The Office of the Secretary, the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, and the Asian American Pacific Islander Network Present:

ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

“Building Legacy Together: Our Communities’ Journey of Strength and Resilience”

May 17, 2022
12:00 pm-1:00 pm ET
Virtual Program
Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

“Building Legacy Together: Our Communities’ Journey of Strength and Resilience”
Date: May 17, 2022
Time: 12:00-1:00 p.m. (ET)

Welcome Remarks and Introduction of Secretary of Energy

Sheri Bone
Acting Principal Deputy Director
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

Remarks by Secretary of Energy

Jennifer M. Granholm
Secretary of Energy

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Dr. Chenlin Li
General Engineer
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)
Member, Asian American Pacific Islander Network (AAPIN) Employee Resource Group (ERG)

Keynote Speaker

Charles Lee
Senior Policy Advisor on Environmental Justice
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Dr. Chenlin Li
General Engineer, EERE
Member, AAPIN ERG

Guest Speaker

Vivian Huang
Co-Director
Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN)

Update: White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (WHIAANHPI) and Executive Order 14031

Lady Idos
Deputy Director
Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

Feature Segment:
AAPIN ERG Member Spotlight

Moderator:

Arlene Fetizanan
Energy Attaché and DOE European Regional Office Director at the U.S. Embassy, Czech Republic
President, AAPIN ERG

Fowad Muneer
Information Technology Cybersecurity Specialist
Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security and Emergency Response (CESER)
Member, AAPIN ERG

Hai Duong
Associate Director for Finance and Budget
Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E)
Member, AAPIN ERG

Closing Remarks

Patricia Zarate
Deputy Director
Office of Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity
During Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, our Nation recognizes the innumerable contributions, vibrant cultures, and rich heritage of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AA and NHPIs). As some of the fastest-growing racial and ethnic groups in the Nation, AA and NHPI communities represent a multitude of ethnicities, languages, and experiences that enrich America and strengthen our Union.

AA and NHPIs have long played an essential role in writing the American story. From serving our country in uniform, advocating for civil rights, starting new businesses, and winning Olympic medals, the contributions of the AA and NHPI community touch the lives of Americans every day. AA and NHPIs serve with distinction at the highest levels of Federal, State, and local government. I am proud to have Vice President Kamala Harris, the first person of South Asian descent to serve as Vice President, and Katherine Tai, the first Asian American United States Trade Representative, in my Administration.

As we celebrate AA and NHPI communities, we must also redouble our commitment to combating the surge of anti-Asian hate crimes. The First Lady and I shared the Nation’s outrage as we witnessed these crimes increase by 339 percent last year compared to the year before in cities across America. Many other incidents of anti-Asian bias, xenophobia, and harassment that surfaced throughout the COVID-19 pandemic were not even reported. We cannot allow these horrific acts to continue threatening the safety of AA and NHPI Americans—especially women, girls, and the elderly. These acts are wrong; they are un-American; and they must stop.

In my first week in office, I directed all executive departments and agencies to combat xenophobia, hate, and discrimination against AA and NHPI communities. I also signed into law last May the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act to provide law enforcement with resources to identify, investigate, and report hate crimes and ensure that hate crimes information is more accessible to AA and NHPI communities.

As we work to ensure that hatred has no safe harbor in America’s future, we must confront shameful chapters in our history. That is why, for example, I signed into law the Amache National Historic Site Act — to memorialize the 10,000 Japanese Americans who were unjustly imprisoned at Amache during World War II. And we will continue to root out racial injustices of our past and advance equity for all Americans as we move forward.
Toward that aim, my Administration is making long-overdue investments in AA and NHPI communities. I reestablished and expanded the President’s Advisory Commission and the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. The American Rescue Plan helped reduce poverty among AA and NHPI families by approximately 26 percent. We have increased access to capital, training, and counseling for AA and NHPI entrepreneurs so their businesses can thrive. We are also working to ensure that healthcare resources are available to AA and NHPI communities. And we are rebuilding our immigration system so everyone is treated fairly and humanely — including AA and NHPI communities.

This month, we celebrate our fellow Americans from AA and NHPI communities and pay tribute to all they have done to help fulfill the promise of America for all. Together, let us recommit ourselves to building a country in which every American — regardless of who they are, where they come from, or what they look like — has an equal opportunity to thrive.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to learn more about the history of AA and NHPIs, and to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.
Jennifer M. Granholm was sworn in as the 16th Secretary of Energy on February 25, 2021, becoming just the second woman to lead the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Secretary Granholm will lead DOE in helping America achieve President Biden’s goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 by advancing cutting-edge clean energy technologies, creating millions of good-paying union clean energy jobs, and building an equitable clean energy future. Secretary Granholm will also oversee DOE’s core missions of promoting American leadership in scientific discovery, maintaining the nuclear deterrent and reducing nuclear danger, and remediating the environmental harms caused by legacy defense programs.

Prior to her nomination as Secretary of Energy, Jennifer Granholm was the first woman elected Governor of Michigan, serving two terms from 2003 to 2011.

As Governor, Jennifer Granholm faced economic downturns caused by the Great Recession and meltdown in the automotive and manufacturing sectors. She successfully led efforts to diversify the state’s economy, strengthen its auto industry, preserve the manufacturing sector, and add emerging sectors — such as clean energy — to Michigan’s economic portfolio. Today, one-third of all North American electric vehicle battery production takes place in Michigan, the state is one of the top five states for clean energy patents, and 126,000 Michiganders were employed in the clean energy sector prior to COVID-19.

Secretary Granholm was also the first woman elected Attorney General of Michigan and served as the state’s top law enforcement officer from 1998 to 2002.

After two terms as governor, Jennifer Granholm joined the faculty of the University of California, Berkeley as a Distinguished Professor of Practice in the Goldman School of Public Policy, focusing on the intersection of law, clean energy, manufacturing, policy, and industry. She also served as an advisor to the Clean Energy Program of the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Jennifer Granholm began her career in public service as a judicial clerk for Michigan’s 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. She became a federal prosecutor in Detroit in 1990, and in 1994, she was appointed Wayne County Corporation Counsel.

Secretary Granholm, an immigrant from Canada, is an honors graduate of both the University of California, Berkeley and Harvard Law School. She and her husband, Daniel G. Mulhern, have three children.
Sheri Bone is the Acting Principal Deputy Director for the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity at the United States Department of Energy (DOE).

Prior to Ms. Bone assuming the role as Acting Principal Deputy Director, she was a Division Director in the National Nuclear Security Administration’s (NNSA)’s Cost Estimating and Program Evaluation Office.

Her diverse portfolio of experiences includes Director of Mission Support for NNSA’s Office of Defense Nuclear Security; Acting Deputy Director for the Division of Policy and Rulemaking at Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and Executive Director for the Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation’s DOE/NNSA’s Moscow Office, Acting Deputy Site Manager, Argonne Site Office, Director of Environmental Engineering for the Army Corps of Engineers, and Director of Environment at Fort Bliss.

She has distinguished herself as a proven leader with an established record for transforming ideas into results-oriented solutions for complex issues including program oversight for the management of cross-disciplinary nuclear materials essential to national defense, security, and public health leveraging her environmental, nuclear, chemical, biological, and international leadership experience.

Ms. Bone is a graduate of the University of New Mexico and New Mexico State University with degrees in Microbiology and Chemistry. She has a Master of Science in Business Management from Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Arts in Strategic Security Studies and International Counterterrorism from the National Defense University. In addition, Ms. Bone is a Senior Executive Fellow from the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.
Dr. Chenlin Li is a Technology Manager at DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy’s Bioenergy Technologies Office (EERE-BETO) and oversees bioenergy projects in bioenergy feedstock technologies and waste streams valorization in support of the bioeconomy advancement. Prior to joining the DOE as a federal employee, she worked in three DOE national labs for over 12 years across various roles in the bioenergy R&D and program management. She has served as an officer of the DOE’s Asian American and Pacific Islander Network (AAPIN) since Feb 2021. Chenlin holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Hong Kong. She is also the U.S. Team Lead for the International Energy Agency Bioenergy Task 40 on Deployment of Biobased Value Chains.
Charles Lee
Senior Policy Advisor for Environmental Justice
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Charles Lee is widely recognized as a true pioneer in the arena of environmental justice and helped to give birth to the environmental justice movement in the United States some forty years ago. He was the principal author of the landmark 1987 report, Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States, organized the historic 1991 First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, and helped to spearhead the emergence of federal environmental justice policy, including Executive Order 12898, EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice, National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), and the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice.

Mr. Lee is currently the Senior Policy Advisor for Environmental Justice at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He has served in multiple capacities, ranging from creating the United Church of Christ’s environmental justice program to directing EPA’s environmental justice office. He was a charter member of the NEJAC, where he chaired its Waste and Facility Siting committee, and served on the National Academy of Science/Institute of Medicine Committee on Environmental Justice as well as numerous other panels. In these capacities, he led efforts to incorporate environmental justice into EPA’s rulemaking process, develop models for collaborative problem-solving, transform brownfields redevelopment into a community revitalization paradigm, advance approaches to address cumulative risks and impacts, lay a strong science foundation for integrating environmental justice into decision-making, and advancing environmental justice at the state level.

Mr. Lee has authored numerous papers, reports, journals, and articles on environmental justice over the past four decades, most recently on “Confronting Disproportionate Impacts and Systemic Racism in Environmental Policy” (Environmental Law Reporter, vol. 51, no. 3, March 2021). He has taught or presented at numerous schools and conferences, including the seminal academic conference on “Race and the Incidence of Environmental Hazards” at the University of Michigan. He is the recipient of many awards for his work, including the American Public Health Association’s first Damu Smith Environmental Achievement Award. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy presented to him the EJ Pioneer Award on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 12898. In February 2017, the 122nd Session of the South Carolina House of Representatives passed Resolution H*3732 to honor his lifetime of accomplishments in environmental justice and contributions to bettering the lives of communities in that state.
Vivian Yi Huang is honored to work at Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN) alongside immigrant and refugee community members to build power and create the world of love and justice we envision. Being from a Chinese immigrant family, she was raised in a culture of loving your people, living in the world of possibility, and the importance of making ideas tangible. Over the past 11 years and now as a Co-Director, Vivian has played a leadership role in strengthening APEN’s organizing and leadership development, advancing our collective strategy for just transition and systemic change, catalyzing innovative models, and deepening our embodiment of feminisms and shared power.

Prior to working at APEN, Vivian spent a decade working on policy, legislative, and budget campaigns, including model policies to improve health care interpretation, $25 million for health disparities in cancer, and a successful effort to support immigrant parents. She has also been a facilitator, trainer, and teacher with the Women’s Policy Institute, School of Unity and Liberation (SOUL), and San Francisco State University Department of Public Health.

Vivian finds joy in dance parties with her threenager and doggy, somatics and healing, masterpieces by Wong Kar Wai and Octavia Butler, and cake, ice cream, or best of all, the combination.
Lady Idos
Deputy Director
Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
U.S. Department of Energy

Lady Idos, MPA is the Deputy Director for the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Lady’s role is to design and implement a DOE-wide strategy to strengthen and integrate diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) within the DOE, in alignment with Presidential directives and Executive Orders.

Lady previously served as the first Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). LBNL is a DOE national laboratory managed by the University of California (UC). She was responsible for guiding LBNL and its senior leadership team to develop and execute a comprehensive IDEA strategy and program (for inclusion, diversity, equity, and accountability) that is embedded in the organizational culture and aligns with the Lab’s research mission.

Some of Lady’s accomplishments include: leading the implementation team to develop DOE’s DEIA Strategic Plan for Executive Order (EO) 14035; contributing towards the development of DOE’s gender equity goals for EO 14020; establishing LBNL’s first IDEA strategic plan; launching the Lab’s first Employee Resource Groups (ERGs); creating the first set of Workplace Gender Identity and Transition Guidelines within the national laboratory and UC system; and spearheading an internship program for individuals with disabilities and veterans. Lady is also experienced in HR compliance, e.g., equal employment opportunity (EEO), affirmative action (AA), and U.S. Department of Labor’s OFCCP regulations. She served as an investigator for Title IX and sexual harassment cases; as well as discrimination, harassment, and retaliation claims under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

Lady serves as a co-chair for Bay Area Council’s Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee and Chief Diversity Officers group, and advisor for UC Berkeley’s startup accelerator SkyDeck. She was a former Board member for East Bay Innovations, providing social services for adults with developmental disabilities; and former member of the UC Systemwide Advisory Committee on the Status of Women. She was the 2016 recipient of the Kevin McCauley Memorial Award for Outstanding Staff (UC-wide). Lady holds a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco; B.A. degree in Sociology from the University of California, Santa Cruz; and earned her Diversity and Inclusion Certificate from Cornell University. https://www.linkedin.com/in/ladyidos
Arlene Fetizanan is the Energy Attaché and DOE European Regional Office Director at the U.S. Embassy in the Czech Republic. She covers Central and Eastern Europe. She is also President of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Network (AAPIN), a DOE employee resource group. During her tenure at DOE, Ms. Fetizanan has served as a Senior Advisor and Chief of Staff to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Renewable Power in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). She worked closely with the geothermal, solar, water and wind program offices and advised the Deputy Assistant Secretary on a full range of operational and management functions essential to achieving EERE’s mission. Ms. Fetizanan has also served as an international relations specialist in the Office of International Affairs, managing clean energy projects in China, India, and Southeast Asia. As a policy advisor for EERE’s International Program, she led the implementation of the U.S.-China Renewable Energy Partnership and U.S.-China Energy Efficiency Action Plan. Ms. Fetizanan’s journey at DOE began in EERE’s Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs where her focus was on state energy planning and the energy-water nexus. Prior to DOE, Ms. Fetizanan was a senior program manager at the Alliance to Save Energy. Other experiences include working at the Clinton Climate Initiative, strategic advisory firm Kissinger-McLarty Associates, and Edison Electric Institute. Ms. Fetizanan holds a Master in Urban Planning from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Economics from American University. In addition, Ms. Fetizanan was an Energy Security Fellow with Securing America’s Future Energy and National Security Fellow with the Foundation for Defense of Democracies.
Hai Duong is the Associate Director for Finance at ARPA-E and is responsible for the financial management of the program. Prior to ARPA-E he served as the Deputy Chief Financial Officer for the Consumer Product Safety Commission. In that role he oversaw the Commission's financial operations, including its budget formulation and execution, planning, accounting, procurement, and internal controls. He also led several process improvements that significantly streamlined the Commission's budget processes and performance measures.

Duong has prior U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) experience, having served as the Budget Officer in DOE’s Loan Programs Office. In this role he managed the budgeting, financial planning, and analysis for programs that provided loans and loan guarantees for renewable energy, nuclear power, and automobile manufacturing projects. He also managed the budget execution, forecasting, and reporting requirements for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Section 1705 Loan Program that closed $16 billion in loan guarantees for renewable energy projects. Prior to joining the Loan Programs Office, Duong served in DOE’s Office of the Chief Financial Officer where he worked on the Department’s annual budget and strategic plan.

Duong’s other government experience includes financial management positions at the U.S. Department of Treasury and the U.S. Mint. He is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) who started his career as an accountant and auditor for major accounting firms. He received his MBA and B.S. in Accounting & Finance from the University of Maryland at College Park.
Ms. Zarate has worked at the Department of Energy for fourteen years. She currently serves as the Deputy Director for Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity.

In her capacity as Deputy Director, Ms. Zarate provides executive direction for the Civil Rights Division, as well as the EEO, Assessment, and Compliance Division. Ms. Zarate is also responsible for oversight and implementation of the EEO Functional Realignment and the creation of the EEO Corporate Services and Oversight Division within the Office of Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity.

Ms. Zarate is responsible for formulating and executing equal employment opportunity (EEO) policies and practices, overseeing the internal EEO complaint process and external civil rights monitoring and enforcement functions (including discrimination complaints and compliance reviews pertaining to DOE financial assistance recipients), and advising Departmental leaders, managers, and employees of their rights and responsibilities with respect to federal anti-discrimination and anti-harassment laws and regulations.

Prior to joining the Department, Ms. Zarate worked as a briefing attorney for the Honorable Nelda V. Rodriguez of the Texas Thirteenth District Court of Appeals.

Ms. Zarate graduated cum laude from St. Mary’s University School of Law. She received her B.S.F.S. degree from Georgetown University. Ms. Zarate is licensed to practice law in the State of Texas and the District of Columbia.