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2025/01/06 APA Justice Monthly Meeting



The next APA Justice monthly meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday, January 6, 2025, starting at 1:55 pm ET. In addition to updates by **Joanna YangQing Derman**, Program Director, Advancing Justice | AAJC, and Dr. **Kai Li**, Vice President, Asian American Scholar Forum (AASF), invited speakers are:

- Congresswoman **Judy Chu**, Chair Emeritus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC)
- **Judith Terayu**, Executive Director, CAPAC
- **Sudip Parikh**, Chief Executive Officer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and Executive Publisher of the Science family of journals
- **Robert S. Chang**, Executive Director, Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality, University of California Irvine School of Law
- **Paul L. Hoffman**, Director of Civil Rights Clinic, University of California Irvine School of Law

The virtual monthly meeting is by invitation only. It is closed to the press. If you wish to join, either one time or for future meetings, please contact one of the co-organizers of APA

Justice - **Steven Pei 白先慎**, **Vincent Wang 王文奎**, and **Jeremy Wu 胡善庆** - or send a message to contact@apajustice.org.

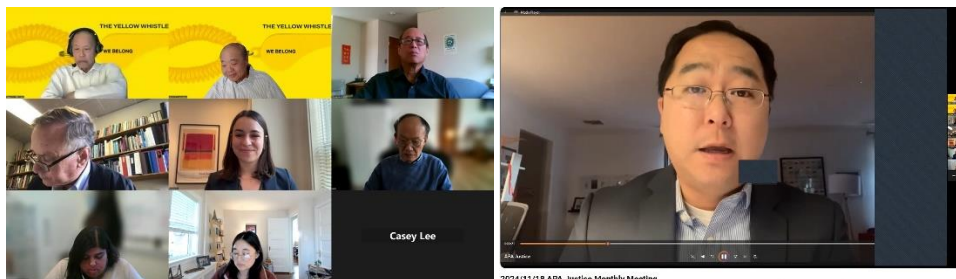
On December 18, 2024, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) issued a statement marking 80 years since the Supreme Court issued a ruling in the landmark case of *Korematsu vs. United States*, which ruled that Executive Order 9066 authorizing the relocation of over 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry to incarceration camps did not violate Japanese Americans' rights. The court affirmed the conviction of **Fred Korematsu**, a Japanese American civil rights activist, who refused to relocate. In 2018, the Supreme Court rejected its 1944 decision in *Korematsu* with Chief Justice **John Roberts** writing that “*Korematsu* was gravely wrong the day it was decided” and “has no place in law under the Constitution.” Read the CAPAC statement: <https://bit.ly/3DwWcTf>.

The Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality, established in 2009 by Professor **Robert S. Chang** at Seattle University School of Law, is dedicated to advancing justice and equality through research, advocacy, and education. Named after civil rights hero Fred Korematsu, the center focuses on combating discrimination, empowering communities to advocate for themselves, and training future lawyers committed to social justice. In July 2024, the Korematsu Center relocated to the [University of California, Irvine \(UCI\) School of Law](#), continuing its mission under Professor Chang's leadership. This move aims to further the center's initiatives in promoting racial equity and social justice on a national scale.

Professor Chang is part of the plaintiff's legal team in [Jones Eagle LLC v. Ward \(4:24-cv-00990\)](#). On December 9, 2024, a District Court in Arkansas granted a preliminary injunction halting Arkansas officials from enforcing state laws restricting foreign ownership of land and digital asset operations within the state.

Professor Chang has accepted the invitation to speak at the APA Justice monthly meeting on January 6, 2025.

2024/11/18 APA Justice Monthly Meeting Summary



Senator-elect **Andy Kim** made history as the 1st Asian American from New Jersey elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Now he set another record to become the 1st Asian American in the U.S. Senate from the East Coast. He has dedicated his life to serving the country. He worked as a career public servant under both Democratic and Republican administrations, having served at USAID, the Pentagon, the State Department, the White House National Security Council, and in Afghanistan as an advisor to Generals Petraeus and Allen.

During the APA Justice monthly meeting on November 18, 2024, Senator-elect Kim said in a video that, at a time when we see so much hate and discrimination out in the public, he wanted to provide the kind of security, comfort, and reassurance to all Americans, including his seven- and nine-year-old children and his two elderly parents at a time of real concern.

He said that we need to do a lot more fighting back against anti-Asian hate and discrimination, building the kind of coalition to step up against hate in all forms, taking on some of the different ways in which that fear is weaponized, like the China initiative and other efforts that are unfortunately going to be used going forward. These are difficult times. These are tough times. He hopes to be in a place in the U.S. Senate to be able to work alongside us to fight for the types of things that we all believe in.

Senator Kim was sworn into the Senate on Monday, December 9, 2024. His video is posted at <https://youtu.be/bBQ4Pq1iaqY>. Senator Kim welcomes people contacting his team by writing to info@andykim.com.

A summary of the APA Justice 2024 November monthly meeting has been posted at: <https://bit.ly/4iQMlbh>. Read past monthly meeting summaries at: <https://bit.ly/3kxkqxP>

The Past, Present, and Future of U.S.-China Relations



On December 2, 2024, **Ronnie Chi-Chung Chan** 陳啟宗 and **Lien-Hang T. Nguyen**, a professor at Columbia University, discussed the historical context, current dynamics, and potential future developments in the relationship between the United States and China. The conversation delves into economic, political, and cultural aspects, providing insights into the complexities and challenges that have shaped and continue to influence interactions between the two nations. Columbia University Interim President **Katrina Armstrong** and University Professor **Jeffrey Sachs** gave introductory remarks.

Ronnie Chi-Chung Chan is a prominent Hong Kong businessman and philanthropist. He serves as Honorary Chair of Hang Lung Properties and Chair Emeritus of the Asia Society. An alumnus of the University of Southern California, where he earned his MBA in 1976, Chan has held influential roles in various international organizations. His philanthropic endeavors are highly notable, particularly through the Morningside Foundation, which has made substantial contributions to educational institutions such as Harvard University and the University of Southern California. Chan is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Lien-Hang T. Nguyen is the Director of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia University, and the Dorothy Borg Associate Professor of the History of American-East Asian Relations at Columbia's Department of History. Professor Nguyen specializes in the study of the United States in the world, with spatial focus on Southeast Asia and temporal interest in the Cold War. The Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia University is a hub for the study of modern and contemporary East, Inner, and Southeast Asia at Columbia University. Its mission is to advance knowledge of East, Inner, and Southeast Asia, both across the University and among the public.

"Studying is not just to get a job; studying is to make you a better person. Enjoy your education because studying itself is a joy," Chan said during the webinar. "I'm pessimistic but not passive. If you're passive, you have no future. We must all do our part, even if it's small, to try to make a difference. If we don't, the world is doomed."

Watch the video at <https://bit.ly/49RloQq> (1:12:44)

NYT Opinion: "I Never Felt Like This in China Before"



On December 24, 2024, the *New York Times* published an opinion titled "I Never Felt Like This in China Before" by **Thomas L. Friedman**.

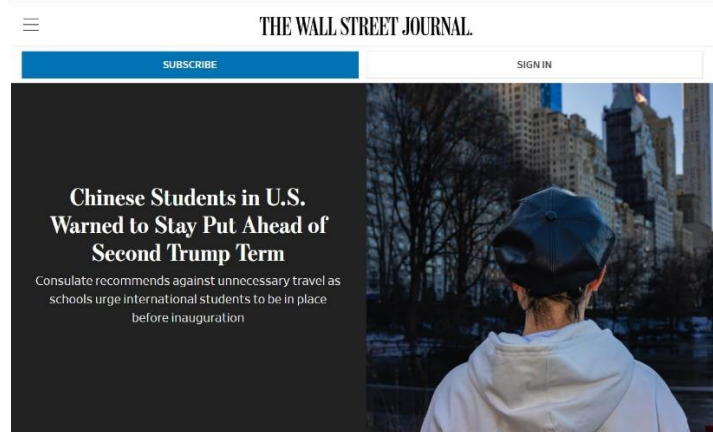
The opinion examines the complexities and evolving nature of U.S.-China relations in the context of global politics. It underscores that the relationship is no longer just about competition but must also include elements of cooperation. While the U.S. and China are embroiled in a range of issues like trade imbalances, technological rivalry, and differing ideologies, the article suggests that these tensions should not overshadow the need for collaboration. The changing global landscape, with rising economic powers and shifting alliances, makes the U.S.-China dynamic crucial not only for both nations but for the stability of the global order.

Friedman emphasizes the importance of addressing key challenges, such as the competition in advanced technologies and the battle for global influence. However, he also points out that areas like climate change and global health are issues that transcend national boundaries and require cooperation between the two superpowers. Rather than focusing solely on confrontational tactics, the article advocates for strategic engagement that acknowledges the necessity of cooperation in certain sectors, while also maintaining healthy competition in others. This balanced approach, the article argues, is vital for avoiding catastrophic outcomes, such as military conflicts or economic decoupling.

"Excessive confrontation between the U.S. and China could lead to global instability, which would be detrimental not only to both countries but also to the rest of the world," Friedman said. "Fostering an environment of mutual respect and cooperation is essential for addressing the interconnected challenges of the modern world."

Read the *New York Times* opinion: <https://nyti.ms/3BYe0WZ>.

WSJ: Chinese Students in U.S. Warned to Stay Ahead of Second Trump Term



According to the *Wall Street Journal* on December 26, 2024, Chinese students in the United States are being urged to return to campus before President-elect **Donald Trump's** inauguration on January 20, 2025, due to concerns over potential travel and visa restrictions. Universities such as the University of Houston and Rice University have sent out advisories, encouraging international students to return promptly to avoid disruptions. This guidance stems from uncertainty over possible policy changes under the new administration, especially given President-elect Trump's track record of restrictive immigration measures during his first term.

The concerns are particularly acute for Chinese students, who represent one of the largest groups of international students in the U.S. During Trump's earlier presidency, various policies—including travel bans and tightened visa regulations—created significant barriers for international students from several countries. While no specific plans targeting Chinese students have been announced, the lingering memory of past restrictions has heightened anxiety among this community. Many students are worried about the possibility of being stranded abroad or facing delays in returning to their studies.

This situation underscores the broader challenges faced by international students in the U.S., who must navigate a constantly shifting immigration landscape. International students contribute significantly to the U.S. economy and academic environment, yet they often find themselves caught in political crossfires. Universities are stepping up to provide support, recognizing the critical role these students play on campus and the stress they endure due to uncertain policy changes. Institutions are advising students to secure their legal status and ensure compliance with potential new regulations.

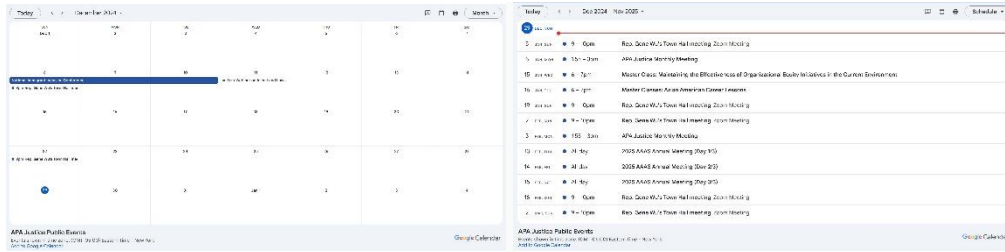
The return-to-campus advisories also reflect growing geopolitical tensions between the U.S. and China. Over the years, Chinese students have faced increasing scrutiny in the United States amid allegations of intellectual property theft and national security concerns. These issues, coupled with domestic pressures to tighten immigration controls, have led to a more challenging environment for Chinese nationals pursuing education in the U.S. Universities, however, remain committed to fostering an inclusive environment and minimizing disruption for their students.

Ultimately, the situation highlights the precarious position of international students in an era of shifting political priorities. While universities are taking proactive measures, the uncertainty surrounding U.S. immigration policies under the new administration adds an additional layer of difficulty for students. As the global landscape evolves, the need for stable and predictable policies to support international education becomes increasingly urgent, ensuring that students can continue their studies without undue fear of sudden policy shifts.

Read the *Wall Street Journal* report: <https://on.wsj.com/41T5tPU>

News and Activities for the Communities

1. APA Justice Community Calendar



Upcoming Events:

2025/01/05 Rep. Gene Wu's Town Hall Meeting

2025/01/06 APA Justice Monthly Meeting

2025/01/15 Master Class: Maintaining the Effectiveness of Organizational Equity Initiatives in the Current Environment

2024/01/16 Master Classes: Asian American Career Lessons

2025/01/19 Rep. Gene Wu's Town Hall Meeting

2025/02/02 Rep. Gene Wu's Town Hall Meeting

2025/02/13-15 2025 AAAS Annual Meeting

2025/02/16 Rep. Gene Wu's Town Hall Meeting

Visit <https://bit.ly/3XD61qV> for event details.

2. **Breaking News:** Passing of President Jimmy Carter



According to the [Carter Center](#) and multiple media reports, former U.S. President **Jimmy Carter** passed away peacefully on December 29, 2024, at his home in Plains, Georgia, at the age of 100.

President Carter is survived by his children — **Jack, Chip, Jeff, and Amy**; 11 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, **Rosalynn**, and one grandchild.

Serving as the 39th President from 1977 to 1981, Carter's administration was marked by significant achievements, including the historic decision to establish formal diplomatic ties with the People's Republic of China, Camp David Accords between Israel and Egypt, the SALT II treaty, and the establishment of the Departments of Energy and Education.

Carter's commitment to U.S.-China relations extended beyond his presidency. He visited China multiple times and established a China Program within The Carter Center, aiming to promote dialogue and understanding between the two countries.

There will be public observances in Atlanta and Washington, D.C., followed by a private interment in Plains, Georgia. The final arrangements for President Carter's state funeral, including all public events and motorcade routes, are still pending.

The schedule will be released by the Joint Task Force-National Capital Region at <https://jtfncr.mdw.army.mil/statefunerals/>.

Members of the public are encouraged to visit the official tribute website to the life of President Carter at www.jimmycartertribute.org. This site includes the official online condolence book as well as print and visual biographical materials commemorating his life.

The Carter family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to The Carter Center, 453 John Lewis Freedom Parkway N.E., Atlanta, GA 30307.

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APA Justice Task Force is a non-partisan platform to build a sustainable ecosystem that addresses racial profiling concerns and to facilitate, inform, and advocate on selected issues related to justice and fairness for the Asian Pacific American community. For more information, please refer to the new APA Justice website under development at www.apajusticetaskforce.org. We value your feedback. Please send your comments to contact@apajustice.org.

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