taiwan. More than 12 members and friends have participated in the meeting. The plan is to have a gathering once a month to discuss various topics related to Taiwan.

12/13/2014 FAPA Annual Meeting in Houston: Chapter President, Nicholas Wu, and Regional board member, Dr. Peter Su and his wife Kathy attended the FAPA annual meeting in Houston. During this meeting, CA-OC chapter was recognized as an excellent chapter for its hard work, dedication and perseverance advance the right of the people of Taiwan. Thanks to all the support from our members and friends.

9/6/2014 CA-OC Annual Meeting: More than 140 members and friends attended the annual meeting. Chapter President, Nicholas Wu, first introduced new members and gave an update on chapter events. Chapter membership increased a total of 46 including new and returned members. President Kao was a keynote speaker for the event. His gave a speech on "Shift of US-Taiwan-China Relationship Post-Sunflower Movement and How to Support the Sunflower Movement from Abroad". In addition, the Young Professional Groups (YPG) of Southern California including Alex Chen, David Chen, Peter Chen, Yuan Huang, Puma Shen, and Vera Yang, each gave a 5-minute speech of their unique story and experience. "Formosa Love" choir sang 3 memorable songs to conclude this annual event.

August, 2014: In terms of serving the Taiwanese community, we hosted an event with Julie Wu the author of “The Third Son”, which had over 40
attendees. As a first we had the event in a community center with a BBQ. As such, it turned into a very family friendly event as attendees came with their families and children. More recently, we helped host the Bay Area screening of “KANO”. There were two showings that we chauffeured Producer Wei from and to, first in Berkeley which had over 680 tickets sold and San Jose which had 300 tickets sold.

The highlight of the summer though was the speakers from Black Island Youth and Taiwan March. Our chapter coordinated an education and fun filled trip for the speakers, starting with a tour of San Francisco sponsored by the local TAA, TAFNC. Then, we were able to secure a meeting with Congresswoman Jackie Speier and Professor Larry Diamond from Stanford’s Taiwan Democracy Project where the Sunflower students had a lively dialogue about Taiwan’s student movement. We concluded their trip with a speaking event attended by over 600 people.

Echoing the Sunflower Movement, the Hong Kong Umbrella Movement inspired HK diaspora in the Bay. Our members have begun forming ties with them and attended several of their rallies. Now, our chapter is taking the time to reflect and plan for the New Year. We have several new board members all 2nd generation and goals to increase our influence with Congressmen and connect more with Taiwanese youth. The Sunflower Movement opened the door to a new wave of Taiwanese youth involvement. Now, we need to capitalize on this energy and keep Taiwan free.

**CA-SAC** California – Sacramento Chapter

黄員成會長 (Jerry Huang)

沙加緬度分會11月1日舉行年會。黃員成會長邀請灣區張國鑫博士向愛台灣的鄉親分析「2014 台灣九合一」選舉及其對未來台灣的影響。

張博士對台灣的政治生態有很獨特的見解，尤其以親身投入2012年南提交委選舉，他以過來人精闢地解析目前的綠藍版圖及未來各直轄市及其他縣、市長的可能變動。張博士也綜合了台灣目前的大環境、地方政治生態、候選人及選舉策略等四個因素，對鄉親詳細剖析不同選舉戰區的情況。

他指出：台灣選舉頻繁，內政部修正地方制度法，調整所有的地方民選公職人員任期為一致，從今年起，直轄市長、直轄市議員、縣（市）長、縣（市）議員、鄉（鎮、市）長、鄉（鎮、市）民代表及村（里）長共七項選舉，將於同一天舉辦，原稱「七合一選舉」。

立法院今年5月通過「公職人員選舉罷免法修正案」後，新增「直轄市原住民區長」及「直轄市原住民區民代表」兩項，成為九合一選舉。

11月29日將選出－萬－千－百－三十人地方公職，共－萬－九千－七百－六十人代理完成登記，是台灣地方自治史上規模最大的一次選舉。

依台灣各縣市目前的情況來看，民進黨有望贏過半，但還要看各地的政治生態，候選人的人格特質，以及選戰策略，1997年的縣市長選舉，民進黨不但贏過半的縣市，總選舉人數甚至超過國民黨，有助2000年的總統大選，但過去中國因素沒有現在這麼嚴重，民進黨要贏還是要很努力才行。民進黨的資源遠不及國民黨，這次提出區域整合，聯合造勢，是很好的策略。

分會黃漠見副會長因其 FAPA 區域性全國委員任期屆滿，經 2014 年 11 月 1 日參與大會的全體會員同意，選出余家豪為新任全國區域性委員。另一位區域性委員則為蔡洋清醫師。

**CA-SD** California – San Diego Chapter

09/06/14, Dr. Mark Kao, FAPA President, visited San Diego and held a round table discussion on “How FAPA supports the Sunflower Movement and the changes in the
US-Taiwan-China relations after the movement.”

10/26/14, San Diego Chapter Annual Meeting was held at the San Diego Taiwan Center. After the election, the new team for the year of 2015 is:

- Jing-Ping Shih (石正平) Acting President, 11/14-02/15
- Young Chen (陳榮昌) Acting President, 03-06/15
- Wan-I Chen (陳琬貽) Acting President, 07-10/15
- Howard Chen (陳建豪) Chapter Board (Secretary)
- Justina Wu (謝節惠) Chapter Board (Treasurer)
- Ken Huang (黃根深) Regional Board Member
- Vivian Fu (林郁子) Board Member At-Large

10/26/14, Mr. Coen Blauw from the HQ gave a keynote speech to members of San Diego Chapter. The topic is “US-Taiwan Relations - The View from Capitol Hill.” About 50 people attended the meeting. His lectures were well received.

12/21/14, San Diego Chapter board meeting was held at the Taiwan Center.
12/28/14, Mr. Ho Po-Wen (何博文 • 下圖右三), a newly elected New Taipei City council member, visited the San Diego Taiwan Center. He gave a talk on “Taiwan’s political changes after the 2014’s 9-in-1 elections.” San Diego Chapter sponsored this event.

CT  Connecticut Chapter  劉哲雄會長 (Barry Liu)

04/26/2014, the chapter held its annual meeting. We were honored to have Mr. & Mrs. Kao to preside over the gathering. He gave an electrifying keynote speech highlighting the grass root civil disobedience movement that took the old guard by surprise. Mr. Kao won wholehearted approval by leading a passionate debate following the keynote. The speech drew an unusual large audience, both members and non-members, in our recent memory. We also dedicated this gathering as a shower for our new members, Lin Yih Yih and Lee Chiushia couple, their homecoming.

03/30, CT chapter answered the call of the global relay demonstrations in support of Taiwan students’ civil disobedience movement at Time Square NYC. We went, we sang, we cried along with several thousands of young people. Even the high wind and miserable sleet could hardly quench the flare of despite and disgust. Some of our members staged protests against the display of KMT/ROC flags on the spot. Simply because it was akin to wearing a white mask or carrying a Nazis’ swastika in the civil right march.

FL-S  Florida-South Chapter  楊美娥會長 (Madeline Wu)

05/18/14, Chapter members went to Cong. Alcee Hastings's party and met Cong. Debbie Wasserman Schultz.

11/09/14, Chapter 2014 annual meeting at Jacaranda Country Club. We had Dr. Wen (KoP supporter) (2nd row right 6) analyzed the KoP's Taipei Major's Election.
01/15/15, We were at City Center of West Palm Beach for the local swearing-in ceremony and met Reps. Lois Frankel (above), Ted Deutch (left in below), and Patrick Murphy(right below)

IL

Illinois Chapter

賴琦亮會長(Catherine Lai)

IL chapter annual meeting and election were held on Sunday, Oct. 12. The keynote speaker is Prof. Carolyn Chen (2nd generation of Taiwanese America) - Associate Professor of Sociology and Asian American Studies. She spoke about “The future of Taiwanese Americans”, and FAPA President Mark Kao also offered a speech on 「太陽花學運後 FAPA 的因應與運作」

Election result for 2015-16 president and Board Members: President - Catherine Lai (賴琦亮) Boards: Yung-Tsen Chen (陳泳岑, YPG Coordinator), Colin Chiang (蔣煥), Ming-Chun Chen (陳明正, regional board) and Ching-Chong Huang (黃慶鍾, At large board).

LA

Louisiana Chapter

黃文雄會長(Joseph Huang)

On Oct 25, chapter joined Race for the Cure event.

NJ

New Jersey Chapter

張文旭會長(Wen Bunhiog Chang)

Representing FAPA NJ chapter, a few of us visited Congressman Chris Smith’s office (R-NJ) on 11/3 to talk about the issues related to Taiwan. This was the day before Election Day.

We brought with us a full sheet of talking points, prepared by FAPA HQ staff Coen Blauw, so we were ready to update and convince Rep. Smith to lend his support to Taiwan issues. The training from FAPA’s Advocacy workshop was in full action to reap some results. Amanda Wang even brought a pineapple as a symbol to help bring in Taiwanese luck to Rep. Smith’s re-election campaign.
Rep. Smith met us in person with his Chief of Staff with tremendous warmth. He was happy to know we were attracted to him by his previous support to human right issues. His staff quickly pulled out a booklet of “Taiwan Communiqué”, the famous FAPA publication, and it instantly drew us closer. I came to realize what splendid work our FAPA HQ staff have done to have laid strong groundwork for Taiwan on the Capitol Hill.

We discussed the universal principle of self-determination, safety, and security for Taiwan, Taiwan’s membership in United Nations, strengthening U.S.-Taiwan diplomatic relations, erosion of justice in Taiwan, and the Congressional Taiwan Caucus. Rep. Smith admitted that the U.S. Congress has not done enough for Taiwan, and he will be happy to lend more support, especially in his possible future capacity to become the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in Congress. He is glad to work together with us in the future to promote human rights and justice in the world.

1/17/2015, NE Region and Hudson Chapter jointly held a meeting at Hopewell Junction, NY. More than 30 members and friends from HQ, Hudson, Albany, NJ, and CT Chapters attended it. President Mark Kao, with his wife, came to greet everybody and gave a presentation on the state of FAPA. NE Region standing committee member Thomas Hwang, Chapter Presidents Wen Chang (NJ), Barry Liu (CT), and Chi-Lin O’Young (NY-Hudson) were among the attendees. Chapter activities and planning were reviewed and discussed in the meeting.

Mr. Gordon Chang, our longtime friend and strong supporter, delivered an inspired keynote speech “Falling China, Rising Taiwan.” It gave an insight into PRC’s collapse and the bright future of democrat Taiwan. He donated the speech honorarium and copies of his book “The Coming Collapse of China.” We heartily appreciate his generous contributions and strong supports.

In the meeting, recognitions were presented to Drs. Shiu-Chin and Bing-Ming Su (蘇秉銘‧黃秀琴) for FAPA 100-Club Membership and to the Chapter for 2014 Congressional Contact Award. Thomas Hwang presented a trip report and witness of the recent 9-in-1 Elections with a group discussion. The meeting also had a fundraising, sales of T-shirts and books. It was well received; everybody enjoyed the presentations, discussions, and friendship.
NY-M  
New York-Metropolitan Chapter
林瑞葉會長(Sue Wei)

10/09-10/2014, NY-M chapter president and several members meet Dr. Ko Wen-je again on 10/09 at Queens Crossing restaurant, and again next day at the Sheraton Hotel, after Chapter sponsored Dr. Ko’s first appearance at the rare-full-house Taiwan Center on July 9, 2013.

Dr. Ko made his most lively and persuasive speech as a candidate for the Mayor of Taipei City based on his dream of a City with rich history and culture. He told us about his inspiration from visit in New York City’s High Line Park that was built by preserving the old railroad and transforming it into beautiful park landscape, instead of destroying the historical railroad; and his visit to Queen Museum on NY City’s impressive Water Supply and Sewage Systems. We were all impressed that Dr. Ko is such a fast learner. He dreamed of a City where its citizens have equal access to education and health care with an emphasis on “preventing getting sick,” instead of frequent visits to doctors’ offices because it is “free.” He envisions a City of an Open Government where every resident can participate by voting to select officials, committee domination and selection; a City where the weak and the poor are taken care of, the younger generation has affordable housing and so on. His exciting and inspirational speech was interrupted so many times with loud applause by more than 1000 people.

We are so happy and surprised to see one of Dr. Ko’s team members, our old friend Dr. Fu-mei Chang, Dean of The Katagalan School.

10/20/14, we attended Rep. Peter King’s Party hosted by former Mayor Giuliani. We thanked him for his continuing support to keep Taiwan free, secure, and democratic.

12/17/14, we attended her Christmas Party. Ms. Constance Lin and I filed an “official request form” asking Congresswoman to support a medical parole for Former Taiwan President Chen Sui Bian. With joint efforts, we are glad to see it finally with a positive result.

10/24/14, Chapter had a luncheon meeting and elected Ms. Sue Wei as Chapter President for a next 2-year term. Ms. Constance Lin continues her role as regional board.

OH-C  
Ohio—Central Chapter
周佩瑾會長 (Pei-Chin Andrew)
12/20/14, Handover meeting with potluck lunch was held at the residence of the new local chapter president, Pei-Chin “Bonnie” Andrew. Outgoing President Rachel Burroughs gave the overview of past activities in 2014. Incoming new President Bonnie aimed to recruit new members from mid-generation in the local Taiwanese community organizations. Members elected Dr. Shih, Chung Nan as Chapter Vice President and Nancy Ho as Treasurer. We also discussed and agreed in consensus on certain admin issues. Nancy gave a briefing on her attendance of the Annual meeting held in Houston. The meeting ended with Dr. Shih’s vivid accounts of his personal experience and involvement in the Sunflower Movement in March and the Nine-in-one Mid-term elections in November.

01/26/15, Local members welcomed FAPA President Mark Kao’s chapter visit. Derek Yang and Yen Chen (not shown on the photos) were invited to the dinner meeting and joined FAPA as new members. It’s an honor to hear Mark’s inspiring remarks in person on FAPA’s mission, past activities, the focus in 2015 and the vision for the future.

of Taiwan, Congressman Steve Chabot, to the Taiwan Center in Cincinnati.

After dinner, Congressman gave an encouraging speech. Being the chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chabot has kept an eye on the relationship across the Taiwan Strait. He mentioned that Taiwan was under the threat from China’s missiles during the previously presidential elections. The number of missiles has increased, not decreased, over the past decades. It is important to continue to emphasize the ‘One Taiwan, One China’ fact and remind the administration of this.

He visited former President Chen in Taichung last year. He spoke about the inhumane and deteriorating conditions and the need for medical parole. He said he met former President Chen many times and it saddens him to see him in the present condition. He has urged Ma Ying-jeou to release President Chen on humanitarian reasons.

Congressman expressed his gratitude for all supports he received from TA Community over the years. It is vital that FAPA continues to work with Chabot in the best interest of the people of the USA, by ensuring that democracy and freedom flourish in Taiwan.

OH-S
Ohio - South Chapter
王俐力會長 (Lily Wang)

OH-S Chapter co-hosted a dinner with Taiwanese Association of Cincinnati, invited long term supporter

OR-swWA
Oregon - SW Washington Chapter
紀江蒨會長 (Cherry Chi)

8/30-31/2014 Pre-conference meeting for the International Taiwanese Young Leaders’ Conference. Cherry Chi attended the meeting.

10/10/2014 Visiting Oregon senator with Ron Wyden office in Portland with local Taiwanese communities: TCCO (Taiwan Chamber of Commerce of Oregon), TAGP (Taiwanese Association of Greater Portland), and TWCGP (Taiwanese Women’s Club of Greater Portland). We exchanged the ideas "why US need support Taiwan to join TPP" along with ~60 signed petition letter (collected by TCCO).


10/17/2014 Sponsoring Kano Movie at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon.

11/3/2014 Shyu-Tu Lee visited Washington’s Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler’s Vancouver Office and talked with District Direct Mr. Ryan Hart. The purpose was to present Shyu-Tu Lee’s co-edited book, Taiwan's Struggle: Voices of the Taiwanese. However, He also raised the following two issues and hope the congresswoman can call policy makers' attention on them.

1. Following the last paragraph of the Introduction Chapter in the Taiwan’s Struggle, he suggested that the US should consider creating an opportunity for Taiwanese to decide their future. Failure to do that can cost the US the goodwill and distrust from Taiwanese, as there is a movement to make Taiwan as a neutral nation, like Swiss land.

2. He brief stated the incident in which how Douglas Paal interfered Taiwan's president election in 2012; thereafter, he requested that the US should maintain neutral position to Taiwan’s election on November 29 this year and the general election in 2016.

11/18/2014 Sponsoring Kano Movie in Portland, Oregon

10/26/14 募款會：請到總會長高龍榮博士演講，分會長首先說明最近的活動及表揚幾位特別會員，接著高總會長演講，說明 FAPA 的任務和工作成果，包括支持太陽花運動的內情，也說明在台灣及美國後太陽花的青年活動項目，活動共募超過一萬五千兩。

11/2014 向會員及支持者詢問對 FAPA 有任何意見以便在今年的央委員會反應。

12/06-07/2014 楊金文、李再添及分會長三位委員到 Houston 參加今年的全國委員會，很榮幸獲分會得今年的 Chapter of the Year 獎。

2014 年10 月中拜訪新選區的新議員 Marc Veasey 的 District Director— Anne Hagan，主要向她 Update 台灣的情形，重點說明春天的太陽花運動及其影響。上次

拜訪時，Veasey 議員剛上任，特別親身接見我們，我們邀請他參加 Taiwan Caucus，他很快就參加。
感謝議員去年連署信函給國務卿 Kerry 關於 2014 Taiwan Policy Review.

02/15/2015 和同鄉會合辦邀請民進黨發言人徐佳青演講，講題：該民進黨與公民運動，她從最先的科學興趣，由於參與社運而踏入政治。由於她在政論節目的表現，大家被她的口才及內容吸引，對她的演講滿意又興奮。整個會場擠得滿滿。

03/31/2015 和第四選區第一任的新國會議員 John Ratcliffe 見面共進午餐，並向他說明台灣的議題。

江許山會長 (Jeff Hsu-Shan Chiang)

02/06/15 由 FAPA 主辦、溫哥華台灣青年陣線 (Vancouver Taiwanese Youth Association、簡稱 VTYA) 協辦的「自由中國」北美巡迴放映在溫哥華 Langara College 播映。「老外看台灣」的主持人郝毅博親自參與這次的放映。現場來了將近 100 多位台灣、中國和溫哥華當地白人來參與。

很多年輕的一代看到中國這些不為人知的黑幕，都感到震驚和痛心。大家都衷心的期望自由民主這個普世價值能夠很快讓中國人享有，也感受和珍惜台灣人民對民主自由的堅持與愛護。

迪惠蘭會長 (Whelan Detrick)

10/04/2014 年會，中午會員們和佳賓良友們先在迪惠蘭住宅享用了豐富的 Potluck 午餐。會員們熱情洋溢相見歡和分享親手做好的各色菜盤，讓迪家充滿了溫暖的笑聲和聯誼。午餐後，會員們到許氏人参企業公司準備開會事宜。許氏老板娘(副總裁)許聖美準備多樣水果、小吃和茶水，令大家感到舒適與活潑。
此次會議有20多人參加。邀請了中西部常委委員鄭方塵於演說。他暢談常委委員會的職責與作業。亦邀請FAPA的宗旨和行政。另一位演講者是總部的執行主任王巧蓉小姐。她詳述了FAPA-HQ工作人員和總會長高龍於太陽花學運後，安排了許多集會地的活動，連接學運領導們和台美社團互相切磋；亦讓國會議員們和學運代表們交流和互惠。FAPA協助學運繼續種植和開花，對台灣於學運後永續的改造，邁向實質的民主，發揮了很大作用。

在演講者們，有教育性和消息性的演講與問答後，就是分會的會務討論。

2. 會員們也選出鄭麗伶女士當副會長。她將是2016-2017的分會長。麗伶雖然年青，卻已活躍於台美社團，是FAPA-WISC分會的寶貝。
3. 會員們也選出秘書陳明楷先生，和財務張明杰先生，加強會員服務。
4. 麗伶帶來了多張島國前進公投修法連署書，請與會者簽名和提案。全體人員都踊躍簽署。
5. 兩位參加會議的新朋友，在會議結束時，均加入FAPA-WISC分會，成為新會，也是最年青的會員。麗伶鼓勵大家訂閱太平洋時報，了解台美社團、台灣近況、名勝和古蹟，是台美人必須有的精神食糧。台美人應該支持太平洋時報的永續經營，繼續為台美人和台灣鄉親服務。

會後，聖美安排大家去參觀農場和回收(Compost)的經營。許氏人參公司，從小小的郵購生意，發展成為世界巨大的人參生產者，又代理各式各樣的產品，令人讚嘆它40年來的成就和創業毅力。每年為Wisconsin賺取大量外匯，是每位州長必須拜訪的模範企業。

2014 FAPA AWARDS

CHAPTER AWARDS:
Chapter of the Year 2014:
Texas – North Chapter

Excellent Chapters of the Year 2014:
(2nd) California – Orange County Chapter
(3rd) California – Los Angeles Chapter

Achievement in Congressional Contact:
NY – Hudson Chapter

Achievement in Fundraising:
Washington DC Chapter

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:
FAPA Guardian ($50,000 Donation)
CA-N—方子麟 廖瑞曼、CA-SAC—劉文彬 蔡永清、
TX-S—陳瑞昌、WA—石文賢 薛淑津

FAPA Sponsor ($10,000 Donation)
CA-N—邱俊邦 詹純真、Vancouver—林巧秀子、
MA—孫芳德 李信基、Taiwanese American Cultural Society of Atlanta

FAPA-200 ($4,800 Donation)
CA-LA—范光遠 鍾衍梅、CO—吳錦秀 張錦貞、
CA-SD—林郁子、NJ—謝志鵬 莊秋芬 & 高龍榮林素梅

FAPA-100 ($2,400 Donation)
CA-LA—洪珠美、CA-OC—程仲輝 吳素心、
CA-SAC—李信基 林美娟、CO—葉敏真 吳麗玲、
FL-N—林時遠 林靜文、NY-Hudson—葉光華黃秀琴、
NY—鄭嘉政 陳純真、OH-C—李瑞霞 李家齊、
WA—陳素娥
Greetings and Happy New Year In the Year of the Sheep/Lamb to everyone! I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you to each and all of you – members, Board of Directors, staffs, and supporters all alike – for your service and commitment to FAPA. I continue to be amazed and inspired by the passion and contributions that you make to FAPA and FAPA missions.

It is an honor a privilege, as well as a responsibility, to serve as the National Vice President for 2015. I want to first thank Mike Kuo for his service to FAPA for many years and wish him and his family all the best. I am especially appreciative that Mike continues to help FAPA behind the scene.

As part of FAPA’s plan to engage younger generation participation and membership in FAPA, we’ve held events involving different speakers, supported student projects, and opened opportunities for the next generation to serve in leadership roles. Let’s work to expand the plan to all chapters.

Equally important, FAPA (as well as Taiwanese community) will need the cooperation and mutual support of all generations to maximize our success. There is no replacement for experience as well as passion and energy. Two heads are better than one. Two generations are more effective than one. Please let me and HQ staff know where we can help to bridge the connection between the generations. Thank you!

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Chieh-Ting Yeh (葉介廷)—FAPA Young Professional Group (YPG) Coordinator

My name is Chieh-Ting Yeh and I am honored to serve as your interim Young Professionals Coordinator for the year 2015.

First, a bit about myself: I grew up in Taiwan and New York, and went to Harvard Law School, where I studied conflict resolution and international negotiations. I was involved with Harvard’s Taiwanese Cultural Society, ITASA, and the Harvard Asia Law Society. Subsequently, I worked at the Democratic Progressive Party, UK's Demos think tank, and helped start the Third Society Party in the 2008 Taiwan legislative elections. I have been on the FAPA Northern California board since two years ago.

Precisely during these past two years, we see Taiwan at a critical historical juncture today. Last April’s Sunflower Movement showed us the immense pressures Taiwan is facing: a failing democratic system, a tightening grip from China, and unsustainable inequality in wealth and dignity on a global scale.
These challenges, I believe, will have to be answered by this generation of Taiwan advocates. FAPA, as the most prominent organization on promoting Taiwan, should naturally be front and center, leading our generation to talk about and implement those answers. This includes overseas Taiwanese like foreign students and recent immigrants, and Taiwanese Americans who grew up in the US. We should not only talk to each other, but be able to take up the responsibility to make the organization our own.

Therefore for this year, I want to work on three things: find the leaders of our generation in the community, build three to four strong FAPA chapters led by those leaders to serve as models, and help facilitate first generation passing down the torch to the second and third generations. Specifically, I would like to see Boston and Northern California continue to grow and attract young Taiwan advocates with new projects and events, and I would like to see the New York/New Jersey and Southern California areas build up a core group of young people. I hope to create some infrastructure for future young Taiwa advocates to use, such as resource sharing tools, regional leadership retreats, and collaboration with partner groups in the community.

Within one year, I would like to see FAPA start to become the hub for politically minded Taiwanese youth, everywhere. Thank you in advance for all of your support!

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Cathryn Yarbrough—FAPA Winter Intern

Dear FAPA members! I am Cathryn Yarbrough, a second semester sophomore from Austin College in Sherman Texas. I am a double major in International Relations and Eastern Asian Culture and Language, with a double minor in Nonprofit management and Mandarin Chinese.

My school has an interesting program called “Jan-term” where every student has the month of January to take one intensive class, either abroad or on campus. Some students went to Bali, Europe and even Mexico to study medicine! I however, had the extreme pleasure of coming to Washington D.C. to Intern for the Formosan Association for Public Affairs.

I have always had an interest in Asian politics, but it was not until college that I was truly able to refine my knowledge and truly grow passionate about what I was learning. East Asia, specifically Taiwan, has such an interesting culture, and history that needs greater attention from the Western front, and on a larger scale, the World. Given history and recent endeavors set into motion by the “Sunflower” students of Taiwan, I have been inspired! As an American student I wish to do everything in my power to continue to support, encourage and push for the change the people of Taiwan wish to see.

Working at FAPA has been such a privilege because I have been introduced to so many inspiring, political figures. The HQ staff members have been supportive and educational, and I feel so grateful to have been given the opportunity to learn and grow in this environment. Progressively my writing has improved with the several projects I was assigned such as: summaries of the meetings with various Congressmen and Senators, compiling letters that were submitted to corporations misusing “Province of China”, and even writing an article for the “Taipei Times”.

My hope is that one day, I will return to Washington with the same dreams, and passions and begin to fight for the liberties of all people as an acting member of the government. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with FAPA staff, and I look forward to working with them in the future.