

# Asians face rigid stereotypes, speaker says

By Polly Campbell  
Emerald Reporter

Asian American women often are portrayed by the media as bookworms, foreigners or exotic lovers, said Elaine Kim, Assistant Dean of the University of California at Berkeley.

Kim, speaking Thursday afternoon in the EMU Fir Room, said the media takes all types of people from all races and forces them into a predetermined mold.

"Part of the racial ideology says all Asians are alike," Kim said.

Although Asian Americans have been born and raised in the United States, Kim said they are still seen by the media and much of society as foreigners.

"Thinking of Asian Americans as foreigners makes them not bona fide members of society," Kim said. "Being seen as eternal outsiders can have a disastrous effect."

Kim gave examples of immigration and marriage laws that were in effect until 1968 in some states that prevented Asian immigration and also prevented Asians from marry-



Elaine Kim

ing whites. Those laws did not apply to any other race.

"At times it seems that racial crimes 100 years ago could remain unchanged now in the '80s," Kim said.

Asian Americans also experience being a "model minority," Kim said.

She said they are stereotypically thought to be intelligent students attending universities like Harvard, studying science, graduating and getting a good job leading to the top of the corporate ladder.

This mode of thinking works to say something about race relations in America, Kim said. It creates conflict between races by making one race seem better or more important than another. This could create resentment on the part of mainstream Americans too, she added.

But, Kim said, for every two out of 10 Asian American students who attends Harvard, the other eight don't. The "model minority" does not include those people.

On movie and television screens, Asian American women are generally cast in one-dimensional roles, Kim said. They play weak characters often dependent on white men, or they play exotic seducers of white men.

Asian American men are also represented as shallow in movies and on television, she said.

"Asian American men are portrayed as nerds because they are thought to be smart without physical appeal or morals," Kim said about the media stereotypes.

"Racial stereotyping in movies and television not only influences society but it also works against the self-image of

Asians," Kim said.

"Elaine Kim is an example of an Asian American woman who is able to appreciate her Asian background and also be successful in the western cul-

ture," said Chris Chan, director of the Asian Pacific American Student Union.

Not all Asian Americans do martial arts or study science, Chan said.

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## IACUC reviews animal use report

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee went through the process of editing an annual report Thursday regarding compliance with federal guidelines regulating the use

of animals for research.

The committee was asked to review the document by John Moseley, University vice president for research. Moseley had asked the IACUC to comment

on the changes he had made to the draft report and recommend any other alterations to the wording.

No major revisions of the draft report were made, which will now be sent to Moseley for review.

Some major changes made by Moseley in the annual document include not requiring the IACUC to meet every month, but only when a meeting is requested by a member or the chair of the committee.

Another change would require committee members to conduct a formal inspection of research facilities twice a year.

The number of days to call a meeting to review the proposal was increased from five to 10.

### Correction

In the May 18 Emerald, an article entitled "Code amendments produce opposition," inaccurately reported that a proposed amendment to the University's student conduct code would require faculty members to assign a failing grade to any student found guilty of academic dishonesty.

The actual proposal read that the faculty member involved "shall impose an appropriate academic sanction up to and including an N or an F."

Also, Marlene Drescher's comments regarding the proposed amendment were taken out of context. Her com-

ments concerned the University Office of Student Advocacy's proposed amendment.

This proposed rule read: "The adjustment shall give no credit for the student's work which has been the subject of academic dishonesty. A grade will be assessed based on the sum total of the student's work, including the zero credit or failing grade assessed to that portion of the work which was found to be academically dishonest."

The Emerald regrets any confusion or inconvenience that may have resulted from these errors.



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