

Service-learning has existed in the United States since the 1960s. The ideas behind service-learning in Asia have been around for centuries. Confucius' Five Ethical Principles included calls for humane treatment of one another, caring behavior, and a lifelong journey of acquiring wisdom to be a responsible member of society. So, the theme for the conference, Lifelong Journeys for Social Responsibility, is consistent with people in both Asia and the US.

Coupled with this long Asian tradition is a long history of collaboration and cooperation between the United States and Asia for the development of experiential learning and civic engagement. Famous American philosopher John Dewey, who wrote so much about experiential learning actually, taught in China for two years in the early 20th century. Educators from China and Japan came to the US in the 1930s to study the experiential learning process....and that collaboration has continued into the 21st century.

In this session we hear from Drs. Timothy Stanton and Robert Shumer, both pioneers in the US service-learning movement. They will share their journeys about how they got involved and how they have sustained interest and energy over the past 50 years. Both have a long history of working with Asian countries and will discuss what they have learned about both areas of the world. Both were actually keynote speakers at the first Asia Pacific Conference held in Singapore in 2007. And both contributed stories, along with several other US pioneers, in the new book, *Where's The Wisdom in Service-Learning?* which describes the history and lives of 10 people involved in the service-learning movement.

In addition, we will hear from two younger leaders in the Asian community, Drs. Carol Ma (Hong Kong/Singapore) and Chia-Hui Chiu (Taiwan). Both have had leadership roles in universities developing service-learning and socially responsible programs in their home countries and across Asia. They, too, will share how they got involved and how they are sustaining socially responsible programs today.

After we hear these stories, we will break up the audience into pairs so they can share their own stories about how they, too, got involved and what they are doing to promote service-learning in their own communities. After that sharing, we will reconvene to discuss common themes about involvement in socially responsible programs.