



# Formosa

## Foundation

Volume V Summer 2005

**New Executive Director**

**2005 Ambassador Program**

**President Chen and Senior Advisor Wu  
Meet with U.S. Senator John D. Rockefeller**

# Chairman's Corner



Since we last wrote to you, it has been a very eventful time for both Taiwan and the Formosa Foundation. We at the Formosa Foundation have continued to work hard to

shape the opinions of mainstream Americans about Taiwan's democracy and its complicated relationship with both the United States and China.

One major event was China's announcement of its anti-secession law, which was an express codification of China's intention to use force to achieve its goals for Taiwan. The anti-secession law turned out to be a major miscalculation by China, resulting in an outpouring of criticism in the international community and the halting of efforts by the European Union to lift its arms embargo against China. The marches by hundreds of thousands of Taiwanese in Taipei against the anti-secession law was an inspirational expression by the people of a peaceful democracy, in the face of blatant aggression by an outside power.

The Formosa Foundation was an active participant in the debate on the anti-secession legislation. We appeared on a nationally syndicated radio show discussing and debating the anti-secession law and spoke at various events, including our own press conference, a rally of the Taiwanese-American community in Los Angeles against the anti-secession law, a symposium at the University of Southern California on human rights in China, the West Coast ITASA conference, and were interviewed on "The World Tonight" at CHQR, Calgary, Canada. We will continue to take every opportunity to tell the story about Taiwan's democratic success.

We have also evolved as an organization. We are elated to announce the hiring of a new executive director. Terri Giles, former aide to United States Senator John D. "Jay" Rockefeller (D-WV), who will take over the day-to-day operations and management of the Formosa Foundation. Terri has tremendous experience in Washington, D.C. and has developed a wide network of relationships in business and in government that will benefit the Foundation. Terri has the entrepreneurial skills and the creativity to continue to move the Formosa Foundation forward as a leading shaper of, and contributor to, mainstream America's understanding of Taiwan's democracy and Taiwan's place in the international community.

Last but not least, the Formosa Foundation completed its third annual Ambassador Program, which provides young people the opportunity to learn about the inner workings of policymaking in Washington, D.C. and about advocacy of Taiwan's democracy. For the first time, we accepted 10 students from Taiwan, who joined 19 other American Ambassadors. This year's program was a huge success in large part because our Taiwanese and American Ambassadors shared experiences and perspectives that made the program an even more rewarding experience for both groups. All of the Ambassadors worked very hard to increase their substantive knowledge on Taiwan issues and their confidence in advocating on Taiwan's behalf, and we will definitely have more Taiwanese Ambassadors in future programs.

As always, the Foundation is grateful for your continued support and interest. We look forward to an excellent second half of 2005. 🇺🇸

## Foundation Highlights

### March, 2005

- The Formosa Foundation held a press conference at the Taiwan Center in Los Angeles, California, to denounce the passage of the anti-secession law by China.
- Chairman Don Lee appeared on the nationally-syndicated radio show "To The Point", hosted by Warren Olney, to discuss the implications of the anti-secession law passed by China and the threat China poses to Taiwan. Other guests on the show included James Lilley, former U.S. Ambassador to China currently Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.
- The Formosa Foundation participated in a rally to condemn China's anti-secession legislation in Los Angeles, California, on the same day similar protest rallies were held across the United States.
- Chairman Don Lee spoke at a symposium at USC on the history of the situation between Taiwan and China and the relationship between Taiwan, China, the United States and the rest of the international community.

### April, 2005

- Chairman Don Lee spoke at the Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Students Association (ITASA) West Coast conference held at USC, on Taiwan advocacy and the preservation of Taiwanese democracy and right to self-determination.

### June, 2005

- Formosa Foundation completed its third annual Ambassador Program.

### July, 2005

- Chairman Don Lee spoke at a seminar hosted by Taiwanese American Professionals at the Taiwan Center in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Lee discussed how to make a persuasive argument in favor of Taiwanese democracy and right to self-determination.
- Chairman Don Lee appeared on the radio show "The World Tonight," hosted by Rob Breakenridge, on CHQR broadcasting from Calgary, Alberta, Canada to discuss the recently-issued annual report of the U.S. Department of Defense regarding the military capabilities of China.



Senator Rockefeller met with President Chen's senior advisor Li-Pei Wu in Washington D.C., January 2005.

U.S. Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D-WV) arrived in Taiwan on May 28 for a three-day visit. The trip was Rockefeller's seventeenth since he became a Senator in 1985, demonstrating his "long-term unconditional support" for Taiwan, as stated by President Chen. The focus of Rockefeller's three-day visit was on trade and the prospects for a U.S.-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement (FTA).

The Senator's first meeting in Taiwan was with Formosa Foundation founder Li-Pei Wu. During this private

meeting, Mr. Wu expressed a desire for closer economic cooperation between the U.S. and Taiwan on existing programs. He specifically mentioned the Sino Swearingen Aircraft joint venture project as a means of building on existing relationships.

On May 30, Senator Rockefeller met with President Chen Shui-bian, accompanied by Li-Pei Wu. According to the *Taipei Times*, Rockefeller said that he would "promote cooperation between Taipei and the Bush administration to overcome difficulties in

## U.S. Senator Rockefeller Supports U.S.-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement

meeting, Mr. Wu emphasized to the Senator the positive impact of a U.S.-Taiwan free trade agreement on the development of Taiwan's democracy. The Senator

expressed a desire for closer economic cooperation between the U.S. and Taiwan on existing programs. He specifically mentioned the Sino Swearingen Aircraft joint venture project as a means of building on existing relationships.

During a speech delivered at the Chung Hua Institute for Economic Research, Rockefeller called Taiwan a "beacon of democracy in Asia" and provided a five-step program on how to promote an FTA between Taiwan and the U.S. These steps include reaching an agreement with the U.S. on the "Trade and Investment Framework Agreement" (TIFA) and recognizing the economic value that Taiwan's inclusion and integration with the Asian economic system, particularly with China, could have. 🇺🇸

## New Executive Director Brings Political and Economic Development Experience

Terri Giles joined the Formosa Foundation on June 1 as the new executive director. In that position, she will handle the day-to-day operations and management of the Foundation and will help develop initiatives and programs to further the Foundation's mission of promoting democracy, human rights and the right to self-determination of the people of Taiwan.

"Taiwan is very determined to preserve and develop its democratic and free-market society, and I greatly admire the Taiwanese for their persistence and patience, and for their dedication to seeing their country prosper and succeed," Giles said.

"We are thrilled to have landed

Terri as our Executive Director," stated Donald Lee, Chairman of the Board of the Foundation. "Terri has the drive, energy, and creativity to make the Formosa Foundation an even more prominent voice in the advocacy of Taiwanese democracy, freedom, and self-determination."

Prior to accepting the position with the Foundation, Giles was the economic development director for United States Senator John D. "Jay" Rockefeller IV (D-WV). Giles' commitment to the role of Asia in the United States and the role of Taiwan in the world spans a decade of working for Senator Rockefeller, currently vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on intelligence and a

seasoned expert on Asia.

With her extensive political and international economic development experience, Giles is a significant addition to the Formosa Foundation and the Taiwanese-American community as well. "The Formosa Foundation's focus on educating others about Taiwan's democracy and history will help promote the right of the Taiwanese people to determine their own future. I look forward to contributing my skills to the Formosa Foundation's efforts to achieving this goal." 🇺🇸





## Why Should the United States Support Taiwan? By Dr. June Teufel Dreyer

The following is an excerpt from Dr. Dreyer's remarks to the 2005 Formosa Foundation Ambassadors.

As members of the Formosa Foundation's Ambassador program go forth to publicize Taiwan's cause, most will be asked why the United States, faced with so many other pressing concerns, should support Taiwan. There are a number of good reasons why, which I will summarize.

*Taiwan is a democracy.* This is an argument frequently heard in defense of America's commitment to support Israel. Like Taiwan, Israel is a small, resource-poor country. Unlike Taiwan, which has only one enemy---albeit a very large one---Israel faces a large number of resource-rich Muslim states who are committed to end its existence as a state. The American Jewish community has been extremely effective in using Israel's democratic system as a reason for continued U.S. support. In Israel's case, unlike Taiwan's, this involves very large transfers of foreign aid and military assistance. If America does not support Taiwan, some may question the wisdom of continuing to support Israel.

*Taiwan has been a loyal ally of the United States. To abandon support for it would call into question the reliability of the U.S. as a partner and undermine America's entire alliance system.* Powerful as it is, the United States cannot afford to act unilaterally in the world system: it has neither the financial strength to do so, nor the desire to appear to be forcing its will on others. The 'coalition of the willing' that President George W. Bush expended so much effort in putting together in support of U.S. efforts in

Afghanistan and Iraq testifies to this. Were the United States to allow the People's Republic of China to take over Taiwan, other allies would wonder whether, in the interests of international convenience, Washington might do the same to them. This is particularly true of America's only powerful ally in Asia, Japan. Japan has large financial investments in Taiwan as well as psychological ties that extend back to the time that the island was a colony of the Japanese empire. Tokyo has been concerned for many years about the threat to its security from a rising China with hostile intentions. One manifestation of this threat is the incursion of Chinese warships into Japan's territorial waters; should China's territorial waters be extended outward toward Japan by the PRC's absorption of Taiwan, these concerns would be magnified.

*Taiwan's right to decide on its continued right to an independent existence is consonant with the commitment to the self-determination of peoples that led to the founding of the United States and that has been part of American political ideology ever since its founding.* The United States would still be part of the British empire if its founders had not believed in the right of peoples to freely decide who should govern them. The Declaration of Independence begins "When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the power of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them...". In the case of Taiwan, there is, of course, no need to dissolve political bonds with the PRC, since they have never existed. The United States remained committed to the right of self-determination, which was prominent among President

Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Point declaration at the time of World War I, and thereafter. Washington backed both the Mongols' right to the plebiscite that separated Mongolia from China after World War II and, more recently, the right of East Timor to sever its ties with Indonesia. To deny Taiwan this right would be a negation of a long-cherished American principle.

*Taiwan is a responsible member of the world community.*

Taiwan is a regular contributor of aid to less fortunate countries, and is consistently among the first to respond in time of natural disaster. Its contribution to tsunami relief earlier this year dwarfed that of the PRC. Moreover, Taiwan helps regardless of political ties with a country, and asks nothing in return. Contrast this with the behavior of the PRC after a disastrous earthquake hit Taiwan on September 21, 1999: Beijing refused to allow the international Red Cross to send aid until it decided to give permission. This took several days---at a time when, with many people trapped underneath collapsed buildings and others deprived of basic necessities of life like drinkable water, food, and shelter, a rapid response made the difference between life and agonizing death. Note also Beijing's behavior when Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome began in southern China in 2003: the



government suppressed information on the disease, which allowed it to spread both within the PRC and in other countries as far away as Canada. Many people died as a result.

Other arguments that Ambassadors are likely to hear include that of China as a rising power eager to reclaim its place in the sun, and to which the United States must adjust. Remind people who say this that, first, the power of the Chinese empire waxed and waned over the centuries: occasionally it was an important continental

power, but just as often China experienced decay and decline, consistent with China's own theory of the dynastic cycle.

Next, point out that the world contains any number of remnants of empires who have an equal claim to restoration of past glory.

No one, however, champions Italy's right to restore the might of the Roman empire, nor Iran's claim to lands held by Cyrus the Great.

Do not the people who live in these remnants of former empires also have rights? Suggest to them that, while China demands a place in the sun, at whatever cost to others, all that Taiwan seeks is a protected place in the shade.

**June Teufel Dreyer is professor and department head of Political Science at the University of Miami. Appointed by Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, she is currently a commissioner on the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission. Dr. Dreyer is an advisor to the Formosa Foundation.** 🇺🇸



## The Rise of China's Military and the Threat to Taiwan

The U.S. Department of Defense ("DoD") recently released its annual report to Congress regarding China's military capabilities. Anyone who supports democracy should be alarmed at the Pentagon's conclusions about China's intentions for the democratic, free market and peaceful society of Taiwan.

The DoD's report presents grim statistics about China's rapid military growth and how that growth is focused on Taiwan:

- China's announced official military budget for 2004 was \$29.9 billion, yet most analysts believe that real military spending by China is closer to \$90 billion.
- China has aimed somewhere between 650 to 730 short range ballistic missiles at Taiwan, with that number growing by approximately 100 missiles per year.
- China has placed its most sophisticated weaponry and has over 375,000 military personnel on active duty in the military region directly across the Taiwan Strait.
- China has undertaken 10 military exercises in the past 5 years simulating an amphibious invasion of Taiwan.
- In addition to direct military attack, China is developing quasi-military or asymmetric strategies designed to cripple Taiwan's leadership and to break the will of the Taiwanese people to fight back,

including such tactics as continued diplomatic isolation of Taiwan, naval blockades, high altitude nuclear detonation to disable radar and other electronic capabilities in Taiwan, computer attacks, economic sabotage and assassination of Taiwanese political leaders.

- As part of its general strategy to be militarily prepared to overwhelm Taiwan, China is developing capabilities, including long range ballistic missiles armed with nuclear warheads and a massive buildup of its naval force, to deter or slow U.S. or other third party military intervention in Taiwan's defense in a China-Taiwan conflict. Not long before the release of the Pentagon report, a senior Chinese military official declared that China would have to use nuclear weapons against the United States in the event that the U.S. became involved in a China-Taiwan conflict.

The Pentagon report clearly confirms that the political and military leadership of China views Taiwan as its top priority and that China's weapons buildup is focused largely on the short term goal of unification of Taiwan and China. The report goes so far as to say that resolution of the Taiwan question represents a fundamental issue of legitimacy to the Chinese Communist Party. The passage by

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# Why Taiwan Matters by Jonathan M. Baron



It is easy to understand why some consider the future of a free and secure Taiwan to be a matter of trivial importance.

Widely viewed as an unnecessary impediment to better relations with the world's rising economic power and long denied the diplomatic recognition granted to even the most despicable dictatorships, Taiwan rarely makes the priority list of official Washington.

With the American people reasonably focused on the Middle East, this often overlooked island in Asia is seemingly far removed from the fight against extreme ideology. Certainly, no survey of voter sentiment ever registers so much as a mention of Taiwan.

Based on this evidence, one could hardly be blamed for concluding that Taiwan is nothing more than a curiosity – an obscure footnote destined to be excised from future editions of the history of American diplomacy.

Yet, despite all the well-made arguments to the contrary, a confluence of world events and domestic political trends now promises to make the survival of a democratic Taiwan a dominant American issue. The fate of this fortress protecting 23 million free souls will not be a footnote. Rather, it will be a decisive chapter in the story of the struggle to defend liberty against violent aggression.

The central role that, one way or another, Taiwan will play is not only a matter of international affairs, but a product of rapidly accelerating political forces in the United States. Appreciating the potency of those forces requires an examination of the transformative effect of the events that have set America on its current course.

In the aftermath of the attacks of

September 11, 2001, President George W. Bush redefined American foreign policy to account for the threat of global terrorism. No longer would universal democratic values play a subordinate role in U.S. diplomacy to narrow interests. The administration boldly committed the nation to the proposition that democratization, not classic balance-of-power geopolitics, represents the best guarantor of America's international objectives.

Despite ferocious international opposition and heavy costs in blood and treasure, the American electorate voted last year to endorse the war on terrorism as much more than a cautiously defined exercise in intelligence and police work.

Some have suggested that President Bush's formulation speaks only to the far right of American politics. This observation is exactly wrong.

The coalition of factions supporting the thrust of the President's philosophy, when separated from his partisan identity, is shockingly broad, encompassing human rights organizations, labor unions, environmentalists, and many others. Foreign policy "realism", traditionally defined, is no longer a tenable political position.

These are the factors that are shaping the coming reckoning on the question of Taiwan's endangered future in the face of China's undeniable militarism. To imagine that the people of a post 9-11 United States will countenance the subjugation of tens-of-millions of free men and women is absurd.

As surely as the present regime in Beijing presently seeks total victory, America cannot and will not sit by and permit the destruction of a significant democracy, however seemingly remote.

The growing aggression of China contradicts the very essence of America's mission to protect and promote free society. An authentic U.S. commitment to the triumph

of freedom over tyranny cannot possibly survive the conquest of Taiwan by China.

Ultimately, one force must yield to the other. The fate of Taiwan and the fate of the international cause of democracy are inseparable.

This is why Taiwan is an issue of enormous and building political consequence. This is why Taiwan matters.

The continued isolation of Taiwan only invites Beijing to misread the direction of American policy, which so clearly is moving toward greater support for imperiled democracies. This contradiction between perception and reality creates an environment ripe for a sudden, massive, and entirely avoidable military conflict.


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**The fate of Taiwan and the fate of the international cause of democracy are inseparable.**

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More than half a century ago, weak leaders encouraged an insatiable aggression that enslaved a continent. As a consequence, the fate of liberty itself came to depend upon the survival of the free men and women of a small island far from our shores. In standing by those people in their desperate hour, America helped save the world from unimaginable darkness. But it almost was not so.

Taiwan is much more than a trading partner, or even a loyal ally. Most of all, Taiwan is a fellow democracy, a practitioner of the principles that represent the antidote to extremism everywhere. The case for Taiwan is the case for freedom.

Jonathan M. Baron is a co-founder and principal of Red Sea, LLC, a media strategy consultancy located in Washington, DC. 

# Formosa Foundation Ambassadors Bring Taiwan to Capitol Hill

The 2005 Ambassador Program concluded on July 1 with 29 newly minted diplomats returning home with an in-depth understanding of U.S.-Taiwan relations. The intense two-week training entailed daily seminars and was capped off with sit-down meetings with members of Congress.

The class of 2005, composed of 10 Taiwanese, 3 American, and 17 Taiwanese-American college-educated students, spent the first week of the program in Los Angeles attending lectures on U.S.-Taiwan-China relations.

Speakers included Dr. Tsung-Kuang Lin, professor of history at Drake University, sociology professor Dr. Thomas Gold from UC Berkeley; and Daniel Lynch from the School of International Relations at the University of Southern California. Seminars on advocacy, cultural awareness, and assertiveness prepared the Ambassadors for their meetings with Congressional members. Kathleen Hollingsworth, district director for Congressman Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA) and the Foundation's Terri Giles gave an insider's view on Congress. Dr. June Dreyer of Miami University, Dan Blumenthal of the American Enterprise Institute and Jonathan Baron, principal of Red Sea Consulting, all talked to the Ambassadors on the relevance of a free and democratic

Taiwan from the American perspective. FAPA's Coen Blaauw shared with the Ambassadors the organization's goals and strategies.

In Washington D.C. the Ambassadors spent three and a half days meeting with 177 members of Congress and/or their respective staffs, to discuss various issues relating to Taiwan, including:

- Prospects for a U.S.-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
- Taiwan's inclusion into the World Health Organization (WHO)
- High-level visits between officials of Taiwan and the U.S.
- Taiwan's right to self-determination and freedom from coercion and military threat

For the congressional meetings, the Ambassadors broke off into pre-assigned groups in order to meet with as many Congressmen and Senators as possible. The facilitators were Enoch Chang, Amy Lin, Terri Giles, Tony Lee (from the class of 2003), as well as Foundation Board members George and Gene Wu.

Every Ambassador actively participated in the congressional meetings. The Taiwanese Ambassadors talked about how Taiwan's inclusion in the WHO could have lessened the blow of an epidemic like SARS, and their



Rep. John Duncan (R-TN) meets with Corina Chen, Tom Chou, Helen Hsu and Shawn Healy.

fear of China's military threats. The American Ambassadors urged the law makers to support Taiwan based on mainstays of American ideology like democracy and the right to self-determination. During every meeting the Ambassadors urged the law makers to join the Taiwan Caucus, if they were not yet a member. Because all of the issues bear heavily on the future relations between Taiwan and the United States, as well as Taiwan's increasingly precarious situation with China, the Congressional meetings were an incredible opportunity to effect change. 🇺🇸



After his lecture, Professor Tom Gold answers questions from ambassadors Michael Chuang and Pei-Hsin Wang.



Dr. Tsung-Kuang Lin critiques on China's Taiwan Policy.



Amy Lin shows a video on the "Do's and Don'ts of a Congressional Meeting."

## Thank You

The Ambassador Program owes its success to the dedicated support and assistance of many people. Volunteers in Taiwan, including Ling-Jen Lee, Echo Lin, Peter Chang and Enoch Chang, interviewed applicants and aided in the selection of the Taiwanese Ambassadors. Evaluators in the U.S., Rex Yu (CA), Paul Ding (CA), Peter Chen (DC), Ginru Lee (TX), and Patrick Huang (NY), helped select the American and Taiwanese-American Ambassadors.



Ambassadors spend evening at the Taiwan Center with Southern California Taiwanese community.



Rep. Langevin (D-RI) takes time out of a committee hearing to meet with Amy Lin, Chen-Jing Wu, Chieh-Ting Yeh, Lester Yang and Montgomery Lim.


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China of its anti-secession legislation in March of 2005 only reiterates, in codified form, to the global community China's intentions to use military force to conquer Taiwan and its people.

The government and political leaders of Taiwan must take the Chinese threat seriously if they wish to preserve the Taiwanese way of life and prosperity. One critical issue is that Taiwan and the United States must consummate the proposed sale by the United States of \$15.3 billion in defensive weaponry to Taiwan. The petty politics in Taiwan's legislative yuan ignore the clear and present danger that China poses now and in the future to Taiwan. We urge the Taiwanese political parties across the Pan-Blue and Pan-Green spectra to resolve their differences and complete this arms purchase, both to help maintain the strategic balance with China and to demonstrate to the United States, Taiwan's closest ally, that Taiwan is indeed committed to its own defense against China.

For those who question whether it is in America's interest to stand behind Taiwan in the face of China's threatening behavior, the Pentagon clearly states that China views Taiwan as a critical strategic platform from which China can project its military power, particularly naval power, throughout the Asia-Pacific region. This constitutes a direct threat to U.S. allies such as Japan, South Korea, Australia, the Philippines and others, particularly in light of Chinese territorial disputes with these nations. A Taiwan under Chinese rule would constitute a major shift in the strategic balance between China and the United States in the Pacific, which is certainly not in the interest

of the United States. Even beyond the Pentagon's strategic analysis, a Chinese military attack against Taiwan would harm the international economy, with particularly devastating impact in high-tech manufacturing and procurement. It is without a doubt in the interests of not only the United States, but also of regional powers in Asia and of the entire global community to resist China's bellicosity towards Taiwan.

We at the Formosa Foundation are deeply committed to the preservation and evolution of Taiwan's democracy, Taiwan's transparent free market economy and Taiwan's value system that emphasizes broad personal liberties and the rule of law. The people of Taiwan, in poll after poll, have made clear that they like what they have built and do not wish to be unified with China – the rest of the international community should respect those wishes, particularly as Taiwan faces the growing military threat posed by its much larger neighbor. We urge Taiwanese, Americans and others around the world to pay close attention to China's military rise and to send a clear, unified message to China that use of military force against Taiwan and other nations in the Pacific Rim is unacceptable. 



Members of the Foundation participated in the anti-secession rally in Los Angeles on March 26, 2005.

# Reflections from Members of the Class of 2005

## Mitchell Tsai

A recent graduate of the University of Southern California, Mitch studied International Relations with a Minor in Gender Studies.

As an idealist I sometimes become frustrated with our political process. Democracy can be slow, cumbersome, and frustrating. However, our meetings with members of Congress restored my faith in the American political system. Even as people disagree about things, democracy allows us to express our differences of opinion and respect each other for it.

It is my hope that the people of Taiwan continue to enjoy the human rights and economic prosperity that they have struggled for and won. Democracy has allowed the people of Taiwan to craft their own identity and to take charge of their destiny. The 23 million people of Taiwan have sharp differences over whether the island's future lies with China or as its own nation. But the citizens of Taiwan have a voice on this matter.



Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) meets with Jonathan Fan, Mitchell Tsai, Herlin Chien, and George Wu.

In China, political dissidents are arrested and killed every day seeking the kind of freedom of choice that people of Taiwan already possess. As a student at USC, I was greatly shocked when students from China told me that they could not become politically involved because of the persecution they would face if they returned home.

I am proud to have served as a Formosa Foundation Ambassador and will continue to work to protect the freedom of the Taiwanese people.



Rep. Beauprez (R-CO) meets with George Wu, Pei-hsin Wang, Christine Wang and Benjamin Lin.

## Christine Wang

A sophomore at Claremont McKenna College, CA, Christine majors in Government and Psychology. She is spending the remainder of this summer in Tainan, Taiwan, teaching English at the local YMCA.

Without a doubt, the Ambassador Program was an eye-opening and mind-blowing experience. My knowledge about Taiwan's history and relationship with the United States was expanded from the first workshop to the last congressional appointment. I feel excited and confident about sharing what I learned with others and applying my new knowledge to organizations on campus.

In DC, the American government that I had been studying at college was brought to life. Discussing issues concerning Taiwan's high-level visits, military aide, and observer status in the World Health Organization with our nation's powerful policy-makers was an exhilarating experience. I came away from the congressional meetings with more pride in being Taiwanese-American and a greater appreciation for our democratic system. As a nineteen year-old, having my thoughts and opinions heard in our nation's capital made me understand the importance of protecting Taiwan's democracy. It made me realize that the "Is Taiwan a part of China?" issue, though a touchy subject, should not be evaded. Instead, it should be answered with a fervent "No!"

I am honored to have been a part of the ambassador program. The

twenty-eight strangers I met on June 19th have now become twenty-eight new friends. Being in the company of the Ambassador Program board members and participants who have the same hopes, passion, and love for Taiwan as I do has provided me with the drive to be an even stronger advocate for the "beautiful isle."

## Lynn Fay Chen

Born and raised in Orlando, Florida, Lynn is a sophomore at Boston University.

The Ambassador Program showed me that passion for a free Taiwan could bring individuals of diverse backgrounds together and make a difference. The Program also gave me enough knowledge, resources, and friendships to last a lifetime.

As we made our final rounds on Capitol Hill, our ideas strengthened with each office we visited. All those countless days in workshops and long nights perfecting our arguments had finally paid off.

What started off as individual students from America and Taiwan had transformed into a family, always ready to support each other in the fight for democracy and freedom. With our new Formosa Foundation family, I know our efforts for Taiwan's presence on the world stage would not end at the completion of the two weeks.

That last day on Capitol Hill may well have been the end of our program, but it was also the beginning of our days as fighters for democracy and Taiwan. 🇺🇸



Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) meets with Kyle Fan, Michael Chuang, Lynn Fay Chen and Terri Giles.

# 2005 Formosa Foundation Ambassadors

<i>Ambassadors</i>	<i>University</i>	<i>Hometown</i>
• Alexander Baldwin	University of Virginia	Vienna, VA
• Vicky Chang	New York University	New York, NY
• Corina Chen	National Taiwan University, TW	Taipei, Taiwan
• Lisa Chen	UC Berkeley	Palo Alto, CA
• Lynn Chen	Boston University	Orlando, FL
• Herlin Chien	Sun Yat Sen University, TW	Taichung, Taiwan
• Tom Chou	Tufts University	Taipei, Taiwan
• Michael Chuang	University of Illinois, Urbana	Taipei, Taiwan
• Jonathan Fan	University of Southern California	Pasadena, CA
• Kyle Fan	Suchow University, TW	Taipei, Taiwan
• Shawn Healy	Radford University	Alexandria, VA
• Russell Hsiao	American University	Bethesda, MD
• Helen Hsu	University of Michigan	Knoxville, TN
• Chia-Wei Huang	University of Sheffield, UK	Nantou, Taiwan
• Joyce Jeng	UC Berkeley	San Jose, CA
• Montgomery Lim	UCLA	Brea, CA
• Benjamin Lin	UC Berkeley	Saratoga, CA
• Yu-Chu Lin	Warwick University, UK	Taipei, Taiwan
• Victor Liu	Rutgers University	Bridgewater, NJ
• Chris Pechstedt	Pomona College	Hermosa Beach, CA
• Cathy Peng	Chengchi University, TW	Hualien, Taiwan
• Geraldine Sheu	Rice University	Sugar Land, TX
• Mitchell Tsai	University of Southern California	Yorba Linda, CA
• Christine Wang	Claremont McKenna College	Santa Ana, CA
• Pei-Hsin Wang	National Taiwan University, TW	Taipei, Taiwan
• Chen-Jing Wu	SUNY-Buffalo	Buffalo, NY
• Lester Yang	National Taiwan University, TW	Taipei, Taiwan
• Chieh-Ting Yeh	Harvard University	Fresh Meadows, NY
• Claire Yeh	National Taiwan University, TW	Taipei, Taiwan



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