



From the AUW Support Foundation Chairman



In early April, I flew to Bangladesh to attend the opening ceremonies for the first class of Access Academy students. One of the most memorable moments of my visit was touring the Academy facilities.

Upon entering the building, the first thing I noticed was that it was alive—bits of laughter and animated conversation everywhere, young women racing from floor to floor, room to room. Everyone seemed to know one another, yet they had only been there for a couple of days. This was remarkable in itself since this class of 130 students comes from six countries: India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, and Bangladesh.

The students I met were smart, curious, bold, and fearless. They are exactly the sort of women we envisioned. It was thrilling—goose-bump thrilling. We got it right on the first try.

I urge you all to visit the Access Academy in Chittagong. I guarantee that you, too, will be thrilled and convinced that we must continue to develop this project—to build the campus and realize the whole dream.

We have our first vice-chancellor. We have our first class of students. We have the strong support of the government. AUW is now very real. Please join me in helping move the University forward.

Sincerely,

Jack R. Meyer, AUWSF Chairman

The students I met were smart, curious, bold, and fearless. They are exactly the sort of women we envisioned.

JACK R. MEYER, AUWSF CHAIRMAN

A GLORIOUS DAY:

Access Academy Opening Ceremony

The Access Academy's opening ceremony marks an historic milestone in the University's development.

"April 5, 2008 will always be remembered as a great and glorious day at the Asian University for Women," noted AUW's founding vice-chancellor, Dr. Nancy S. Dye, during her remarks at the Access Academy's welcoming ceremony in Chittagong.

And the day was indeed glorious, as a diverse and multinational group of teachers, staff, board members, friends, and, of course, the 130 Access Academy students, gathered at the city's Theatre Institute to mark the opening of AUW's first academic program.

Kamal Ahmad, the University's founder, was greeted by a long and enthusiastic standing ovation as he took the podium in front of an

audience awash in smiles and jewel-toned saris. Directing his opening words at students, Ahmad remarked, "We hope that this journey you've embarked on with us will become one of great excitement, adventure and much learning, and that perhaps all the pain you have endured—and perhaps continue to endure—in separating from friends and family to be here in Chittagong will recede in the face of new friendships and the joy of acquiring new skills and knowledge."

Emphasizing an altogether different journey, Hoon Eng Khoo, AUW's vice president for academic planning, shared her experience preparing the Academy's facilities. "We basically had

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SAVE THE DATE:

INSTALLATION OF AUW VICE-CHANCELLOR NANCY S. DYE

The Asian University for Women and the Asian University for Women Support Foundation plan to hold the installation of the University's first vice-chancellor, Dr. Nancy S. Dye, in Chittagong and in Dhaka from October 16 to 18, 2008. The installation ceremony will be held:

- DATE:** October 18, 2008
- PLACE:** Dhaka's Bangladesh-China Friendship Convention Center
- PRESIDED BY:** The Honorable Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed
Chief Advisor of the Government of Bangladesh; Chief Patron of the University.
- CHIEF GUEST:** Dr. Muhammad Yunus
Nobel Peace Laureate;
Founder of Grameen Bank

AUW will also convene an international symposium on education and advancement in conjunction with the festivities of the installation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact: Elizabeth Agnello at elizabeth.agnello@asian-university.org.

With Gratitude

The AUW Support Foundation wishes to thank The Goldman Sachs Foundation for its generous support of the launch of the Access Academy.



The Goldman Sachs Foundation

"Access Academy..." continued from cover

three months to plan for a school, a hotel and a restaurant," said Khoo. "We managed to move into the Academy building only two weeks before students arrived, accomplishing what normally would take months to achieve." She also took a moment to thank the staff for all of their hard work, especially Annie Hsu, the Academy's associate program coordinator.

Education serving as a public good was at the center of Vice-Chancellor Nancy Dye's talk. "We want our students to use their education not only for self advancement, but also to use the powerful capacities they will develop for learning to think critically and creatively, for identifying and solving problems, for communicating effectively, and for leadership," she said. "Such capacities and skills will empower them to help solve the urgent problems facing their communities, their nations, and the world at large."

The day's proceedings, however, did not just belong to AUW's academic and administrative leadership. Board members and longtime friends also took the stage. Rokia Afzal Rahman, chairman of AUWSF's Bangladesh board of advisors and president of the country's Women Entrepreneurs Association, spoke of students fostering cooperation. "The hands you hold together will softly stretch friendship and harmony across the region; the footprints you leave behind will be strong and firm for others to follow," remarked Rahman.

M. Osman Farruk, Bangladesh's former minister of education, regarded the Academy's inaugural class as not simply, he said, "the first batch of students, but the trailblazers, the torchbearers," those who will play a pivotal role in shaping AUW's unique educational model.

Longtime AUWSF Board Member Judy Moody-Stuart addressed students as empowered women. "Your voices will be heard, and you will bring women's solutions and women's experience to the governance of the world," she said.

While most presenters centered on students' roles in the region and the wider world, Jack

We are especially grateful to **Dina Powell**, Head of Corporate Engagement at Goldman Sachs, and **Stephanie Bell-Rose**, President of The Goldman Sachs Foundation, for their leadership and dedication to this project. Our deepest thanks also go to **Kathy Matsui**, Managing Director, Chief Japan Strategist and Co-director of Pan-Asian Investment Research at Goldman Sachs (Japan).

We further acknowledge the following Goldman Sachs partners and staff who have contributed to AUW: **Kathy Matsui**, **Rumiko Hasegawa**, **Morgan Sze**, **Daisuke Toki**, **Guy Saidenberg**, **Dawson Lin**, **Katharina Koenig**, and **Hiromi Suzuki**.

We are additionally grateful for the support and interest we have received from the Women's Network at Goldman Sachs. Our special thanks go to **Kay McArdle** and her colleagues in the Network for organizing the AUW presentation to Goldman Sachs Hong Kong and all other Goldman Sachs Asia offices; to **Katharina Koenig** for taking a lead role in organizing AUW's Hong Kong Support Committee; and to **Ada Yip** for giving several weeks of her time as a volunteer on our Chittagong campus.

Finally, we wish to recognize two additional individuals at The Goldman Sachs Foundation for their invaluable support and guidance: **Marilyn Duffy Grande**, COO and Vice President, and **Anuja Khemka**, Program Associate.



Bangladeshi students perform at the opening ceremony.

Meyer, chairman of AUWSF, urged class members to focus on a smaller yet equally important community: the University. He advised students to get to know their classmates well, "jump into absolutely everything," and help make AUW a better place. "You have the power to change things," he said. "Take the initiative. Let us know how we can improve the University."

Shifting the focus to students and teachers, Dr. Regina Papa, executive director for admissions and recruitment for the University, introduced all 130 of AUW's "highly promising daughters of Asia" country by country. The 12 members of the Academy faculty—hailing from Australia, Canada and the United States—were presented by Dr. Dil Afroze Quader, executive director of the Academy.

Then it was the students' turn. Members of the Academy class put on an impressive cultural show featuring dancing, singing and poetry from their native countries. Students from Sri Lanka, Nepal, India, and Cambodia performed a num-

ber of group dances, with several students doing solo performances. Indian students Aida Johny and Soumya Susan Cherian sang a classical duet, and Pakistani students recited a poem called *City of Light* by Faiz Ahmed Faiz.

The performances were a fitting conclusion to an event underscoring the importance of diversity and inclusion in the AUW community, representing, in the words of Nancy Dye, "a beautiful mosaic of the nations, cultures, languages, and ethnicities of South and Southeast Asia."

The hands you hold together will softly stretch friendship and harmony across the region; the footprints you leave behind will be strong and firm for others to follow.

ROKIA AFZAL RAHMAN

A JOURNEY OF COURAGE:

Profiles of Academy Students

From the plains of the Ganges, the mountains of Gilgit, war-torn Jaffna, and Phnom Penh, 130 courageous young women have separated from their families, their friends, and all that is familiar to begin their studies at the Access Academy.



DUTH KIMSRU, 20, from Cambodia, aspires to become a teacher and is especially interested in working with children from disadvantaged backgrounds. With an infectious laugh and love of music, she attributes her motivation and drive to her mother. "My mother is my hero. She's worked so hard for me to have a high level of education, unlike her. I want to use my education to help children who are not so lucky," says Duth.



KAILAIYANGIRI CHELVAM MAHILINI, 21, is from Jaffna, Sri Lanka. With her AUW education, she hopes to continue her work helping those affected by conflict in her country, especially orphans and widows: "In my life, I firmly believe that I have some extraordinary talents to do something constructively for others. If I get an opportunity at AUW, I hope I could easily fulfill my dreams."



MINZA YAQOOB, 22, from Pakistan, hopes to work for a non-governmental organization involved in youth advocacy: "In Pakistan, youth do not have much information about what they can do with their lives, so I want to help them define their goals in life. Also, I want to help youth recognize the importance of their voice in society."

Together, students represent an intricate mosaic of nationalities, religions, and ethnicities. Spanning six countries, the class includes 60 young women from Bangladesh, 29 from Sri Lanka, 19 from India, 11 from Nepal, 8 from Cambodia, and 3 from Pakistan. There are Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and Christians. Students' ethnic backgrounds are especially diverse: Tamils and Sinhalese from Sri Lanka; Malayalis from India; Newar and Chhetri students from Nepal; as well as Khmer, Bengali, Chakma, and Punjabi students. The average age of Academy students is 19, and more than half hail from rural communities. At least 90 percent are from families living in poverty, no matter how one defines it.

Though students' backgrounds vary, their desire to learn and serve as change agents in their communities transcends these differences. What also unites these women are their determination, courage and talent—characteristics that set them apart from a pool of nearly 1200 applicants.

HOPE AMIDST CONFLICT

When Regina Papa, AUW's executive director of admissions and recruitment, launched a pilot admissions program in Sri Lanka last July, she could not have predicted that her efforts would yield more than 500 applicants from the island nation. Through invaluable guidance from the Sewalanka Foundation, one of Sri Lanka's most effective NGOs, AUW was able to target a diverse and talented group of students—a difficult task in a country divided by years of ethnic conflict.

Standing out among applicants was Kailaiyangiri Chelvam Mahilini, 21, who lost her father in a bomb blast before she was born. Growing up in war-torn Jaffna, Kailaiyangiri attended schools that were continuously forced to shut down due to persistent fighting between Tamils and Sinhalese. Despite constant disruption, she managed to distinguish herself as a school prefect, athletic captain, social science union president, and school journalist.

In a 30-minute interview in English—a requirement of all the Academy's prospective candidates—she also discussed her commitment to those affected by tragedy. Over the past two years, she has received training as a relaxation therapist, a vocation she has used to care for victims of conflict and disaster.

For Kailaiyangiri, the Access Academy presents a unique opportunity to learn in a stable and peaceful environment. It also gives her a chance to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to help her community. "In my life, I firmly believe that I have some extraordinary talents to do something constructively for others. If I get an opportunity at AUW, I hope I could easily fulfill my dreams," she says.

SCHOOLS CULTIVATE TALENT

In India, AUW focused its recruitment efforts in the socially progressive state of Kerala, which has instituted government-run Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) schools. Providing free primary and secondary education to disadvantaged students, Navodaya have expanded opportunities for young women like Darma K. Sebastian and Jiby Mol Mathew.



Above: Nepali Students arrive at Chittagong Airport.

Losing her father at a very young age, Darma, 18, was hesitant to enroll in a Navodaya at first, but later would regard it as a turning point in her life. At school, she joined the National Cadet Corps (NCC); her excellent performances awarded her the Chief Minister's Gold Medal. She hopes one day to become an Indian Administrative Service Officer.

Jiby Mol Mathew, 17, is a gifted dancer as well as a top student, winning a scholarship for her stellar academic performance in secondary school. The daughter of a driver, her big dream is to become an environmental engineer to help remedy India's water pollution. "We need to find more recycling methods so poor people can get clean water," she says.

SUCCEEDING IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY

Unlike Kerala, Cambodia's educational infrastructure stands at a fragile crossroads. Facing an uncertain future while shedding the ravages of an old war, the country has tried desperately to restore the social capital destroyed under the Khmer Rouge—a regime that systematically executed the nation's intellectual vanguard. Demographically altered, more than half of Cambodia's current population is under the age of 20; as a

result, schools and universities are overcrowded, underfunded and of questionable quality.

Amidst this uncertainty, however, are inspiring young women like 20-year-old Duth Kimsru. When her father passed away in her early teens, Kimsru's mother moved them from their small farming village in Kom Pongcham province to a one-room flat in Phnom Penh. With her mother washing laundry to pay the bills, Kimsru went on to excel in school and won a scholarship covering tuition fees to a local university. The institution, however, was distant from home and she was unable to pay the cost of room and board. Just when university seemed out of grasp, she heard about the Access Academy.

With her AUW degree, Kimsru aspires to become a teacher. With an infectious laugh and love of music, she attributes her motivation and drive to her mother. "My mother is my hero. She's worked so hard for me to have a high level of education, unlike her. I want to use my education to help children who are not so lucky," explains Kimsru.

Nepal is another country struggling to improve its educational system, a condition that has encouraged talented students like Neeru Ghale, 23, to attend one of the many private institutions that have sprouted up over the past few decades.

An excellent student, Neeru attended her secondary school on full scholarship, but could not secure sufficient funding to continue her studies after graduation. Other opportunities came knocking, however. Strong in mathematics, Neeru was offered and accepted a teaching position at a local school. Before and after her classes, she taught community children for a nominal fee; at night, she designed and sold cloth bags and accessories. With her earnings, Neeru funded both her younger brother's and sister's educations.

At AUW, she hopes to direct her math and science talents toward a degree in environmental engineering. "It's a new area in Nepal and lots of NGOs are gradually dedicating themselves to it," she says.

STRIVING FOR THE FUTURE; PRESERVING THE PAST

In 22-year old Minza Yaqoob's native Pakistan, the gender gap in educational attainment is one of the widest in the region and young women are not encouraged to leave home, especially for study. Helping to broaden opportunities for women and young people in her country, Minza has volunteered at Bargad (an NGO in Pakistan) that works for youth advocacy. After she completes her AUW degree, she hopes to work for a non-governmental organization with a similar mission. "In Pakistan, youth do not have much information about what they can do with their lives, so I want to help them define their goals in life. Also, I want to help youth recognize the importance of their voice in society," says Minza.

In Bangladesh, Rehana Khan, AUW's deputy director for admissions and recruitment, encountered many talented candidates hoping to use their education to create a brighter future. However, some young women, like Academy student Papia Tanchangya, envision education as a means of preserving the past. From a Bangladeshi tribe in the remote hill tracts outside Chittagong, Papia hopes to preserve the culture and livelihood of her people by starting a fashion line. "Most tribal people are poor. I have to be ambitious and self-employed so I can help others," she says.

ANOTHER JOURNEY BEGINS

In late March, students began arriving in Chittagong—their stories, aspirations and excitement finally converging in one place. Kicking off a week-long orientation program, AUW Vice-Chancellor Nancy Dye encouraged students to complete yet another difficult journey: the Academy's 18-month program. "Your journeys to the Access Academy tell us that you are women of courage and that you have the spirit of adventure," Dye remarked. "Your determination to get here despite frustration and difficulty makes us confident that you will take on hard academic challenges—such as mastering the English language—and not give up."

The rapt and hopeful expressions on students' faces indicated they would not.

Special Note: AUW wishes to thank Mimi Lau of the *South China Morning Post* for her coverage of the Access Academy and for supplying information on students featured in this article. Lau's three-part feature on the Access Academy can be viewed at: www.asian-university.org/news_and_events.htm.



JIBY MOL MATHEW, 17, from India, is a gifted dancer as well as a top student. The daughter of a driver, her big dream is to become an environmental engineer to help remedy India's water pollution: "We need to find more recycling methods so poor people can get clean water."

PHOTO: MIMI LAU, *SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST*



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PHOTO: MIMI LAU, *SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST*

SOURCE OF INSPIRATION:

Access Academy Faculty

Access Academy faculty draw inspiration and energy from their students.

Since classes began, members of the Academy faculty have been putting in some very long days—their 1 a.m. and 2 a.m. communiqués to the AUWSF offices in Cambridge are clear indications.

Despite a rigorous schedule, this dedicated group of 12 teachers—hailing from the United States, Australia and Canada—is energized and inspired by students' tales of courage. "Everyone thinks we're brave for leaving our lives and moving to Bangladesh, but the students are the ones who are truly courageous," says teacher Augustina Delaney, a 2007 graduate of Seattle University in Washington State. "To go against cultural norms and potentially face societal stigmas in order to create change is something most of us would not even consider."

A biology major and former English-as-a-Second-Language tutor, Delaney finds the Academy's mix of cross-cultural teachers and learners refreshing. "Coming from educational systems that emphasize rote memorization and regurgitation of other people's ideas, students

I thought this was a wonderful way for me to help women not only in Bangladesh, but from other countries in the region as well.

ACADEMY TEACHER MAHMUDA KOLI

don't feel that their opinions and ideas are legitimate. They will need steady encouragement to express their beliefs with confidence," she says.

Teachers Kate Meehan and Selena Pang find strength in students' gratitude and willingness to learn. "Hearing about their experiences, the hardships they've endured, and the continual remarks about how lucky they are to be here keeps me working every day," says Meehan, who spent the summer of 2006 helping residents in northern Ugandan IDP camps (camps for Internally Displaced Persons).

A 2007 graduate of Carleton College in Minnesota, Pang notes one student's determination in particular. "One of my students fell very ill right before coming to the Academy and her parents were undergoing severe financial difficulties due to the medical bills. Miraculously, she managed to recover in time to enter the program. In class, she is one of my hardest working students. She is a perfect example of a typical Academy student: on the surface, she is always upbeat and ambitious. One would never guess the hardships and pain she has endured," says Pang.



Teacher Kate Meehan in class.

Angela Saunders, a graduate of the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, considers Bangladesh less of a transition than her prior teaching post in the Marshall Islands, where food shortages and a lack of electricity and running water were part of everyday existence. At the Academy, she teaches English to advanced-level students and has incorporated weekly journalism reports, debates and group presentations into her coursework. "After only a couple weeks of class, the shyness has faded and confidence is growing," she observes.

Helping to develop a sense of empowerment in women was what ultimately attracted American Jill Davis to Bangladesh. "As a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco in maternal and child health, I was a part of a program that ended early in 2003 due to the war in Iraq. I saw for the first time the issues that women face in developing nations," says Davis.

Moving to the United States from her native Bangladesh in 1997, Mahmuda Koli views teaching at the Academy as a way to give back to the

country where she spent much of her childhood. "I thought this was a wonderful way for me to help women not only in Bangladesh, but from other countries in the region as well," she says.

For California-native Amy Lam, who previously taught English in China, certain moments remind her that all of the hours and hard work really do pay off. A perfect example was when students in her English literature course finally grasped Gwendolyn Brooks' poem, *Speech to the Young: Speech to the Progress-Toward*. Lam writes, "Goosebumps dotted my arm when, after almost a week of studying the poem, the class read it out loud. Each student read a line, fully understanding the text, the theme and the purpose of this poem about determination and staying positive. There was a satisfaction in knowing that they were reading out loud, completely confident and sure of the words that were emerging from them. After the last student read the final line, 'Live in the along,' all of their eyes lifted from the poem on their desks and small smiles beamed at me: *They got it.*"



ACCESS ACADEMY FACULTY

Front row (left to right): Nicole Gruel, Amy Lam, Kate Meehan, Selena Pang, Mahmuda Koli, and Carly Brunswick. Back row (left to right): Anna Ellis, Angela Saunders, Jill Davis, Katherine Houseman, and Augustina Delaney (missing from photo: Nancy Ko).



An international women's educational enterprise with global vision and an Asian focus.

MOMENTS FROM THE ACADEMY'S FIRST WEEKS

The Asian University for Women began welcoming the Access Academy's first class of students in late March. The Academy is now home to a remarkably enthusiastic group of 130 young women from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Students were greeted on March 30 with remarks by Dr. Nancy S. Dye, AUW's founding vice-chancellor; Dr. Hoon Eng Khoo, AUW's vice president for academic planning; and Dr. Dil Afroze Quader, executive director of the Access Academy. The welcome address marked the beginning of a weeklong orientation program that introduced students to facilities and resources and helped them adjust to life at the Academy. In addition to informational lectures and academic proficiency tests, orientation activities included a series of workshops on computing, library research, student activities, self-defense training, health, and safety and security. The program culminated in a formal welcoming ceremony on Saturday, April 5.



Academy teacher Amy Lam in class.

AUW LIBRARY NEEDS YOUR HELP

AUW invites you to make a contribution of your old books to our new library. We need works of fiction and non-fiction as well as texts in humanities, social sciences and life and physical sciences.

Please mail your books to: AUW Library, Asian University for Women, 20/A M M Ali Road, Chittagong – 4000, Bangladesh.



Enjoying a meal in the cafeteria.



Students in the Academy library.





Students receive training in the Academy's computer lab.



Access Academy building.



Fitting in a volleyball game between studies.



Students at the campus site.



Students before the welcoming ceremony.



Students in class.



Settling into the Academy dorms.

Miracle Worker

ACADEMY TEACHER NANCY KO

Nancy is entrusted with students facing the greatest obstacles on the road to English proficiency.

Out of all the Academy teachers, Nancy Ko probably has been the busiest since classes began in early April. So busy in fact, that she has had barely a moment to share her experiences, which is understandable, being as Nancy is entrusted with students facing the greatest obstacles on the road to English proficiency.

Fortunately, news of Nancy's stellar abilities has surfaced through glowing comments from fellow teachers, students, and staff. "Nancy has focused singularly on her groups, arranging extra classes and working ceaselessly with them in these first crucial weeks. Students wouldn't dream of missing one of her classes, not even the extra help sessions," writes Academy executive director Dr. Dil Afroze Quader in an email. "Currently students are writing their life stories and Nancy shared some of them with me. I was so impressed by their imagination, their creativity—the students have all written in such length, too. I would never have believed that our students could make so much progress by the 11th day of classes."

Prior to Bangladesh, Nancy honed her teaching skills as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Guyana, South America, teaching English to children and adults. Ko is also a gifted poet: she has written and published a book of 26 poems titled *Wings to Fly*.

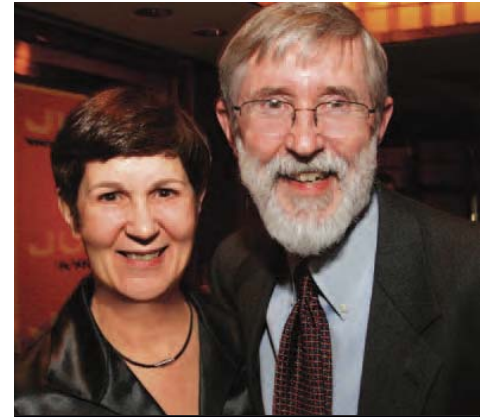


Like her fellow teachers, Nancy is inspired by her students' work ethic and eagerness to learn. "Almost all of my 36 students produce effort beyond what is asked of them. Of their own volition, they do extra workbook exercises and assignments. They are always asking for additional class time, where we spend hours mastering English. They have many dreams and their determination and enthusiasm to learn is invigorating!" says Nancy.

DYE-NAMIC LEADER

VICE-CHANCELLOR NANCY S. DYE

Dr. Nancy S. Dye, AUW's founding vice-chancellor, brings her dedication to women, liberal-arts education, and global affairs to the University.



Nancy and Griff Dye

PHOTO: STEVE J. SHERMAN, COURTESY OF OBERLIN COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Nancy Dye has held a number of influential positions during her career, but perhaps "global citizen" is the role she has grown to value most. Her thirteen years as president of Oberlin College in addition to her public diplomacy work in Iran, Jordan, China and Indonesia have enabled her to explore much of the world, offering a valuable perspective on globalization—both its problems and possibilities.

"When reading about globalization in the press, I am often left with the impression that it can be defined entirely in terms of trade relations, currency flows, world financial markets and economic growth rates," says Dye. "But this fall when I saw the multitudes of teenage girls hurrying to their work in Bangladesh's garment factories, I observed another side of globalization. I realized that if this new world order is to live up to its promise of economic betterment for all citizens, it must find effective ways to improve the quality of life and to foster human capacities in the developing world. This point is especially crucial for girls and women in these regions, who have contributed so much to a world economy that has offered them little in return. I believe that institutions like AUW can help break this cycle."

When first meeting Dye, her warm manner and bubbling enthusiasm belie the savvy and determined academic powerhouse who put Oberlin—a leading U.S. liberal arts college—back on track after years of losing its edge in America's competitive higher-education market. Her resourcefulness as a college president and commitment to women and international development caught the attention of AUW's vice-chancellor search committee, which announced Dye's appointment in early February after an almost two-year search process.



VICE-CHANCELLOR NANCY S. DYE will be formally installed in her new position on October 18, 2008 in Dhaka, in an event expected to draw nearly a thousand participants from the region and elsewhere. Noted guests will include Dr. Muhammad Yunus, 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner and founder of Grameen Bank, and Chief Advisor (Prime Minister) of the Government of Bangladesh The Honorable Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed.

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VICE-CHANCELLOR NANCY S. DYE

"An educator, historian, and advocate for women, Nancy Dye is the ideal vice-chancellor for AUW," observes Jeffrey Lehman, the AUWSF board member and former president of Cornell University who chaired the search. "Nancy provided exemplary leadership for Oberlin, internationalizing the College and demonstrating a profound understanding of how a diverse and pluralistic campus better prepares students for leadership in the twenty-first century."

Dye describes her Oberlin presidency—which concluded just last spring—as transformative. "Presidents receive a valuable education from the College and mine was very much an international one," explains Dye. "My travels to Asia remain an especially memorable part of my presidency and deepened my interest in the region as well as in international development."

While Dye has remained forever changed by Oberlin, she, too, made quite an impression as the College's first female president. Building on the institution's well known tradition of racial, ethnic, and socio-economic diversity, she spearheaded initiatives that would make Oberlin a genuine world college. She increased recruitment of international faculty and students, strengthened area-studies programs, and established concentrations in Middle Eastern and North African studies.

Dye is also regarded as a president who cared deeply about what was important to students. She helped reinvigorate the College's athletic programs as well as supported efforts to grapple more effectively with conflict and disagreement on campus. She helped create an ombudsperson office, a student mediation program, and the Oberlin College Dialogue Center.

The new vice-chancellor believes that the lessons learned from Oberlin will transfer well to AUW. "I am honored that the search committee has entrusted me with this pivotal role," says Dye. "I think that the Asian University for Women will serve as an excellent example

of how a rich and supportive academic experience can foster development not only in the talented young women it educates, but also through its alumnae's contributions to their communities throughout the region."

Dye's former colleague, David G. Kamitsuka, chair of the Department of Religion at Oberlin, attests to Dye's dedication to fostering social justice through education. "Nancy is profoundly committed to the idea that the world's best educational institutions need to be both centers of academic excellence and effective instruments of social betterment," he says. "Her deep understanding of all aspects of the building and management of an educational institution translates into a truly rare and marvelous ability to develop and guide a university that can hone the skills and nurture the values of the world's future leaders."

Dye's international experience has not been confined to Oberlin, however. In 2004, she traveled to Iran to foster academic partnerships between U.S. and Iranian universities, becoming the first president of an American college to visit the country since its Islamic Revolution. She also has been involved with a number of non-governmental and educational organizations both international and national in scope, including Search for Common Ground, a conflict resolution NGO based in Washington, D.C., and IREX (the International Research and Exchange Committee). She also has served on the boards of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and Pomona College in Claremont, California.

While Dye's interest in global affairs has strengthened over the last decade, her dedication to women has always been a guiding principle. As a historian, she has spent much of her scholarly career focusing on the ways that gender, social class, and ethnicity have influenced the status and roles of women in the United States. She is the author of numerous articles and two books: *As Equals and Sisters: Feminism, Unionism and*

the Women's Trade Union League and an edited volume with Noralee Frankel entitled *Race, Gender, Ethnicity and Class in the Progressive Era*. Her work has earned support from the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations as well as the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Nancy's deep understanding of all aspects of the building and management of an educational institution translates into a truly rare and marvelous ability to develop and guide a university that can hone the skills and nurture the values of the world's future leaders.

DAVID G. KAMITSUKA, CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION AT OBERLIN

Prior to Oberlin, Dye served as dean of the faculty at her alma mater, Vassar College. At the University of Kentucky, where she began her teaching career, Dye served as professor of history and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

THREE FUNDAMENTALS

The clock is ticking and AUW's vice-chancellor is well aware of the multitude of things that need to be accomplished before welcoming undergraduates in 2009. At the outset, she is focusing on developing what she refers to as the "three fundamentals" of a university—faculty, students, and a twenty-first century library.

Most importantly, Dye, during these first few months, has been doing one of the things that she does best: listening. Meeting regularly with AUWSF staff and boards, she has taken time to consider the organization's broad range of perspectives and personalities, a process that has helped hone her efforts. Turning her attention outward, Dye recently traveled to South Asia to meet with potential funders in India and to attend the opening of the Access Academy in Chittagong.

Of course, becoming vice-chancellor of a university half-way around the world calls for preparations of a more personal nature as well. Dye and her husband Griff have already begun planning for their move to Chittagong in 2009. Equally engaged in global affairs, Dr. Griffith Dye, a clinical psychologist, has recently joined Bangladeshi NGO BRAC in surveying post-traumatic effects of Cyclone Sidr.

"Griff and I feel strongly that we both have something valuable to contribute to this new endeavor," says Dye. "After years spent traveling and working on various projects throughout South Asia, we look forward to finally calling the region home."



Nancy at orientation.

AUW'S NEW GENDER STUDIES COURSE:

Placing Women at the Forefront of Change

"I think that AUW has enormous potential to transform political, social and economic developments in Asia and place women and issues central to women at the cutting edge of change," says Rangita de Silva-de Alwis, a prominent Sri Lankan human rights lawyer who serves as senior adviser for international programs at the Wellesley Centers for Women (WCW) at Wellesley College in the United States.

de Silva-de Alwis is leading a unique collaboration between the Asian University for Women and WCW in the design of a year-long gender studies course, *Women Shaping Society*. A requirement for all second-year students at AUW, *Women Shaping Society* will "provide an alternative discourse to challenge prevailing gender norms in Asia and help students become a vital part of the region's new role in global, social, and economic development," says de Silva-de Alwis, who recently produced a multi-volume course design complete with reading materials, questions, and suggested student projects.

Examining women's issues through multiple lenses, the course's overlapping and intersecting themes are divided into several modules: gender inequality in the public and private spheres, violence against women, and women's issues in relation to human rights, development, family

*A required course for all second-year students at AUW, **Women Shaping Society** will "provide an alternative discourse to challenge prevailing gender norms in Asia and help students become a vital part of the region's new role in global, social, and economic development."*

RANGITA DE SILVA-DE ALWIS

law, education, and reproductive rights. In any given year, AUW faculty will be able to identify several of the modules for examination and invite a diverse and distinguished group of scholars and practitioners to bring their expertise to bear on each section. This type of collaboration will result in a cross fertilization of ideas and critiques that will enrich students' understanding of the way in which women shape society.

The interdisciplinary scope of readings reflects the rich and varied terrain covered by each section, and includes works by renowned scholars such as Amartya Sen, Martha Nussbaum, Saskia Sassen and Radika Coomaraswamy. Students will also have at their fingertips a collection of human rights legislation that has fundamentally shaped international law and public policy in this area. Together, these materials are intended to

mark women's historic role in the struggle for gender equality in terms of building peace and social justice, reinventing women's rights as human rights, building movements, and forging ahead in terrains that were barred to women, according to de Silva-de Alwis.

Though centered on Asia, *Women Shaping Society* examines feminist debates and issues unique to the region in a global context. A major theme of the course is the impact of the global women's movement which led to a rebirth of feminism at the local and community levels. Creating transnational resonance and alliances where none had previously existed, "this celebration of global womanhood and the desire to explore links across sovereign states is a distinct hallmark of the course. This phenomenon also reflects an enduring effort to find the common threads of women's experiences across cultural differences," notes de Silva-de Alwis.

Students will also learn that the "personal is political"—a motif that connects women worldwide. Through explorations of family laws in Asia, especially where there is a rallying cry for feminist interpretations of the Koran, the course materials address how gender bias has arisen out of women's historical absence in lawmaking and the current movements and individuals working to change this reality.

Reproductive rights also figure prominently. The course closely examines the "plan of action" devised at the groundbreaking 1994 United Nations Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, which established that rights in the home were as important as rights outside the home. Students will explore the far-reaching impact of this declaration, especially how it has been absorbed by the work of governments and NGOs.

In addition to readings, students will be encouraged to put their studies into practice. Projects range from collecting oral histories to a mandatory internship with governmental, non-governmental, or international agencies. Students will also be asked to interview an Asian woman of courage; draft policy guidelines and recommendations; and write a personal experience that shaped their perceptions of discrimination, bias or subordination.

Collaborating with de Silva-de Alwis on the development of *Women Shaping Society* is a review committee comprised of distinguished scholars and practitioners. They include Susan Roosevelt Weld, renowned Asian studies scholar



Rangita de Silva-de Alwis is designing a year-long gender studies course for AUW.

and a research fellow in Harvard Law School's East Asian Legal Studies Program; Lucie White, Louis A. Horvitz Professor of Law at Harvard Law School; The Honorable Nancy Gertner, United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts and a visiting lecturer at Yale Law School; and Susan McGee Bailey, executive director of the Wellesley Centers for Women and professor of Women's Studies and Education at Wellesley College.

The work undertaken by Rangita de Silva-de Alwis has been supported by a grant of \$25,000 by an anonymous but long standing supporter of the Asian University for Women Support Foundation. AUWSF warmly acknowledges this gift and its appreciation of the donor's continued support.

The draft report is now available for review and comment. For an electronic copy, please email: elizabeth.agnello@asian-university.org.

WOMEN SHAPING SOCIETY Review Committee

The Honorable Nancy Gertner
United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts and visiting lecturer, Yale Law School

Susan McGee Bailey
Executive director, Wellesley Centers for Women, and professor of Women's Studies and Education, Wellesley College

Susan Roosevelt Weld
Renowned Asian studies scholar and research fellow, Harvard Law School's East Asian Legal Studies Program

Lucie White
Louis A. Horvitz Professor of Law, Harvard Law School

A Worthy Investment

Kathy Matsui has always believed women to be a worthy investment. From mentoring gifted female colleagues at Goldman Sachs (Japan)—where she serves as managing director, chief Japan strategist and co-director of Pan-Asian investment research—to her involvement with numerous causes promoting gender equality and empowerment, Matsui discovered early on that the key to Asia’s—and the world’s—economic future relies on one of its most underutilized resources: women.

Her 1999 report, “Womenomics,” made this point eminently clear. Serving as a wake-up call to Japan—a country with a weak history of promoting diversity and female participation in the workforce—her analysis explained that increasing the number of working women would help raise the nation’s long-term trend growth rate and mitigate some of the fallout associated with its shrinking demographic, such as a potential labor shortage. In 2005, Matsui released a follow-up study, advising investors to “buy the female economy” with the “Womenomics 115,” a group of 115 companies that could ultimately benefit from an increase in female purchasing power.

Though focusing on Japan, her theory, she explains, is universal. “GDP growth for any nation is simply the product of capital and labor,” says Matsui. “And if you haven’t tapped the full potential of half your workforce, your country’s growth rate will be consistently below-potential, and as a result, standards of living as well as competitiveness will be at risk.”

She understands, however, that improving women’s share of the workforce starts with expanding educational opportunities. “Numerous studies have shown that perhaps the greatest investment our generation can make in the twenty-first century is in women’s education,” Matsui explains. “Female education leads to higher productivity, higher returns on investment, higher agricultural yields, and a more favorable demographic structure. The key to gender equality worldwide is education, and AUW’s mission is really the embodiment of this belief.”

When Matsui was first introduced to the Asian University for Women several years ago, she found its mission hard to resist. “AUW represented a perfect intersection of three passions of mine, namely: 1) women’s empowerment, 2) development, and 3) strengthening Asia/Japan ties,” she says. What also drew her to the University was her belief in education’s transformational power, something she experienced first-hand growing up in California as the daughter of Japanese immigrant farmers.

Encouraging Matsui to harness this power was her father. Arriving in Northern California from Japan on a training grant in 1961, with little money, Andy Matsui went on to grow his modest farm in Salinas into the largest producer of potted orchids in the United States—a multi-million dollar business. His story caught the attention of author Po Bronson, who featured Matsui and his family in his 2005 book,

Why Do I Love These People?: Honest and Amazing Stories of True Families.

“Despite the multiple challenges he’s encountered, he’s always managed to find ways to become successful,” says Matsui of her father. “At the same time, he has realized that just as many people helped him when he was trying to grow his business.” Showing his gratitude, Andy Matsui recently started the Matsui Foundation, which provides scholarships to talented local high-school students.

Inspired by her father, Matsui has created a success story all her own. After graduating *magna cum laude* from Harvard University, she studied Japanese foreign policy at Kobe University in Japan on a Rotary Foundation Scholarship. When she returned to the United States, she went on to complete a master’s degree in international finance and Japan studies from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

A stellar professional career soon followed. In 1994, after a stint in another investment firm, Matsui joined Goldman Sachs and quickly ascended through the ranks, becoming a partner in 2000. An internationally known analyst, she was ranked the top equity strategist for Japan by *Institutional Investor* in 2000, 2001 and again in 2006.

Matsui is also active in her community. Between a hectic work schedule and family demands, she finds time to participate in a number of female professional organizations in Japan—a country she has called home for nearly two decades. She is also involved in a very personal cause. A seven-year breast cancer survivor, Matsui is engaged with networks raising awareness about the disease, which, she explains, “is sadly on the rise among younger women in Japan.”

Another key concern for Matsui is international development. Covering Asia for work, she has witnessed the disparity between the haves and

My hope is that the first classes of AUW students become the ‘pebbles thrown into the pond,’ eventually having positive ripple effects on the rest of their communities for generations to come.

KATHY MATSUI

have-nots in the region. She has also been puzzled by Japan’s reluctance to help its struggling neighbors. “I’ve wanted to find ways that Japan could exert more ‘soft power’ to help the rest of the region, especially on the education front,” she says.

One way she is doing this is through her involvement with AUW. For instance, Matsui, a member of the AUW Support Foundation board, has helped play host to several events promoting the University in Japan. “All I’ve been able to do is simply connect the dots,” she says. “Through my work and through the community here in Tokyo, I’ve been able to meet many like-minded people. It’s been amazing to see that by creating



Matsui, Koll, and their two children, Pria and Tycho.

Helen Claire Sievers

APPOINTED DEAN OF AUW'S ACCESS ACADEMY



Helen Claire Sievers has recently been appointed dean of AUW's Access Academy. For the past seven years, she has served as executive director of WorldTeach, a non-profit affiliated with Harvard University's Center for International Development. WorldTeach places teachers in schools in developing nations and

partnered with AUWSF to recruit and retain the faculty of the Access Academy.

Prior to joining WorldTeach, Sievers spent 18 years living in the Marshall Islands. While in the Pacific, she was actively involved in the community, spending time as a high school principal, a hospital administrator, a community court judge, and the director of a handicraft co-op. Sievers also taught astronomy at Wellesley and Bentley Colleges, and was executive director of the Thyroid Foundation of America. She has her BA in astronomy from Wellesley College and her MS in physics from Brigham Young University.

I could not be more delighted to work with the students, faculty, and staff of the Access Academy or more interested in promoting the vision of AUW to empower these talented young women from across the region. I thank everyone at AUW for this wonderful opportunity.

DEAN HELEN CLAIRE SIEVERS

continued on page 12

"A Worthy Investment..." continued from p. 11

a few horizontal linkages, news of AUW has generated so much enthusiasm across such a broad range of people."

"Connecting the dots" is not the only way Matsui has helped AUW. Recently, she and her husband, Jesper Koll, president and CEO of Tantallon Research Japan, have made contributions totaling over \$450,000 to the University, of which \$250,000 has established an endowed scholarship.

By investing in the Asian University for Women, Matsui and Koll seek to build a stronger, more equitable global society through the economic and civic contributions of AUW's graduates. "My hope is that the first classes of AUW students become the 'pebbles thrown into the pond,' eventually having positive ripple effects on the rest of their communities for generations to come," says Matsui.

Law Firms Provide Invaluable Support to AUW

Establishing a university for women in a developing nation is a complex and far-reaching undertaking. A charter, architectural contracts, employment agreements, and organizational governance are just some of the numerous issues to be carefully considered and crafted—underscoring all that can go wrong to an organization committed to doing right.

Fortunately, a team of internationally known firms and individuals has donated more than \$650,000 in legal services to ensure that the door of opportunity remains open for deserving young women at AUW.

Dr. Kamal Hossain, noted politician, statesman, lawyer, and one of the principal authors of Bangladesh's Constitution, has served as a trusted advisor to AUW on a broad range of matters. By playing a key role in shaping the University's charter and overall legal framework, Dr. Hossain has helped secure two of AUW's most valued assets: institutional autonomy and academic freedom.

Active in the international arena, he believes the University will set a precedent for excellence and equality. "AUW will have a significant impact in terms of providing opportunities for education of an international standard to women from Bangladesh and the region, particularly to those who lack financial means," says Hossain.

Mayer Brown, an international firm with a long history of *pro bono* and community service work, has played an equally critical role in AUW's development. When launching the project, AUWSF Founder Kamal Ahmad reached out to Marc Kadish, the firm's director of *pro bono* activities and litigation training, to help incorporate and secure tax-exempt status for the AUW Support Foundation. Since then, Mayer Brown Partner Sonia Baldia—who serves as AUWSF's general counsel—and other attorneys at the firm have handled several issues, including employment agreements, architectural contracts, and tax and corporate organizational matters.

"Women's issues are incredibly important to Mayer Brown, and we value the opportunity to work on projects such as the Asian University for Women, which will have a real impact on educating and training future women leaders in the developing world," says Marcia Maack, the firm's assistant director of *pro bono* activities.

Though no longer representing the Support Foundation, Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo—where *pro bono* activities are an integral part of the firm's culture—provided key support during a period of tremendous growth and transition for the organization. Partner Robert Gault, who counseled AUWSF on employment matters, noted his work in the firm's 2006 *Pro Bono* report as "...not only an opportunity to support the growth of equal opportunities for women...but also a chance to aid an institution that is a model for others in areas of the world where there is enormous cultural opposition to such equality."

By playing a key role in shaping the University's charter and overall legal framework, Dr. Hossain has helped secure two of AUW's most valued assets: institutional autonomy and academic freedom.

Recently, the firms of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom and Bingham McCutchen have come on board to provide additional *pro bono* services. Skadden Counsel Peggy Wolff, Partner Jay Goffman and Associate Vik Thomas are actively engaged in several areas, including drafting the by-laws of the University. At Bingham, Joyce Hsieh is focusing on handling general corporate matters for AUWSF. "Education is a cornerstone of Bingham's *pro bono* and community service initiatives," said Hsieh, a Boston-based associate at Bingham, a national law firm with 13 offices worldwide. "The Asian University for Women will provide young women in South Asia with the opportunities that many of us take for granted."



SONIA BALDIA, AUWSF's general counsel, is a partner at the law firm of Mayer Brown. Prior to joining the firm, Sonia was a consultant to the U.S. Agency for International Development and to the U.S. Department of Commerce. She has also served as adjunct faculty at the George Washington University Law School and has been a visiting scholar at several distinguished research centers, including the Max Planck Institute in Munich and the Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology in Tokyo. Sonia earned her BS from Punjab University, LLB from the University of Delhi Faculty of Law, LLM from the University of Georgia School of Law, and SJD from George Washington University Law School.

News and Notes

FACULTY SUPPORT

Aalborg University (AAU) in Denmark, A UW's partner in the development of A UW's Graduate School of Information and Communication Technology, recently received a grant of more than 1,755,000 DKK (USD \$350,000) from the Danish foundation Det Obelske Familiefond. This gift will establish a PhD scholarship program in Aalborg's Department of Human Centered Informatics to support three promising female candidates from South or Southeast Asia. While at Aalborg, candidates will be involved with A UW in several ways, including helping to develop the program curriculum and teaching in A UW's undergraduate program during study breaks. Upon graduation, they will commit to teach at A UW for at least five years.

A UW and Aalborg University wish to thank the Det Obelske Familiefond for their generous support.

For additional program information contact Professor Lone Dirckinck-Holmfeld at lone@hum.aau.dk.



Jack Meyer speaking at Goldman Sachs in Hong Kong.

AUWSF CHAIRMAN IN HONG KONG

Jack Meyer traveled to Hong Kong in early April to gather support for the University. His engagements included a presentation on A UW to an audience of more than 115 people at an event co-hosted by the Harvard Club of Hong Kong and the Asia Society. Meyer also spoke at a reception at Goldman Sachs Hong Kong; his presentation was broadcast live to all of the firm's offices in Asia. In between meetings, Meyer was interviewed by anchor Bernard Lo on *Bloomberg Live*.

AUWSF BOARD NEWS

The AUWSF board welcomed Janet Montag as its newest member in April. Educated at Emory University in Georgia, Janet has worked in corporate finance and private banking operations at JP Morgan in New York. She has previously lived in London and Tokyo. Janet and her husband, Tom, are parents of three children—Jean, Jeff and Melanie. Welcome aboard, Janet!

Two longtime AUWSF board members recently stepped down: former AUWSF board chair Stephen Friedman, president of Pace University in New York, and Vishakha Desai, president of the Asia Society. We thank them both for their dedication and service to A UW.



New AUWSF Board Member Janet Montag.

A UW VICE-CHANCELLOR

INDIA

In late March, Nancy Dye visited Mumbai, India for a number of development visits, including meetings with the Hinduja Foundation and with members of the India Philanthropy Office of Lehman Brothers Services India Ltd.

CALIFORNIA RECEPTION

On April 16, Dye was the keynote speaker at a dinner in Menlo Park, California hosted by A UW supporters Sara Abbasi and Lata Krishnan. Krishnan serves as president of the American India Foundation.

BANGLADESH

While visiting Bangladesh to attend the Access Academy opening, Dye was interviewed on Bangladesh National Television about her new role at A UW.

A UW FEATURED IN NEW BOOK

Gregory S. Prince, Jr., former president of Hampshire College in the United States, has featured A UW in his new book, *Teach Them to Challenge Authority: Educating for Healthy Societies*, just published by Continuum. In his book, Prince devotes a whole chapter—styled as “The Asian University for Women: Charting a New Course and Living Up to Expectations”—to a discussion on the emergence of the University.

Following is an excerpt from the book:

“...no university in South Asia sought out students from all religious, ethnic, class, and caste backgrounds. And by focusing on women, they were focusing on a group that, independent of all those divisions, were disadvantaged throughout the region. It is hard to imagine another mission that could challenge more conventions or so many authorities or that could accomplish so much in trying to build healthy communities.”

GREGORY S. PRINCE, JR.

FROM HIS BOOK: *Teach Them to Challenge Authority: Educating for Healthy Societies*

AUWSF CHAIRMAN JACK MEYER CALLS ON CHIEF ADVISOR OF BANGLADESH

After attending the Academy's opening ceremonies, Jack Meyer called on The Honorable Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, Chief Advisor (Prime Minister) of Bangladesh. While in Bangladesh, Mr. Meyer also called on Lt. General Moeen Uddin Ahmed, Chief of the Army. The Honorable Education Advisor (Education Minister) in the Government of Bangladesh, Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, also accorded a dinner reception in honor of Meyer.



After attending the Access Academy ceremonies, Jack Meyer (left) called on Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, Chief Advisor (Prime Minister) of Bangladesh (right).

AUW Gift Opportunities

Your kind contributions of any amount are deeply appreciated. Donations may be made by check, credit-card, or wire transfer. For relevant information and instructions, please e-mail barry.mason@asian-university.org or call +1-617-914-0500. You may use the secure credit-card form on our website at: www.asian-university.org/support_auw.htm to make an online donation. To help optimize tax-efficiency, please consider the following options:

U.S. TAX-PAYERS may make their contributions payable to "Asian University for Women Support Foundation" and direct them to:

Asian University for Women Support Foundation
1100 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 300
Cambridge, MA 02138, USA

U.K. TAX-PAYERS may make their contributions payable to "Open Society Foundation," clearly marking their contribution for the benefit of the Asian University for Women and directing them to:

Open Society Foundation (London)
Attn: Mrs. Beata Ekert
Cambridge House, 5th floor
100 Cambridge Grove
Hammersmith, London W6 0LE

JAPAN TAX-PAYERS may make their contributions payable to "Asian University for Women" and send it to:

Asian University for Women, Japan
Ebisu Garden Place Tower 1F MBE 703
4-20-3 Ebisu, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-6001

Alternatively, you can make a bank transfer to:

Shinsei Bank, 6124516, Main Branch
Account Name: AUW Japan
Account Type: Futsu

AUSTRALIA TAX-PAYERS may make their contributions payable to "International Women's Development Agency," clearly marking their contribution for the benefit of the Asian University for Women and directing them to:

International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)
Attn: Ms. Theresa Salmons
Level 4, City Village
225 Bourke Street
Melbourne, Victoria 3000

For more information on tax-deductibility, as well as for detailed description of areas in need of support in addition to the brief selection of opportunities outlined below, please visit our website www.asian-university.org/support_auw.htm.

All funds are in USD \$ and current use (spendable) unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL SUPPORT

Unrestricted Fund	Gifts to support a variety of priorities during the early development of the University, from campus development, to curriculum planning, to faculty and student recruitment.	\$500 – \$10,000
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STUDENTS

Student Scholarships	Access Academy scholarship (12 months) to support tuition, room and board, travel and other expenses.	\$10,000 spendable/ \$200,000 endowed
	Five-year scholarship to support a student through her combined bachelor's and master's degrees.	\$50,000 spendable/ \$250,000 endowed
Inaugural Class Support	Access Academy Class Entering in 2009 (150 students) Funds will support recruiting and instructional costs, academic and administrative staff, student travel and living expenses, health insurance and scholarship support.	\$1.5 million
	First-Year Class Entering in 2009 (200 students) Sponsoring funds support academic and co-curricular engagement.	\$2 million

CURRICULUM

General	Support costs associated with undergraduate curriculum development.	\$100,000+
Academic Planning	For a Division: humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences.	\$100,000+
Graduate Program	Development Fund: Funds can be designated by program (Public Policy, Education, Entrepreneurship and Management; Computer Science and IT; Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Development.)	\$250,000+

FACULTY

Senior Professorship	Two-year term or endowed chair for faculty of the highest caliber.	\$250,000 spendable/ \$1 million endowed
Visiting Professorship	To enhance and deepen academic offerings, spendable fund for stipends, travel and living expenses for visiting faculty over two years.	\$150,000

CAMPUS

The 100+ acre campus in Chittagong, its master plan designed by renowned architectural firm Moshe Safdie & Associates, will be a fully residential academic community and a model of environmentally sustainable development for the region.

Site Repair & Infrastructure Development	\$3 million
Design of Phase I	\$5 million
Individual buildings	\$3 – \$14 million
Individual classrooms, labs and offices	\$50,000 – \$1 million
Student Residences & Dormitories	\$3 – \$8 million
Faculty Residences	\$200,000 – \$500,000

AUW Support Foundation Boards

The University is being guided by an international network of proven leaders in the education, financial, and development sectors.

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Head of the Government

People's Republic of Bangladesh; Committee Co-Chair

Lone Dybkjaer

Member of Parliament and Former Minister of Environment, Denmark; Committee Co-Chair

Rasha Al-Sabah

Under Secretary for Higher Education, Kuwait

Sang Chang

Chair of the Korean Council for Presidents of Private Universities; Former Prime Minister of South Korea-designate; Former President of Ewha Woman's University, South Korea

Donald Johnston

Former Secretary-General, Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); former Attorney-General, Government of Canada

Kang Kum-Sil

Former Minister of Justice, Republic of Korea

Mark Malloch Brown

UK Minister for Africa, Asia, and the UN; Former Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

Koichiro Matsuura

Director-General, UNESCO

Jack R. Meyer

Senior Managing Partner and CEO, Convexity Capital Management and Former President, Harvard Management Company

Thoraya Ahmed Obaid

Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Mamphela Ramphele

Chairperson, Circle Capital Ventures; Former Managing Director, World Bank; Former Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Town

George Soros

Chairman, Soros Fund Management LLC.; Chairman of the Open Society Institute

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jack R. Meyer

Senior Managing Partner and CEO, Convexity Capital Management; Former President, Harvard Management Company; Board Chairman

Kamal Ahmad

President and CEO of the Asian University for Women Support Foundation

Ritu Banga

Member of the Executive Board, Joint Schools Activities, Inc.

Vivian Lowery Derryck

Senior Vice President of the Academy for Educational Development; Former Assistant Administrator for Africa at the US Agency for International Development (USAID)

Nancy S. Dye

Vice-Chancellor and President, Asian University for Women

Ezra S. Field

Managing Director, Roark Capital Group; Director of Jenny Craig, Accent Energy, Excel Polymers and Cornhuskers Energy

Hanna H. Gray

President Emerita, Harry Pratt Judson Distinguished Service Professor Emerita of History, University of Chicago

Jeffrey S. Lehman

Former President and Professor of Law, Cornell University; Former Dean, University of Michigan Law School; President, Joint Center for China-US Law & Policy Studies at Peking University and Beijing Foreign Studies University

Kathy M. Matsui

Managing Director, Chief Japan Strategist and Co-Director of Pan Asian Investment Research, Goldman Sachs (Japan) Ltd.

Janet Montag

Formerly with JP Morgan Chase

Judy Moody-Stuart

Educator, Community Advocate and Philanthropist; Trustee of Transparency International (UK Chapter); member of the International Advisory Board, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London

William H. Newton-Smith

Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy, Balliol College, Oxford University; Chair, Higher Education Sub-board, Open Society Institute

Kathleen M. Pike

Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology, Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University; Visiting Professor, Temple University - Japan Campus, Tokyo

Henry Rosovsky

Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor Emeritus, and Former Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Harvard University

Jennifer A. Shore

Entrepreneur

Diana L. Taylor

Managing Director, Wolfensohn & Company, LLC; Former Superintendent of Banks for the State of New York

BANGLADESH BOARD OF ADVISORS

Rokia Afzal Rahman

President, Women Entrepreneurs Association, Bangladesh; Board Chair

Fazle Hasan Abed

Founder and Chairman, BRAC, the world's largest non-governmental organization

Kamal Ahmad

President and CEO of the Asian University for Women Support Foundation

Fakhruddin Ahmed

Chief Adviser, Interim Caretaker Government, Bangladesh; Former Chairman, PKSF (Rural Employment Support Foundation); Former Governor, Bangladesh Bank

Angela Gomez

Founder and Executive Director, Banchte Shekha (Learning to Live), a non-governmental organization for women's empowerment based in Jessore, Bangladesh

Monjulika Chakma

Notable entrepreneur; Proprietor of Bain Textile Company, Bangladesh

Geetara Safiya Choudhury

Adviser, Interim Caretaker Government, Bangladesh; Chairperson and Managing Director, Adcomm Ltd, a leading advertising firm; Former President, Dhaka Club

Jamal Nazrul Islam

Professor and Director, Research Centre for Mathematical & Physical Sciences, University of Chittagong

Mamun Rashid

CEO, Citibank (Bangladesh) Ltd. and Citigroup Country Officer

A.S.M. Shahjahan

Former Inspector General of Police, Bangladesh

Farooq Sobhan

President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute; Former Foreign Secretary, Bangladesh; Former Deputy Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations

Steve Wilson

President, Chevron Bangladesh

Muhammad Yunus

Founder and Managing Director, Grameen Bank; 2006 Nobel Peace Laureate

About the University

The Asian University for Women (AUW) is being established as a leading institution of higher learning for women from across Asia under a special charter granted by the Parliament of Bangladesh. It exists as an independent international organization.

Located in Chittagong, Bangladesh, the University aims to be the first of its kind: a regional institution dedicated solely to women's education and leadership development, international in outlook, but rooted in the contexts and aspirations of the people of Asia.

It offers two distinct but closely tied academic programs—(i) a year-long Access Academy for talented students intending to matriculate at AUW but requiring additional preparation in English and other academic subjects; and (ii) a five-year program that combines a bachelor's degree and graduate professional training offered in computer science, management, education, public policy, and environmental sciences.

The principal institutional financial supporters of the project to date include the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The Goldman Sachs Foundation, the Open Society Institute, the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, and USAID.

The Asian University for Women Support

Foundation (AUWSF), incorporated as a non-profit organization based in the United States, serves as the planning and fundraising organization for this effort. The Open Society Foundation (U.K.), the Japan Foundation (Japan) and the International Women's Development Agency (Australia) provide tax-exempt channels for contributing to AUWSF in their respective jurisdictions. In 2007, we began developing the slate for the University's founding Board of Trustees, drawing from the region's leaders in business, academic, and non-governmental sectors. The founding Board of Trustees is due to be formally elected by the International Support Committee this spring.

The Honorable Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, the Chief Advisor (Prime Minister) in the Government of Bangladesh serves as the Chief Patron of the University under AUW's Charter. Ahmed is a graduate of Williams College and has a PhD in Economics from Princeton University.

www.asian-university.org

Asian University for Women Support Foundation
1100 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 300
Cambridge, MA 02138, USA
Tel: (617) 914-0500 Fax: (617) 354-0247

Asian University for Women
20/A M M Ali Road
Chittagong – 4000, Bangladesh
Tel: 880 31 285 4980
Fax: 880 31 285 4988

EDITOR:

Amy Paradis

DESIGNER:

Kerri St.Pierre

PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Melanie Hui, Kate Meehan, Angela Saunders.
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Asian University for Women Support Foundation
1100 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 300
Cambridge, MA 02138, USA