

APA for Progress:

- Home
- Contribute!

Community:

- Forums
- Blog
- Event Calendar

Press:

- Press Releases

Tools:

- Action
- Flyers
- Links

Fun Stuff:

- Photos
- Fun Facts

Get Involved:

- Join Us!
- Local Contacts
- Committees
- Our History
- Contact Us

Upcoming:

- Grassroots Training 7/25 Success Stories

READ THIS BEFORE

PAYING

Our Founders

First 250 Charter Members

local contacts

Northeast

CT, MA, ME, RI, VT Wei Hsie, Ben Mak

Mid-Atlantic

DE, NJ, NY, PA Ron Kim

National Capital

DC, KY, MD, TN, VA, WV Dewita Soeharjono, Gautam **Dutta**

AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC Winnie Tang, Ki-Wing Merlin

Southwest/Plains

CO, KS, NE, NM, OK, TX **Bien Tran**

IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI You Have The Power ---- Now Get The Skills! Raj Balasubramanian, Andy

Kang, Albert Lin

Northwest/Rocky Mt. AK, ID, MT, ND, SD, WA, WY



Schedule | Training Courses | Trainers | Travel Info. What you need to know before paying

Come Train and Party with APAP in Boston!

APA for Progress offers activities and training the weekend of July 23 through July 27. Most activities are at the Hynes Center in downtown Boston or at Regis College Campus. Contribute via PayPal - it's fast, free and Bostonians can take the train to Riverside to get on a shuttle to Regis College. So plan on joining us for some fun and activism!

The National Training Program for **Activists**

Seventy-five participants from out of state have signed up for cross training with Democratic GAIN (7/24-7/25) at the Hynes Center, and the APA for Progress Training Day (7/26) at Regis, with housing at Regis College starting Friday July 23 through Monday July 26. Fifty Boston area residents are signing up for cross training with Democratic GAIN (7/24-7/25) and the APA for Progress Training Day (7/26), but are responsible for their own housing.

We offer **extra seating** at the APA for Progress NTPA Training Day on July 26 at Regis College Campus, Lower Student Union: we have seating for only 75 more participants, geared to Asian Pacific Americans. We strongly recommend you reserve your space using the "buy now" buttons below. Flashpass includes lunch and dinner on Monday.

Flash Pass for Flash Pass for Students (\$20) Professionals (\$35) BuyNow BuyNow

Username:

Password:

Remember me Log in

- Create new account
- Request new password

National Training Program for Activists



Blog For America

John Kerry





DNC

Federal Elections Commission Federal Elections Commission <u>Homepage</u>

- NTPA Press Release
- **Kerry Picks** Edwards for Running-mate
- Happy 4th of July!!
- Supreme Court: Detainees Entitled to Due **Process**
- South Asians for Kerry Fundraiser Rescheduled
- **Bobby Scott** Running for Congress
- South Asians for **Kerry Invites** You to a

Michael Itti

West Coast

AZ, CA, HI, NV, OR, UT Atam Rao, Theo Chen

National Coordinators Curtis Chin, Bruce B. Lee, **Monica Flores Lodise**

80 Local Contacts

2000 Listmembers and growing...

Alabama **Birmingham**

Arizona **Tucson**

California

Fremont Los Angeles Mountain View **Oakland Orange County**

Palos Verdes Estates Redwood City

Riverside

Sacramento

San Diego San Francisco

San Jose

Colorado

Boulder Denver

Fort Collins

Connecticut New Haven

Delaware Newark

DC**Washington**

Florida **Miami**

Georgia Atlanta

Hawaii Honolulu & Hilo

Illinois Bartlett **Chicago Evanston Glenview** Gold Coast Chicago **Homewood** <u>Lakeview</u> Oak Park Ottawa Rock Island Rogers Park

Schaumburg



Are you an Asian or Pacific Islander American or involved with this community? Are you inspired to take your country back? Come to the APA for Progress National Training Program for Activists and join over 100 activists from across the country in:

<u>top</u>

- Learning effective organizing at all levels, from the courthouse to the White House
- Improving your voter contact and volunteer skills
- Building capacity in your grassroots organization
- Connecting with Congressional candidates who need

APA for Progress **National Training Program for Activists** Weston, Massachusetts

Regis College Campus

Friday Evening, July 23 - Tuesday Evening, July 27

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Click here for contact and travel information for NTPA.

SCHEDULE

events

Click here for the schedule of

more

< July 2004 > SMTWTFS 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Luncheon with John Kerry

Getting Involved

as an APA!

Site Update Upcoming

Events July

2004: APA

Unleashed!

<u>Activism</u>

• APA House Parties (54 days)

Make payments with PayPal - it's fast, free and secure! Learn about how to invest in APA for **Progress** Get your gear here! Get your APA for Progress gear here! Stickers, t-shirts,



hoodies, and more...

Read the latest enewsletter!

APA for Progress alumni

Business Items

How does this Work?

APA for Progress offers the following to APA for Progress members who pay their membership fee (\$25 students/limited income and \$50 professionals). Click here for contact and travel information for NTPA.

As a nonprofit grassroots lobbying organization, 100% of APA for Progress's resources can be used to fund training, research, and lobbying efforts; therefore, contributions to APA for Progress are NOT tax deductible.

> APA for Progress put on a training through Get your gear Democratic GAIN that will accomplish the here! following: Get your NTPA gear here!

- 1. Train grassroots activists and campaign workers in grassroots organizing skills and campaigning for victory this year. Each participant will learn how to effectively work on the grassroots level and to write and implement a successful campaign plan.
- 2. Provide each participant with a training manual that will outline organizing guidelines and modern campaigning techniques. Each trainee will learn to use this manual to impact races in his or her area.
- 3. Develop an action plan that will help Asian Pacific Americans mobilize activists and work in their communities at all levels of races this year. Trainees will learn how to mobilize each other and build structure on the precinct level.

Training Courses

Courses are led by Democratic GAIN www.democraticgain.com at the Hynes Center and APA for Progress <u>www.apaforprogress.org</u> at Regis College and include:

Campaign Overview – This class provides an introduction to the pieces and players in a campaign and how they fit together to create victories. This course serves as an introduction to campaign work and an overview of the rest of the training.

Mobilizing Asian Pacific Americans - This unique class focuses on the history of the Asian Pacific American electorate and how to best bring them into the process this year. Participants <u>Valparaiso</u> <u>Wilmette</u>

Indiana Indianapolis

Iowa <u>Des Moines</u>

Kansas <u>Topeka</u>

Louisiana Baton Rouge

Maryland <u>Baltimore</u> <u>Bethesda</u>

Massachusetts
Boston
Northboro
Walingford

Minnesota <u>Minneapolis</u> <u>Woodbury</u>

Missouri
Fenton
Jefferson City
Kansas City
St. Louis

Nebraska <u>Omaha</u>

New Jersey <u>Clifton</u>

New Mexico <u>Albuquerque</u>

New York
New York City

North Carolina <u>Raleigh</u> <u>Triangle Area</u>

Ohio
<u>Cincinnati</u>
<u>Columbus</u>
Wooster

Oklahoma <u>Oklahoma City/Norman</u>

Pennsylvania <u>Philadelphia</u>

South Carolina Charleston

Tennessee <u>Knoxville</u>

Texas <u>Houston</u> <u>Plano</u> will look at the most effective message and targeting techniques as well as tactics for mobilizing this important community.

Grassroots Organizing – An effective Field program can be the key to winning in close races. This course teaches participants how to build relationships with voters and win elections one person at a time, neighbor to neighbor.

Targeting – No ground effort can be successful without knowing which voters to talk to, and how to allocate your resources when talking to voters. The technicalities of targeting can be challenging but this class will explain how to use your resources to get the maximum number of voters to the polls.

Voter Contact Strategy and Tactics – Once you have determined which voters to target, you must know how to contact them effectively and economically. This class teaches participants to build the list that will get them to victory and how to use the Voter File to guide their strategy.

Volunteer Recruitment and Maintenance – Volunteers are an integral part of every campaign and a field operation simply cannot be run without them. This class teaches trainees to develop activists in their communities, delegate responsibility, and build a successful ground team.

Get Out The Vote – GOTV is the final crucial component of every ground operation. This class focuses on how to build a plan for getting voters to the polls on election day.

Message and Polling – This class teaches participants to use their candidates' strengths and polling data to develop a message that will bring voters to the polls.

Earned Media –This class teaches participants to match message with messenger and utilize press contacts, a press list, letters to the editor, editorial boards, events and counter events, and press conferences to communicate their message to the right voters.

Organizing Canvasses and Phone Banks – Canvasses and phone banks are the most effective way to communicate with voters and serve as the building blocks of any grassroots efforts.

Introduction to Fundraising – This class provides an introduction to new campaign finance laws and how groups can fundraise in the most efficient ways.

Unions and Constituency Groups - This class introduces participants to different families of organizations and explains how we work together to win. It will outline effective ways to reach out to those groups as well as strategies to connect message to messenger for optimal coordination.

>>top



Fees

NTPA training fees:

Please join APA for Progress for the Monday training at Regis College.

Membership to APA for Progress \$25-\$50 sliding scale.

Have you already paid?

Students & Limited Income: \$25 confirms your space:

Professionals: \$50 confirms your space:

Make payments with PayPal - it's fast, free and secure! Make pa secure!

Make payments with PayPal - it's fast, free and secure!

Email monica@apaforprogress.org for further information about the NTPA and whsie@apaforprogress.org for more specific information about lodging, scheduling, and registration.

Virginia <u>Arlington</u>

Washington <u>Seattle</u>

Wisconsin
Madison
Milwaukee
Shorewood

Don't see your state? Step up to the plate! Become a local contact by emailing our <u>outreach</u> <u>coordinator</u>.

Help grow the progressive pan-APA movement!

Sponsors

The National Training Program for Activists is a project of APA for Progress with training assistance from Democratic GAIN. If you would like to become a sponsor or "Adopt-an-Activist," please contact Monica Flores Lodise of APA for Progress at 510.508.1535 or monica@apaforprogress.org.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (as of July 20, 2004)

FRIDAY, July 23rd

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM - Check into Regis College 9:00 PM - Welcoming Remarks and Orientation

SATURDAY, July 24th

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM - Breakfast at Regis College (Lunch and Dinner provided free to APAP at Hynes Center)

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM - Travel to Hynes Center

9:00 AM - 6:00 PM - Democratic GAIN's 101 Days, 101 Ways to Victory 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Dinner provided by Democratic GAIN at Hynes Center

9:00 PM - APA for Progress Social

SUNDAY, July 25th

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM - Breakfast at Regis College (Lunch and Dinner provided free to APAP at Hynes Center)

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM - Travel to Hynes Center

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Democratic GAIN's 101 Days, 101 Ways to Victory continued.

1:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Free time to explore Boston or

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Relax at Regis College. Enjoy other facilities, swimming pool,

basketball etc

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - APA for Progress Barbeque Dinner at Regis

 $8:\!00~PM$ - Democratic GAIN and Rock The Vote present the Jumpoff: 100~Days to Victory at the Avalon*

MONDAY, July 26th

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM - Breakfast at Regis College and Flash Pass Registration

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM - Welcoming Remarks (Alderwoman Amy Mah, John Chiang)

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM - Breakout 1: Sessions by Gautam Dutta, Lynna Do and Irene Lin,

Esther Lee, and 2 hour campaign case study with Neal Kemkar

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM - Breakout 2: Sessions by Clark Lee, Paul Igasaki, Raj

Balasubramanian, Alison Stanton, and Parag Mehta

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM - Networking luncheon

1;30 PM - 2:30 PM - Ask Our Leaders (moderated by Prapti Upadhyay): with guests Rep.

David Wu, Rep. Bobby Scott, State Rep. Swati Dandekar, Jun Choi, and invited guests Rep.

Mee Moua and Stan Matsunaka

2:30 PM - 2:45 PM - Remarks by Kelly Young of 21st Century Democrats

2:50 PM - 3:30 PM - Breakout 3: Sessions by Bruce B. Lee and Mark Keam

3:45 PM - 4:00 PM - Closing Remarks

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM - APAP internal meeting

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM - Dinner at Regis

9:00 PM - APIA Democratic Convention Gala at the Science Museum*

www.apiaboston2004.org

TUESDAY, July 27th

9:00 AM - Breakfast at Regis College

1:00 PM - 5:30 PM - Revoluntionary Women's Conference with Hillary Clinton, Madeleine

Albright, Jennifer Granholm, Carol Mosely Braun, Nancy Pelosi, and other guests*

www.revolutionarywomen.org

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM - Revoluntionary Women's Rally and Concert

6:00 PM - Check out of Regis

*ADDITIONAL COSTS \$25 for the Democratic GAIN and Rock The Vote present the

Jumpoff: 100 Days to Victory

\$10 for the Revoluntionary Women's Conference and Concert

\$35 per night for additional housing at Regis beyond MON night

Free - APAP members have access to MON-THU advanced training sessions from GAIN Free - Membership to GAIN until Dec. 31, 2004

**TBD for the APA Gala

Schedule subject to change. No refunds. NOTE: Housing is only available to people who are coming from outside Boston (preference goes to people from outside Massachusetts).

For more info on APAP, go to: www.apaforprogress.org

For more info on Democratic GAIN, go to: www.democraticgain.org

For more info on Revolutionary Women go to: www.revolutionarywomen.com

>>top

TRANSPORTATION

Regis College can be easily reached by taking the Metro/Subway (called the "T" in Boston) by taking the Green Line D to Riverside station (final stop) and taking the shuttle to Regis College. The T usually runs till late.

From Logan Airport take the Blue Line to Government Center and transfer to the Green Line (allow 60 minutes for this journey). Alternately take a Shuttle from the airport – the cost should be under \$7.

Driving directions to Regis College can be obtained from Mapquest by entering Regis College, Wheaton, MA

More about the NTPA

Monday, July 26: National Training Program for Activists

APA for Progress is pleased to offer both a series of workshops and a campaign exercise for NTPA participants. We offer three separate conference tracks related to political action, grassroots community building, and working within politics. Confirmed sessions include: Lynna Lan Tien Do: "Ourselves, Our Community, Our Future" - Being Asian American and Making a Difference in Politics", Raj Balasubramanian, Parag V. Mehta, and Alison Stanton in a panel discussion: "Using the Internet to Organize at the Grassroots Level: Lessons Learned from the Dean Campaign", Paul Igasaki: "Loosening Up the Beltway: How the Grassroots Impacts Policy Decisions", Bruce B. Lee: "Fundraising in the Asian American Community: How to Ask for Money in a Respectful Way", Esther Lee: "Building Coalitions within Communities of Color and Constituency Groups", Mark Keam: "Inside Politics: How Washington Really Works and How You Can Make a Difference," Clark Lee: "The Art of Strategic Political Messaging: Tidbits on Rapid Response and Interacting with Ethnic Media", and Gautam Dutta: "The Art of Advocacy."

NTPA'ers who choose to participate in our Campaign 101 Case Study will have the chance to put the skills they've learned over the weekend to work. An APA candidate from New Jersey needs our assistance in creating a written campaign plan: will NTPA'ers rise to the challenge of researching, planning, and presenting a campaign plan for victory? Join us to find out!

Conference trainers:

Raj Balasubramanian

Raj is Midwest Regional Coordinator of APA for Progress and provides leadership and direction to one of the largest and most active grassroots groups within APA for Progress. Raj helped start the AAPI for Dean movement in Chicago and has been instrumental in identifying, recruiting, and empowering over 40 regional leaders in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Lynna Lan Tien Nguyen Do

Lynna is the chair of the Political Action Committee, East Bay Young Democrats, executive Board Member of the East Bay Young Democrats, chair of the Minority Caucus Campaign and Political Affairs Committee, Young Democrats of America, and Women's Caucus Young Women Candidate Committee Member of the Young Democrats of America.

She is a member of California Young Democrats, the California Democratic Party, and the Democratic National Committee.

Paul Igasaki

Paul Igasaki is a consultant on equal opportunity, management and government and community affairs based in Alexandria, Virginia. He writes a column for IMDiversity.com on diversity and employment discrimination. For eight years he served as Vice Chair and acting Chair of the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission appointed by President Bill Clinton. He is credited with streamlining the agency's case processing and defining US standards on sexual harassment, immigrant rights and disability rights. He served as Executive Director of the Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco and as the late Mayor Harold Washington of Chicago's liaison to Asian Pacific Americans. Mr. Igasaki also served on the US Senate Campaign staff of Rep. Robert Matsui of California.

In Washington, DC he was the Japanese American Citizens League's representative lobbying on civil rights matters including funding for redress for the W.W.II internment of Japanese Americans, immigration reform and the Civil Rights Act of 1990. He served as the American Bar Association's (ABA) director of private bar involvement in legal services for the poor and as an attorney and community law fellow with Legal Services of Northern California. He was legal assistant to the Chairman of the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board, graduating from the University of California, Davis Law School and Northwestern University.

A founding member of the National and Chicago Asian American Bar Associations, he has been recognized by the ABA with its Spirit of Excellence Award for advancing diversity in the legal profession, as Public Interest Advocate of the Year by the National Association on Public Interest Law and with an honorary law degree from the CUNY Queens Law School. He has been honored in 2004 by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund and the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee for excellence in government service and by the JACL as Japanese American of the Biennium.

Mark Keam

Mark L. Keam is a senior Congressional staff who works for a Democratic Senator and national leader of the Party. As a chief legal advisor on the Senate Judiciary Committee, Mark and his team of lawyers work on some of the most important political and public policy issues facing Asian Pacific Islander Americans today, such as civil rights and civil liberties, criminal justice, homeland security, immigration, privacy, and battles over judicial nominations. Before coming to Capitol Hill, Mark served in the Clinton-Gore Administration. Prior to that appointment, Mark was a trial attorney and before that, held a number of positions in private, public, and political organizations in DC, California, and overseas.

Mark began in national politics in 1988 as an intern and staff of the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Convention in Atlanta where the ticket of Michael Dukakis and Lloyd Bentsen was nominated. Since then, he has worked on several national, state and local political campaigns as well as on numerous Asian Pacific Islander American community initiatives.

Esther Lee

At the age of 23, she began the first of many political Campaign Trainings when the Human Rights Campaign selected her as one of the top 25 up-and-coming young people for their HRC Youth College, a leadership training that immediately placed them in targeted campaigns around the country. Since then, she has lead other Political Campaign trainings for the Democratic National Committee and for the Victory Fund as well working on many political campaigns and community events in California and in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Esther maintains her roots in the San Francisco Bay Area, realizing trainings into real life with community organizing efforts both in the LGBT community and in the larger APA community. She is the founding Co-Chair of California Alliance for Pride and Equality, California's LGBT organization and a past Co-Chair of her local Democratic Club in San Francisco. She is also a former Board member of the Asian Pacific Democratic Club and Facilitator for the Asian American Voter Project introducing high school Asian American students to politics and government.

As a visible leader in the LGBT community and the Asian American community, Esther has appeared debating LGBT issues on New California Media's Northern California Ethnic media panel, spoke as the only Asian American LGBTQ speaker at the Millenium March on Washington in Washington D.C, served as a panelist at California State University, Sacramento's Annual Envisioning California Conference "Diversity and Community Panel," and at the National Women's Political Caucus and California NOW's Annual Conferences.

A graduate of Smith College with a bachelor's degree in Government, she enjoys spending her free time playing soccer, cooking and watching late night VH1.

Gautam Dutta

Gautam Dutta has pursued a legal career with an emphasis towards public service. After graduating from Yale University and Georgetown University Law Center, he joined the Enforcement Division of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). As a staff attorney, Gautam investigated potential violations of the federal securities laws and second-chaired cases that went to litigation. One of his investigations resulted in a \$25,000 penalty against a day trader.

Gautam also investigated potential insider trading by former officials of a publicly traded company. After spending three years at the SEC, Gautam became a law clerk to Judge Gladys Kessler in the District of Columbia's federal district court. In this capacity, he drafted opinions and memoranda for the Court regarding pending cases. Currently, Gautam is a litigation associate at Buchalter Nemer Fields & Younger, a Los Angeles-based law firm.

Outside of work, Gautam has served in key leadership positions of three organizations: the Asian Pacific American Bar Association (APABA), the South Asian Bar Association (SABA), and the D.C. Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs. As President of the APABA Educational Fund, he planned and organized a fundraising campaign that raised a record \$25,000 in scholarships for law students.

As Vice President of SABA, Gautam led a successful effort for the organization to adopt a more inclusive name, and planned and moderated a panel following the September 11 attacks. As Vice Chair of the D.C. Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, he advised Mayor Anthony Williams on the needs and priorities of the capital's Asian American residents. Having recently moved to Los Angeles, Gautam currently serves as Chair of the SABA Scholarship Committee. Recently, he helped organize a fundraiser that raised over \$60,000 for Presidential candidate Howard Dean.

Clark Lee

At the age of 22, Clark Lee is a political consultant specializing in media and mobilization strategy for Asian Pacific American (APA) and youth communities in California. Since 2000, Clark has worked on a number of statewide and local political campaigns. Most recently, he served as the APA Outreach Coordinator/Spokesperson for the 2003 California gubernatorial anti-recall campaign and the California Deputy Political Director for APA Constituent Relations for John Kerry for President during the California primary election. Clark is the 2004 recipient of the prestigious California Democratic Party John F. Kennedy Jr. Award for Outstanding Public Service.

Clark is one of the youngest members of the California Democratic Party Executive Board. He serves as an Assembly District Committee Chair and a State Platform Plank Co-Chair for the California Democratic Party; the Communications Director and State Platform Chair of the California Young Democrats; and the Vice President of Asian Pacific American Democratic Club in Los Angeles. He has served as the Communications Director, Statewide Campaign Steering Committee Chair, Constitution Committee Chair, and Strategic Development Director of the California College Democrats; and the Vice President of the Democrats of the Claremont Colleges. He served as a National Campaign Committee Member, National Legislative Action Committee Member, and the Western U.S. Regional Director/Organizer of the College Democrats of America overseeing college outreach and mobilization in seven states.

Clark spearheaded the compilation of the California College Democrats comprehensive statewide campaign outreach plan & manual on Democratic youth outreach in 2002. The manual was adopted for use by the California Democratic Party Coordinated Campaign's youth outreach efforts. As a grassroots organizer, he has mobilized new APA Democrats and students for political involvement and voter registration at community events and new citizen naturalization ceremonies in Los Angeles and Orange County areas.

As a young community activist, Clark is a founding board of directors member of the Claremont Foundation for Progress, a political action committee dedicated to youth political research and outreach in Los Angeles. Clark was the publisher and managing editor of The Claremont Collage, the independent newspaper of the Claremont Colleges Consortium. He has also served as the University Relations Chair and Mentoring Committee Member of the Asian Professional Exchange (APEX) of Southern California and the Secretary of the Claremont McKenna College Asian Pacific American Mentors Program.

He appears frequently in youth, APA, and international Asian media as a political commentator and has been interviewed by mainstream media outlets such as Los Angeles Times, San Gabriel Valley Tribune, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, Pasadena Star-News, Pasadena Weekly, Chinese Daily News, Sing Tao Daily, International Daily News, China Press, Chinese L.A. Daily News, Zhong Guo News, Korea Times, Korea Daily, Rafu Shimpo, Pacific Citizen, Voice of America, 89.3 FM KPCC Pasadena, KNX Los Angeles, CBS, NBC, ABC, Fox, KSCI-18 Los Angeles, CTN, Sky Link, ETTV America, Phoenix TV, KTE, KTAN, and a series of college and local newspapers. He has debated various prominent APA Republicans in Southern California in APA media.

Clark is the first in his family to attend college in the United States. He graduated from Claremont McKenna College with Honors in Government and as the recipient of the Philip Roland Prize for Excellence in Public Affairs. He currently serves as the consultant on Southern California APA affairs to California Secretary of State Kevin Shelley.

Alison Stanton

Former "Jane-of-All-Trades", Democracy for America

Alison began her work for Dean for America as a Meetup Host and Generation Dean leader before joining the DeanSpace project and finally moving to Burlington to volunteer full-time. She then utilized her knowledge of the Dean grassroots and technology to help the organization transition into Democracy for America. Alison will be returning to Miami University's Interdiscipinary Studies program in the fall.

Parag V. Mehta

Parag V. Mehta is political consultant based in Washington, DC. Currently he is serving as the Deputy Political Director for America Votes, a coalition of the 33 largest grassroots organizations in the country who have joined forces to register, educate, recruit, and mobilize voters for the 2004 elections. Previously, Parag was Deputy Political Director for Governor Howard Dean's presidential campaign, based in Burlington, Vermont. There, he directed the campaign's Asian, Arab, Muslim and Pacific Islander outreach, working with elected officials, community leaders, and grassroots activists to build support for Governor Dean.

As a Presidential Management Intern (PMI) from 2000-2002, Parag was a speechwriter and policy analyst for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and for the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services. Following this two-year fellowship, he worked as Deputy Field Director for former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk's U.S. Senate race in Texas. In 2003, Parag worked with the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development to help coordinate their development activities and legislative advocacy.

Parag is a second-generation Indian American from Central Texas. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin where he received his B.A. in the Plan II Honors Program. He was awarded a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

Neil Kemkar

Neal Kemkar of FieldWorks, is a grassroots organizer with experience running environmental, public health, corporate accountability, and urban sprawl issue campaigns, as well as door-to-door canvasses. Neal is a co-founder of SAAVY (South Asian American Voters of Youth) and a co-founder of LCV's Project Democracy. He currently directs voter registration and voter contact efforts nationwide with FieldWorks.

Prior to joining FieldWorks, Neal directed regional field campaigns for national groups including USPIRG, Sierra Club and League of Conservation Voters. After graduating from Brown University, he received his formal organizing training from Green Corps, the field school for environmental organizing. His expertise is in recruiting, training and supervising volunteers and staff; working with media; fundraising; and mobilizing grassroots support.

» monicadear's blog

JOIN APA FOR PROGRESS

Learn More | Why Join? | Get Involved

Help take back our country!

Hello everyone! Welcome to our new site and our new organization: Asian Pacific Americans for Progress! We are a powerful grassroots network of Asian Pacific Americans and friends standing for progressive values around the United States.

Mission Statement:

A grassrooots, internet-empowered, national network of Asian Pacific Americans for Progressive Action.

Goals

- Develop a national network of APA's interested in progressive politics
- Support candidates who represent our organization's vision and mission (the <u>APA for Progress Fund</u>)
- Increase APA involvement in local and national politics
- Increase awareness of APA issues.

We are dedicated to working with APAs across this great country to continue the grassroots movement for positive, progressive change in America. Please join us -- be a part of this growing movement!

» <u>c_spandan's blog</u>

All rights reserved. Asian Pacific Americans for Progress. Contact us @ apafpAT-]apaforprogressDOTorg