Chang-Lin Tien
Distinguished Visiting Fellows

The Asia Foundation Chang-Lin Tien Distinguished Visiting Fellows program recognizes Asia’s most accomplished leaders from government, business, and academia. Since 2002, the program has hosted prominent Asian individuals drawn from across the diverse region, each deeply committed to Asia’s development and U.S.-Asia relations. The program reflects the Foundation’s focus of highlighting extraordinary leaders and the catalytic role they play in advancing Asia’s progress.

Through this intellectual exchange with The Asia Foundation community and its broader network of public and private partners in the U.S. and Asia, the prestigious program helps advance international dialogue and understanding. Building on Dr. Tien’s legacy, the program provides an opportunity for senior Asian leaders to share their knowledge and perspective on issues critical to Asia’s development and growth. Annually, the Foundation invites one prominent scholar, business leader, or senior elected official who has made significant contributions to the field of U.S.-Asia relations or international affairs to give a series of public lectures and roundtable discussions. Over the customary two-week program to the U.S., Foundation staff also arrange for one-on-one meetings with leading specialists and officials, and relevant site visits, with program elements tailored to the individual’s areas of interest.

DR. CHANG-LIN TIEN

The program honors Dr. Chang-Lin Tien, the late Chair of The Asia Foundation’s Board of Trustees and former Chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Tien — the first Asian-American to head a major research university in the U.S. — was widely respected for his achievements in science, higher education, and community affairs, notably U.S.-Asia understanding. Dr. Tien remains an inspiration to his many friends, colleagues, and students.
“The Chang-Lin Tien Fellowship Program gave me the opportunity to meet a wide array of people from the government, civil society, and academia. Talking to university students as well as professionals involved in development was a wonderful experience which enriched my understanding of the challenges faced in our times.”
– Sir Fazle Hasan Abed

NOMINATION AND SELECTION
A nomination committee of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees identifies potential participants in consultation with Asia Foundation leadership.

DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOWS RECOGNIZED IN RECENT YEARS INCLUDE:

• Dr. Mari Elka Pangestu, Former Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia (2016). Expertise in international economic, trade and finance; Asia-Pacific regional cooperation.

• Dr. Isher Judge Ahluwalia, Chairperson, India Council for Research on International Economic Relations (2015). Expertise in India’s urbanization challenges and economic development; international trade relations.

• Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Founder and Chairperson, BRAC (2012). Expertise in poverty alleviation, education, and addressing development challenges.

• Mr. Cheng Siwei, Chair, International Finance Forum-Beijing, and former Vice Chair, Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress (2011). Expertise in China’s approach to economic reform and development and U.S.-China economic relations.

• Dr. Stan Shih, CEO and Chair of the Acer Group, Taiwan (2002). Expertise in IT trends in Asia.

ABOUT US
The Asia Foundation improves lives, expands opportunities, and helps societies flourish across a dynamic and developing Asia. We catalyze change through local knowledge and networks — including our offices in 18 Asian countries — partnering with innovative leaders and communities to build effective institutions and advance pathbreaking reforms.

For additional information, please visit: www.asiafoundation.org

SUPPORT
The program is supported by the generous donation of Chang-Lin Tien’s friends and colleagues, in honor of his many contributions to science, education, and international understanding.