

March 1, 2021, Volume 5, Issue 8



Bringing you the latest updates from MAASU Board. Created by Jane Elliston, Lillie Lee, and James Liu

WHAT'S ALSO INSIDE:

- ECC Updates
- Leadership Summit Announcement
- M-Rep Spotlights
- "Where Are They Now?"

Page 03 ECC updates

Page 10 Ask Advo

Page 11 M-Rep Spotlight

Page 12 Leadership Summit



M A A S U

ISSUE



Page 13 Where Are They Now?

Page 14 Lunar New Year

Page 15 Who is the Artist?

CHAIR

Alice Yu

What did you accomplish this past month?

This past month, we had an advocacy retreat led by our Advocacy Chairs. The Executive Director and I touched base with a few board members of ECAASU to share upcoming events. We've released applications for next year's ECC, bid packet applications for Leadership Summit (LS) and Conference, as well as applications for awards. You should apply!

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I'm working on an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHAM) event with Jordan and Jessica, so I hope to get in contact with some speakers. LS is also this upcoming month, so I want to ensure everything runs smoothly as possible.

If you could have a superpower what would it be and why?

If I could have a superpower, I'd want to be able to manipulate probability.



SECRETARY

Jordan Cao

What did you accomplish this past month?

I accomplished a lot of behind-the-scenes work with meetings with various board members. Additionally, my main work and focus was on the MAASU Wikipedia page.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to establish material in preparation for transition and wrapping up existing projects that I've already started.

If you could have a superpower what would it be and why?

Being able to operate without sleep. I'd get so much more done.



PROGRAMMING CO-CHAIR

Danny Nguyen

What did you accomplish for this month?

I got the ball rolling for MAASUx!

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to attend MAASU Leadership Summit (LS).

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

I have powers of great destruction. The only downside is that I'm only good at destroying and sabotaging things in my own life and doing what's destructive to myself.



PROGRAMMING CO-CHAIR

Giang Nguyen

What did you accomplish for this month?

I planned a new programming event.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to finish the booklet for conference planning.

If you could have a superpower what would it be and why?

If I could have a superpower, it would definitely be superspeed (minus the deadly side effects that it could bring forth). It would just be so cool to move super fast and do things at an insane speed, you know?



ADVOCACY CO-CHAIR

Jenny Tam

What did you accomplish for this month?

I worked on another episode of Ask Advo. We also called an advocacy re-evaluation and reflection with our board to discuss on how to make advocacy sustainable and more intentional.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to work on these internal sustainable initiatives and another podcast episode.

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

I'm really good at changing my clothes in public without exposing myself (gym class taught me well).



ADVOCACY CO-CHAIR

Kyle Hoang

What did you accomplish for this month?

I accomplished preparing for the next episode for MAASU's Ask Advo Podcast! No spoilers though! I have also worked with Communications Chair to provide Advocacy content and facilitate discussions on social issues for M-Reps.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to reach out to more non-profit organizations to do more collaboration projects as well as finalizing Ask Advo's sixth podcast episode!

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

If I could have a superpower, I would want to have Wanda's superpower! Wanda Maximoff (from Wandavision) is incredibly powerful and I aspire to be like her.



MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH CHAIR

Cheemeng Xiong

What did you accomplish this month?

This past month has been busy, so I wasn't able to get much done other than updating membership renewals.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

For this month, I plan to establish a foundational structure for membership restructure along with some of the other ECC members so that the future of ECC can slowly ease and adapt it for implementation if they want to.

If you could have a superpower what would it be and why?

I would say invisibility, just so that I can escape from the world a little bit.



COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Jewel Lo

What did you accomplish this month?

This past month I hosted a virtual social. It was a random social for fun with the purpose to take a break from school. I also worked with our Advocacy chairs to implement a foundation for M-Reps to be more involved!

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I hope to include more advocacy content for M-reps and supporting our Advocacy Chairs' workshops and podcasts!

If you could have a superpower what would it be and why?

If I could have a superpower, it would be to adjust the temperature. Reason being, my body gets too warm and too cold easily and the perfect temperature is 68 degrees with a slight wind.



PUBLIC RELATIONS CO-CHAIR

Jane Elliston

What did you accomplish this month?

I worked on the MAASU Newsletter, a graphic for ECC applications-y'all should apply-and I participated in our third ECC retreat to discuss new benefits for membership, how to better the M-Rep program, and how ECC can work on implementing advocacy.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

As Finance Chair for Leadership Summit (LS) Planning Committee, I think it's time I plugged LS! Y'all should register at maasuls2021.org. I worked really hard and so has the rest of the committee! See you there!

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

The only thing I can really think of is how I know the ancient art of Japanese Tea Ceremonies?



PUBLIC RELATIONS CO-CHAIR

Lillie Lee

What did you accomplish this month?

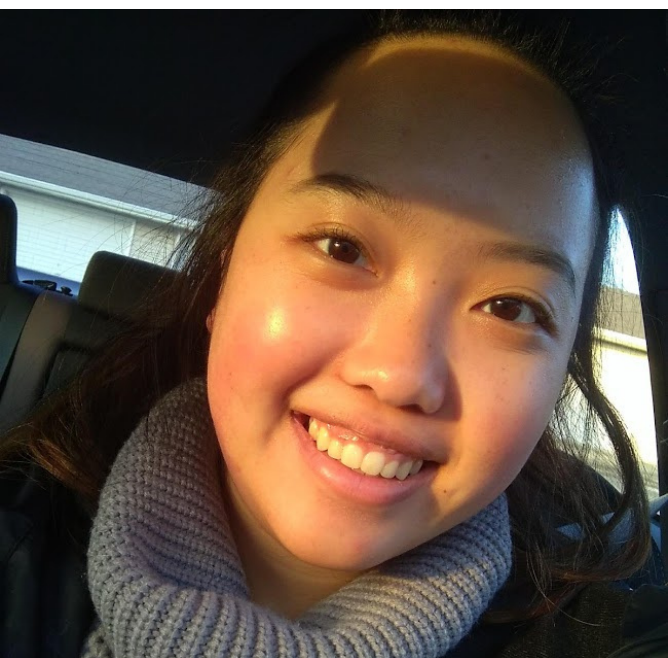
This month, I was able to participate in our board's third MAASU ECC retreat. I am also working with Jewel and Cheemeng with our APAHAM project. I worked on this Newsletter and am finished on some of the posts for Women's History Month!

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to focus more on sustainability for the next chair for Public Relations, APAHAM, and finalizing a very special project that even ECC does not even know about.

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

I am a confident typer. I can type blindfolded and this skill helped me so much in college.



TECHNICAL NETWORKING

Sam Bossley

What did you accomplish this past month?

I accomplished our plans for a MAASU Discord which is almost open to the public.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I hope to focus more on MAASU donations and how each and every one of your donations does so much to help MAASU thrive year to year!

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

I can make your money disappear ;)



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Daphne Yu

What did you accomplish this past month?

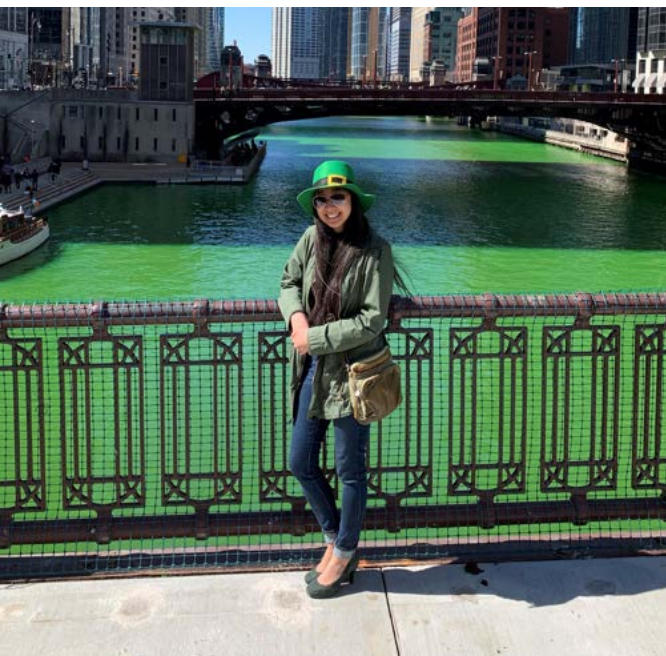
This past month, I met with ECAASU, and filled out the IRS tax form for MAASU.

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to meet with the Board of Advisors (BOA), explore potential partnerships, and work on projects with the BOA.

If you could have a superpower what would it be and why?

My superpower would be to create any dish from scratch anytime I want to. I love food.



DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

James Liu

What did you accomplish for this month?

I facilitated and planned our first ever MAASU Alumni Mixer!

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

Currently, Deep, David, and I aim to plan for future MAASU Alumni Mixer events via zoom!

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

Networking.



DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING AND ASSESSMENTS

David Lee

What did you accomplish for this month?

This past month, I wasn't able to accomplish as much due to personal reasons, but I, along with a few others, managed to host a successful Alumni Mixer event!

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

Looking ahead, I plan to work with MAASU's APAHM projects, wrap up any final assessments needed for LS, and continuously work on Alumni programming.

If you could have one superpower what would it be and why?

I'd love to be able to have telekinesis/gravitational manipulation. My favorite character from Naruto is Pain. If I had similar powers to Pain's "Deva Path" it would be awesome!



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Jessica Lee

What did you accomplish for ECC this past month?

I helped review our Giving Tuesday Campaign contributions. Shout out to all of our amazing donors!

What do you plan to accomplish for this month?

I plan to work on programming for APAHM month in addition to engaging with Alumni!

Do you have a hidden talent? If so, what is it?

I can wink with both eyes!



TAKE A LISTEN TO MAASU'S ASK ADVO PODCAST!

Led by MAASU Advocacy Chairs

Now accessible on Spotify and the Maasuofficial
YouTube Channel!

Take a listen to topics such as: Asian Black Solidarity,
Trans and Queer Acceptance, and more!

To see the other platforms that Ask Advo is on:
[Linktre.ee/AskAdvo](https://linktre.ee/AskAdvo)

Got a topic and would like to guest star in the podcast?

Submit to the form down below:
z.umn.edu/AskAdvo



M-Rep Spotlight



“ Fun Fact:

I've taken the Jeopardy college test twice, but I don't think I ever scored high enough to get any further contact about getting on the show.

”

Lawrence Clark (he, him, his)
Second year, Computer Science major
at University of Missouri - Columbia

What have you gained from MAASU?

MAASU has been so influential to me! From helping me reconsider and appreciate my identity, to challenging me to grow as a leader, I would be in a much worse place without MAASU's impact on my life. MAASU conferences have also brought me and my friends a lot closer than we would be otherwise.

What are some accomplishments that your student organization has made?

With Mizzou Asian American Association, I was really proud of how our organization was not only active during times of COVID, but was still experimenting and wanting to try new things rather than be docile and sort of "wait it out." This semester, I am really excited for the Virtual Panel we will be holding with Jen Chi, as well as our APAHM events like our Variety Show and Asian Night Market.

A piece of advice for future M-reps?

Take advantage of the experience! You will meet a lot of people and see many experiences which you can use to grow individually and to benefit your organization.

What are you thankful for?

I am thankful for all my friends and family who have helped me grow and reach the point I am at in my life so far, as well as for other things privilege has afforded me, like good health.

What are some traditions that you do with your friends or family that hold deep meaning for you?

One simple thing is going on walks with my dad, especially if its a place we've never been before and can wader without a goal in mind. Neither of us are very talkative in day to day life, so these walks are the few moments where we can learn more about each other or talk about anything else we're thinking about with just the two of us.



The University of Missouri is excited to host MAASU Leadership Summit: Root, Rise, Reflect! Leadership Summit (LS) will be a virtual conference held from March 19-21, 2021 focused on leadership development for Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) students. Stay tuned on MAASU's Facebook and social media as we announce more information!

Instagram: @maasu_conference
Website: maasuls2021.org

Where Are They Now?

Christyona Pham

SHE / HER / HERS
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - COLUMBIA
GRADUATED 2012

I am a Benefits Advisor for the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA). EBSA is a regulatory compliance agency tasked with oversight of private employers and union sponsored employee benefit plans such as pension, retirement, and group health plans. I mostly deal with educating the public on their right and / or responsibilities and seeking informal compliance with the laws.



What was your favorite memory of MAASU?

Oh, I'm not sure! Between all the fall retreats, spring conferences, mixers and board meetings, it is so hard to choose! What I loved most was being able to meet people of shared experiences and building friendships that have lasted until today.

If you could do one thing differently, what would it be?

I would probably major in something more practical like two foreign languages and study abroad!

A piece of advice for future graduates?

Don't worry so much. Don't try to control so much in your life. Sometimes things just have to fall into place and you'll miss out if you're too busy being worried or preoccupied with other things. Life is so short.



**DENISON UNIVERSITY
CELEBRATES**

LUNAR NEW YEAR

By Lillie Lee

Photographs by Denison University
Asian Culture Club



Amidst COVID-19, one thing was for certain for the Asian Culture Club (ACC) of Denison University. That one thing was their commitment to their mission to spreading Asian culture awareness in the Denison community.

Students could also freely choose a station of the arcade games that filled the Campus Common (Slayter) which accommodated the entire large scaled event.

Located in Granville, Ohio, ACC held their Lunar New Year celebration February 14th, 2021, as a regulated in-person event.

As a result of the Lunar New Year event, there was more than 200 participants who attended.

At the event, aromas of some signature Chinese regional food such as: Crab salad, Pork Vegetable, and more were served to students and guests.

"During this pandemic, many organizations shied away from planning large gathering events. That's not what ACC wanted. We believed in unity. With COVID-19, we set our ambition to ensure the health and safety of our participants, while aiming to have a sense of normalcy. And that's exactly what we've done. Lunar New year is about coming together. ACC felt compelled to host this in-person event with extra layers in mind." -Song Huang

Students were also entertained with some performances such as the Ohio State University (OSU) Lion dance group and vigorous Thai Boxing.





Campus servers distributed dishes such as: Pork Vegetable, Cabbage stir-fried with vinegar and chili, Ma Po Do Fu, Szechuan Green Bean, Honey Chicken, General Tso's Chicken, and Baked Potatoes with Pork.



Student, Alan Phung, kicks and demonstrates Thai boxing to students at Denison University.



Ohio State University (OSU)'s Lion Dancers parade among the audience in an exhilarating and exciting performance.

Who is the Artist?



“

I am originally from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. I moved here at a young age of seven years old.

Tho Vu (she / her / hers)
Second year, Graphic Design major
Studio Arts and Marketing minor
at Augsburg University

I want my design to showcase all of Asia. Too often I have noticed that many East Asian cultures are represented worldwide but not so much of the rest of the Asian continent. Although I would consider myself a full Vietnamese woman, I am also part Indian by blood. I think it is important to embrace all sides of who you are, whether you are in touch with it or not. I really hope y'all love my design. Thank you!

