



Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

“Building inclusive economies, building a better world”

Manila, Philippines

November 2015

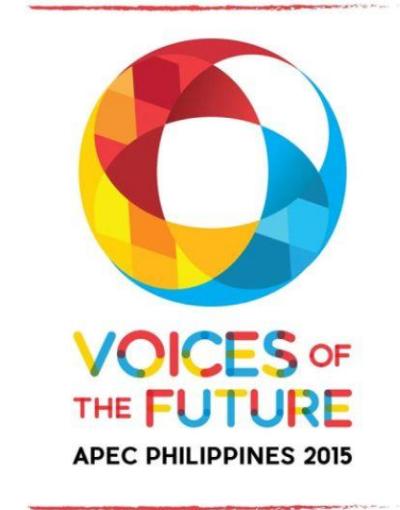
What is APEC?

- It originated in 1989 as an informal meeting of 12 Asia-Pacific economies bordering the Pacific Rim.
- It has evolved into an annual economic forum with 21 member economies.
- Its goal is to create a more prosperous Asia-Pacific region by promoting inclusive and sustainable growth and regional economic integration.
- It brings heads of state, CEOs, small business owners, and delegates together to collaborate in solving these issues.



APEC and Furman - Voices of the Future

- The Riley Institute at Furman played an important role in the development of APEC Voices of the Future, which allows youth delegates to participate in formal APEC programming.
- VOF also designs its own events in which youth delegates interact with each other through informal dialogue and the creation of a youth declaration.
- Each year, Furman sends a select group of students to attend, chosen through an application process.
- Political Science and Economics majors are prioritized.





Breakfast at the Hotel Green Sun on our first day of meetings with the Voices of the Future Program



The group is pictured with Ambassador Phillip Goldberg and Political Officer Rachael Parrish at the U.S. embassy in Manila.

Photo courtesy of the U.S. embassy in Manila.



We were able to make a visit to the Manila American Cemetery, which is the U.S. cemetery with the largest number of U.S. military personnel who lost their lives during WWII. It was exceptionally well kept and a beautiful tribute to Americans who gave their lives to help win Filipino independence.



All of the Voices of the Future delegates are pictured here at the Asian Development Bank. 17 out of the 21 APEC member economies were represented.



Jonathan addressing our fellow Voices of the Future Delegates, offering a U.S. view of the importance of the youth for sustainable and inclusive economic growth.



Attending the APEC Business Advisory Council Dialogue with Voices of the Future delegates; Nathan and Jonathan delivered responses to the Council



The group after a successful meeting with the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC)



An entrepreneur at Gawad Kalinga Farm shows youth delegates how he makes Bayani Brew, one of the farm's many social entrepreneurship projects that connects impoverished communities with business opportunities.



The Furman (and United States!) delegation at the APEC CEO Summit, held at the Makati Shangri La. Speakers included President Barack Obama, President Xi Jinping (China), and Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev (Russia).



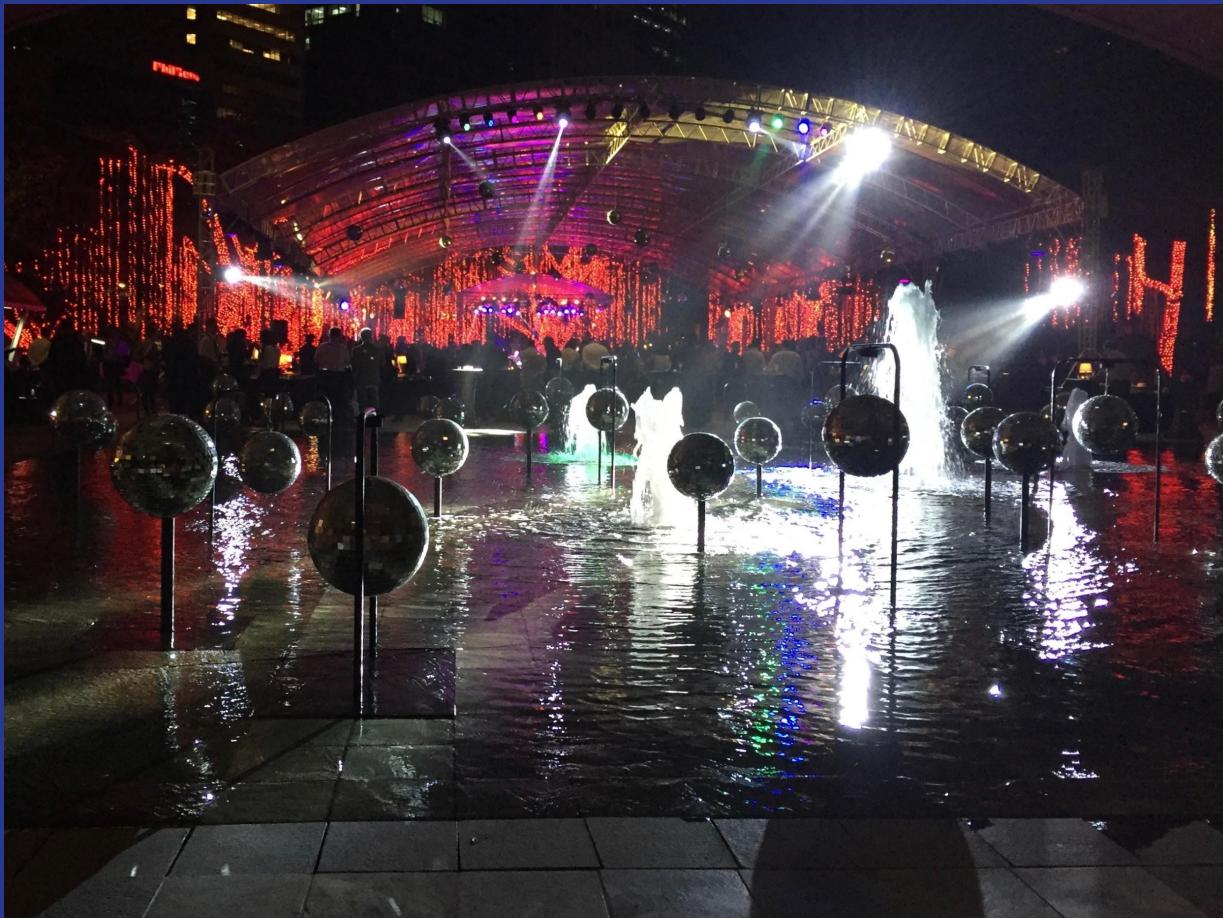
President Barack Obama discussed the issue of climate change in a keynote address and then moderated a panel that included Jack Ma, founder of Alibaba, and a Filipina inventor who cofounded SALt, which sells lamps powered by salt water.



VIPs at the CEO Summit included EurasiaGroup founder and president Ian Bremmer, who took 10 minutes to explain his views on the Syrian conflict with our group.



We also got the opportunity to discuss the difficulties facing education efforts with Teach for America Founder, Wendy Kopp.



Festivities in a park in downtown Manila after a day full of speakers and presentations.