Since 1979, the US-Asia Institute (USAI)—a private 501(c)(3) Washington DC-based nonprofit and a United Nations-affiliated NGO—has strengthened bilateral relationships between the peoples and governments of the United States and Asia. USAI is unmatched in connecting, engaging, and building understanding at the highest levels. A nonpartisan organization with no policy or monetary agenda of its own, USAI is unparalleled in its depth of connections with Congressional Members and staff as well as within the diplomatic community. Over the years, USAI has built a bond of trust and mutual respect, succeeding in keeping channels for discussion open. USAI strives to provide policy makers, advisors and emerging leaders with the tools and opportunities to engage in U.S.-Asia relations through high-level international exchanges and dialogue, educational initiatives, and networking opportunities.

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Initiated in 2015, the Global Leadership Board (GLB) is the US-Asia Institute’s international advisory board. It was created to extend USAI’s outreach in the region and boost its ability to facilitate communication and understanding.

The GLB is comprised of prominent Asian leaders who provide invaluable advice on USAI’s programs and diverse perspectives on the region. They also provides insight into how the Institute can best work to fulfill its mission across the region.

“Members of the Global Leadership Board have spent most of their careers exposed and involved with ever changing political circumstances and geopolitics in the Asian region. Their keen insights into the future are priceless, enlightening and stimulating.”

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- Dr. Jiemen Yang, President Emeritus, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (China)
Vietnam Energy Roundtable
The Vietnamese Minister of Industry & Trade, The Honorable Tran Tuan Anh, and his delegation participated in a roundtable discussion in Washington D.C. on September 30, 2019 with key U.S. energy businesses and officials. Presented by the US-Asia Institute and Green Power Generation, a member of VinaCapital, the roundtable participants discussed opportunities for cooperation in the fields of energy, electricity and minerals, and ways to strengthen the relationship for investment and trade between Vietnam and the United States. Representatives from Exxon Mobil, Dow, X Coal, LNG Allies, Cheniere Energy, PetroVietnam, Excelerate Energy, GE, OP Energy Advisors, American Security Project, Vietnam Electricity, Vietnam Coal & Mining among others joined the discussion.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Capitol Hill Luncheon
The Honorable Teodoro L. Locsin Jr., Foreign Secretary of the Republic of the Philippines and his wife were the featured guests of the US-Asia Institute at a luncheon in the U.S. Capitol on September 19, 2019. Speaking frankly about the U.S.-Philippine relationship, Foreign Secretary Locsin was joined by Congressman Ted Yoho, Ranking Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and Nonproliferation. Ambassador John D. Negroponte, Co-Chairman of the US-Philippines Society, offered commentary and moderated the discussion. Representatives of each of the 10 countries of Southeast Asia were present including the Ambassadors from Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Vietnam and the Deputy Chiefs of Mission from Myanmar and Thailand. Mark Clark, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, led a US State Department contingency with Christopher Johnstone, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia, joining from the US Department of Defense. Friends from the business and think tank communities also participated.

Improving U.S.-Indonesia Relations through Soft Power
Details of a proposed program to train and empower young Indonesian leaders were explained at a special roundtable luncheon discussion on Capitol Hill May 15, 2019. Featuring Indonesian business and education leader, Mr. Tanri Abeng, a member of USAI’s GLB, the session brought together thought leaders from the US Congress, business, academia and representatives from the U.S. Department of State and the Agency for International Development. Special guest was Diane Farrell, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Asia.

GLB Visit to the Philippines
GLB Chairman Kenneth Walsh and Member Ambassador Edward Lee from Singapore visited the Philippines in February 2019, meeting with GLB Member Amando M. Tetangco Jr., 3rd Governor of Bangko Sentral Ng Pilipinas. A special dinner was hosted by Madam Carmencita D. Katigbak (as seen in the picture). U.S.-Philippine relations were discussed and an informal invitation was extended to the Foreign Secretary, Mr Teodoro Locsin to visit the U.S. in 2019 to speak at a forum the US-Asia Institute would arrange.