ABOUT US
The Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership (CAPAL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational and professional organization dedicated to building leadership and public policy knowledge within the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Its mission is to promote AAPI interests and success in public service careers, to provide information and education on policy issues affecting the AAPI community and to serve the AAPI community at large.

OUR PROGRAMS

Washington Leadership Program (WLP)
Every summer, CAPAL organizes a 7-week, free evening leadership training program to supplement a Washington, DC internship experience. For the last three decades, WLP has been the only educational and leadership development working series in the city that focuses specifically on the AAPI community and our role in public policy.

2015 WLP Topics
- Education
- The Internet: A Platform for Democracy and Community Organizing
- The Ecosystem of Advocacy: How Does One Advance Policies for the AAPI Community?
- AAPI Women and Health
- Climate Change and the Environment

“I had never thought of AAPI women and health as a topic affecting our community, but I could relate the WLP session closely to my mom. There were moments in her life as an immigrant when she felt very lonely. My father was away most of the week and she had to look over three sons. It must have been difficult for her to find anyone anywhere that could help her “let out” and relate to her experience.”

Daniel Jung
2015 US-Korea Institute Scholar

Professional Development
CAPAL organizes regular professional development and leadership programming in the DC area open to all who are interested in public service and the AAPI community.

Happy Hour Events allow AAPI professionals regular networking opportunities.

The CAPAL Annual AAPI Career Fair provides a chance for young AAPI professionals to explore career options in public service.

The AAPI Leadership Roundtable Series invites AAPI leaders in government, policy, and nonprofit sectors to explore and reflect on their own careers in public service with the larger community.

2015 AAPI Leadership Roundtable Speakers
Christopher Kang
Lakshmi Sridaran
Jason Tengco
Rebecca Lee
Bessie Chan
Ashwani Jain
Jason Chung
CAPAL Board Alum, National Director, National Council of Asian Pacific Americans
Director of National Policy and Advocacy, South Asian Americans Leading Together
Deputy Director, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
CAPAL Board Alum, Communications Director, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
Advisor, White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
Deputy White House Liaison, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
CAPAL Board Alum, National Director, Asian Pacific Initiatives and APA Communications
Director, Republican National Committee

• Education
• The Internet: A Platform for Democracy and Community Organizing
• The Ecosystem of Advocacy: How Does One Advance Policies for the AAPI Community?
• AAPI Women and Health
• Climate Change and the Environment
I have often been frustrated with the perceived apathy of many Asian Americans when it comes to issues of race and socioeconomic inequity. Many AAPIs have not been given the tools to open a dialogue on issues such as the model minority stereotype. CAPAL inspired me to believe this perception is false and the AAPI community does want to start a dialogue. It is up to us to create a platform and forum for these conversations to happen. Be the change. Reach out to those around you and learn from them.

Mayura Iyer
2015 District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) System Scholar

“I have been able to greatly expand my way of thinking through my CAPAL internship. I have been exposed to a community of people who share cultures, goals, and values with me and who are willing to help me succeed. I am now aware of how I can personally impact my community for the better. It’s been an incredibly empowering and inspirational experience.”

Lauren LeVan
2015 USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Intern

94% of the 2015 scholar and intern class intend to pursue a career in public service after their internships

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People served through CAPAL’s 2015 Programming

153 through Professional Development + 325 through WLP + 335 through other events = 813 total people served

Federal Internship and Scholarship Program

CAPAL’s Federal Internship Program places highly qualified interns in the Federal Government each summer.

The Scholarship Program provides scholarships for students who attain their own internship in the public sector and demonstrate financial need.

Positions are open to all majors and given to students who demonstrate leadership and commitment to public service in the AAPI community.

Through these opportunities, CAPAL has given hundreds of interns first-hand public service experience.

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Mayura Iyer
2015 District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) System Scholar

CAPAL 2015 Intern and Scholar Demographics

Other majors include:
Anthropology
American Studies
Biology
Business
Commerce
Communications
Development Studies
General Studies
Literature
Philosophy
Public Health
Spanish

Racial Background

CAPAL 2015 Intern and Scholar Demographics

Chinese/Taiwanese 26%
Asian/Mixed 20%
South Asian 13%
Vietnamese 10%
Indonesian 9%
Filipino 8%
Japanese 3%
Korean 3%
Cambodian 3%
Hmong 3%
Other 34%
2014 Finance Summary

Revenue
$224,904

Expenses
$255,739

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