Documenting the AAPI experience

Activists discuss project to showcase Asian American history

San Jose's Chinatown was located on Market Street prior to the fire which destroyed it in 1887. This Chinatown was on the present site of the Fairmont Hotel.

By Brandon Nicolas

Last spring, the Community Advisory Board of the Oral Histories Project received a $500,000 contract from Santa Clara County to document the oral histories of over 30 Asian American activists in the Silicon Valley area.

The board chose Yvonne Kwan, San Jose State assistant professor and program coordinator of Asian American studies, to spearhead the project.

The Oral Histories Project is split into two groups: The Community Advisory Board and the AAPI Perspectives team.

Associate Student President Nina Chuang said the AAPI Perspective team is currently in the editing process of the project.

The board consists of community leaders, legislators and activists who have made a difference in the county. They helped comprise a list of candidates to interview for the project.

“He’s telling this story that has probably never been published or heard before and we’re going, ‘Oh my God, that’s what it was like during that time!’ We’re talking about human experience,” Connie Young Yu, Oral Histories Project community advisory board and Asian American historian said.

The Oral Histories Project is split into two groups: The Community Advisory Board and the AAPI Perspectives team.

Associate Student President Nina Chuang said the AAPI Perspective team is currently in the editing process of the project.

“The board consists of community leaders, legislators and activists who have made a difference in the county. They helped comprise a list of candidates to interview for the project,” Kwan said.

“These are prominent figures in our community who saw that during COVID-19 – a lot of our elders were passing,” Kwan said. “We also saw a rise and resurgence of anti-Asian violence.”

The AAPI Perspectives team includes Kwan as the primary investigator, Chuang who leads a high school intern research team, a videography team and a creative director.

“We essentially want to do our homework before we enter someone’s presence,” Kwan said. She said the high school interns would research information on the internet, which would help her generate interview questions.

“Our interview questions are standardized up to a certain point, but when you’re asking people about their specific experiences, we want to tailor it to what they have done,” Kwan said.

After the interviewees are selected by the Community Advisory Board and the research team has provided background information, Kwan and the videography team attend the interview scheduled by Chuang.

“We’ll go through a range of questions that usually start with family origin, their schooling experiences, their interaction with their neighborhood – just capturing what life was like for them,” Kwan said.

The interviews then delve into their respective histories as activists in their communities.

Afterward, the videographers edit the video and generate a transcript that is then polished by the interns. Kwan separates the AAPI Perspective Oral Histories Project into two phases: the first phase includes the video recording of 36 interviews, curriculum building for K-12 schools and the archiving of the oral histories that will be made available to the public.

“It’s a community based, community centered project,” she said.

Kwan said she is currently requesting a follow-up team attend the interview scheduled by Chuang.

“We’ll go through a range of questions that usually start with family origin, their schooling experiences, their interaction with their neighborhood – just capturing what life was like for them,” Kwan said.

The interviews then delve into their respective histories as activists in their communities.

Afterward, the videographers edit the video and generate a transcript that is then polished by the interns. Kwan separates the AAPI Perspective Oral Histories Project into two phases: the first phase includes the video recording of 36 interviews, curriculum building for K-12 schools and the archiving of the oral histories that will be made available to the public.

“It’s a community based, community centered project,” she said.

Kwan said she is currently requesting a follow-up

activism | Page 3

PHOTO VIA HISTORY SAN JOSE
City council debates public transit

By Alina Ta

San Jose City councilmembers discussed the pros and cons of using city funds to build transportation to connect San Jose Mineta International Airport to Downtown San Jose.

The Diridon Station to Airport Connector Project will create a three to four minute transit path from San Jose Mineta International Airport Terminal B to Diridon Station, according to the same frequency use and will drive along a fixed path, according to the same memorandum.

Ramses Madou, the city’s division manager of Planning, Sustainability for the Department of Transportation, said the city’s current transportation systems are not ready for its future goals.

"San Jose is not some rather ambitious goals," he said. "Being a zero carbon city, we are looking at amounting to zero [and] addressing historical inequities."

"San Jose has set some really ambitious goals," Brian Stanke, the project manager for the San Jose Diridon Station to Airport Connector Project, said the city is preparing to submit an application in a new way of connecting Mineta San Jose International Airport and Diridon Station.

The new transit lines will be electric autonomous vehicles designed for low frequency use and will drive along a fixed path, according to the same memorandum.

Stanke said such vehicles can carry up to four people with luggage.

He also said development and design costs will be covered by Plenary Americas.

"One of the goals of the Grad Slam is to showcase grad student work. " That kind of gave me the push to go for it," Cervantes said.

Marc d’Alarcao, dean of the College of Graduate Studies, said finalists are always odd because of presenting through the process of making the video.

"Data analytics graduate student Sachin Kumar Srinivas Murthy said Grad Slam allows him to showcase his research on Twitter @SpartanDaily for him was fitting all of his work.

"I also want to see this go forward," Srinivasa Murthy said. "I would have in, " Srinivasa Murthy said. "I would have opportunity to speak to a group of students . . . but also because it helps to also it has given me confidence in communication and presentation skills allows him to showcase his research on Twitter @SpartanDaily for him was fitting all of his work.

"I think there’s no reason why every member of the campus community shouldn’t watch," Cervantes said. "It’s really a cool event."

"So personally, it has helped me with research and other creative activity important," Srinivasa Murthy said. "When you’re doing, they can provide their feedback."

"I also want to see this go forward," Srinivasa Murthy said. "I would have opportunity to speak to a group of students . . . but also because it helps to also it has given me confidence in communication and presentation skills allows him to showcase his research on Twitter @SpartanDaily for him was fitting all of his work.

"I think there’s no reason why every member of the campus community shouldn’t watch," Cervantes said. "It’s really a cool event."

"So personally, it has helped me with research and other creative activity important," Srinivasa Murthy said. "When you’re doing, they can provide their feedback."

"I also want to see this go forward," Srinivasa Murthy said. "I would have opportunity to speak to a group of students . . . but also because it helps to also it has given me confidence in communication and presentation skills allows him to showcase his research on Twitter @SpartanDaily for him was fitting all of his work.

"I think there’s no reason why every member of the campus community shouldn’t watch," Cervantes said. "It’s really a cool event."

"So personally, it has helped me with research and other creative activity important," Srinivasa Murthy said. "When you’re doing, they can provide their feedback."

"I also want to see this go forward," Srinivasa Murthy said. "I would have opportunity to speak to a group of students . . . but also because it helps to also it has given me confidence in communication and presentation skills allows him to showcase his research on Twitter @SpartanDaily for him was fitting all of his work.

"I think there’s no reason why every member of the campus community shouldn’t watch," Cervantes said. "It’s really a cool event."

"So personally, it has helped me with research and other creative activity important," Srinivasa Murthy said. "When you’re doing, they can provide their feedback."

"I also want to see this go forward," Srinivasa Murthy said. "I would have opportunity to speak to a group of students . . . but also because it helps to also it has given me confidence in communication and presentation skills allows him to showcase his research on Twitter @SpartanDaily for him was fitting all of his work.
Through education, we can begin to combat anti-Asian hate. It's the mission of this grant to document oral histories to then be used as educational materials.

“Spartans sweep UNLV at home,” in which Matt Spear was misidentified. The Spartan Daily regrets this error.
Sociology seniors Vanessa Sepulveda (left) and Victoria Mendez (right) decorate their graduation caps in the Student Union on Tuesday afternoon.

Follow Oscar Frias-Rivera on Twitter @oscar_frias408

Sociology senior Victoria Mendez dedicates her cap to women.
The host university only allowed students to take three classes throughout the semester. One class was a group project where I had to create a website with local news. Another class was to create a pitch for an agency, and lastly a class teaching students how to create videos and audio news packages. Since these were fairly easy classes, I had a lot of down time. My favorite part of Liverpool was its close-knit community. Local pubs were full of spirit with live music and soccer fans chants in the air.

The average cost of a pint of beer was £3 which is equal to $3.73 in U.S. dollars. I felt like a kid at a candy shop. Transportation was economically friendly because the city was small. Buses or bicycles were used to get around if people didn’t have a car.

One of the best things about studying abroad was traveling elsewhere in Europe. I’ll recommend for students studying abroad to create an itinerary of things they’d like to do and have a plan ready. Studying abroad is good for students because they have the chance to travel on their own when they are at their host location. Bryan had flights that were affordable for weekend getaways.

I traveled to Dublin, Ireland, Vienna, Austria and Brussels, Belgium on my own time and with my own money. The majority of my time outside Liverpool was spent sightseeing and trying different cuisines not found in the U.S. The most intriguing dish I tried was wiener schnitzel, a traditional dish in Vienna.

I wished I had more time in my study abroad program because I would have liked to explore more countries. It’s expensive to travel from California to anywhere in Europe, so I tried to value exploring new locations. Studying abroad helped widen my perspective of cultures outside of the U.S. and made friends from around the world.

The experience of studying abroad should be recommended more to students because it gives them the opportunity to network with people from other countries. Another positive thing about studying abroad is that students are able to explore willingly. Students should consider studying abroad because it will benefit them personally and academically if taken advantage of.

Follow Enrique Gutierrez-Sevilla on Twitter @mtvenrique
DID YOU KNOW

Your first 2 years at Las Positas College = $2,208. Then transfer to CSU/UC. Save $30,000 on your bachelor’s degree (approx.).

Invest in you

Register Today www.laspositascollege.edu
DID YOU KNOW

Your first 2 years at Chabot College = $2,208. Then transfer to CSU/UC. Save $30,000 on your bachelor’s degree (approx.).

Invest in you

Register Today www.chabotcollege.edu