

# PAMANTASAN CONFERENCE 2017

*Don't Stop Believing: Journey to Inspired Collective Filipino Leadership  
(Through Educational, Civic, and Creative Engagement)*

Kapi'olani Community College  
March 17, 2017 (Friday)

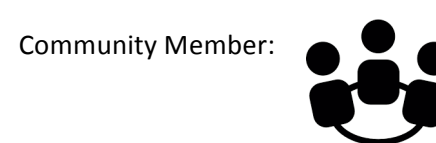
## Conference Schedule

	Event	Location
8:00 a.m.	Registration Opens	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
8:30 a.m.	Breakfast	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
9:00 a.m.	Welcome	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	Breakout Session 1	Various
11:00 a.m.	Lunch	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
11:20 a.m.	Leadership panel	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
12:30 p.m.	Faculty & Staff Campus Updates	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
12:30 p.m.	Students Field Activity: Maglalatik	Great Lawn
1:00 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.	Breakout Session 2	Various
2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	Breakout Session 3	Various
3:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
3:30 p.m.	Merienda, Evaluation, & Entertainment	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
4:30 p.m.	Conference Closes	

# Workshops

Session / Location	Kalia 104	Kalia 202 / Kalia 203	Olonā 202	Olonā 205	Manele 102	'Ōhi'a Cafeteria
<b>Session 1:</b> 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	What I learned in North Korea as a Local Filipino	The Diaspora Within: A Statistical Snapshot of Filipinos at UH (Kalia 202)	Santuwaryo: Creating Sanctuary Communities for All	Creative Philippine Futurities	Siblaw Taraw: Tales of Enchantment from Barlig, Mountain Province	none
<b>Session 2:</b> 1:00 a.m. - 1:50 p.m.	Reimagining Filipin@: The development of ethnic identity of Filipin@-Americans	none	Reaching out to the recent Filipino immigrant high school students / Service-learning as a strategy for Filipino student success	Educate. Empower. Entertain.	none	Pamantasan Council meeting
<b>Session 3:</b> 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	Filipino Students as Community Leaders	Weaving Dreams as Filipino Educational Praxis (Kalia 203)	Advocacy for what you believe in: How to Write and Present Testimony	Educate. Empower. Entertain.	none	none

## Icons for Intended Target Audience



# Workshop Details

## Session 1: 10:00-10:50 a.m.

Title: **What I learned in North Korea as a Local Filipino**

Description: Practical leadership tools and skills for personal development

Presenter(s): Sam Peralta

Location: Kalia 104



Title: **The Diaspora Within: A Statistical Snapshot of Filipinos at UH**

Description: This workshop will provide data about Filipino enrollment at the University of Hawaii, including: top majors, campus enrollment differences, distribution across the system, and co-identification and its effects.

Presenter(s): Leighton Vila

Location: Kalia 202



Title: **Santuwaryo: Creating Sanctuary Communities for All**

Description: This workshop will address the following: How do we understand our Filipin@ migration stories within a larger history of immigration to Hawai'i? What are the root causes of migration? What does it mean to create sanctuary for all with an intersectional analysis? How do we expand our understanding and practice of sanctuary? What can we do today to begin to build sanctuary with our families, friends, and the most marginalized in our communities?

Presenter(s): Reyna Ramolete and Darlene Rodrigues

Location: Olonā 202



**Title: Creative Philippine Futurities**

Description: This workshop presents how performance has been a platform for community building and cultural innovation. It focuses on the creation of a dance performance entitled *Manariwa*, documenting inter-cultural collaboration and cultural innovation through dance.

Presenter(s): Toni Pasion

Location: Olonā 205



**Title: Siblaw Taraw: Tales of Enchantment from Barlig, Mountain Province**

Description: This workshop will discuss the vanishing culture of the Ifiallig people, the process of retrieving their stories, and creating the online module and animated videos.

Presenter(s): Pia Arboleda, Elena Clariza, Precious Arao, and Andrew Sobrepena

Location: Manele 102



**Session 2: 1:00-1:50 p.m.**

**Title: Reimagining Filipin@: The development of ethnic identity of Filipin@-Americans**

Description: What does it mean to Filipino-American? What role does our culture play in our aspirations of the American dream? How can we use this knowledge to better our communities? This workshop intends to answer these questions while discussing issues of ethnic identity, one's "Filipinoness," and how these factors influence our thoughts on higher education, personal relationships, and career goals.

Presenter(s): Rebecca Carino

Location: Kalia 104



**Title: Reaching out to the recent Filipino immigrant high school students / Service-learning as a strategy for Filipino student success**

Descriptions:

**Reaching out to the recent Filipino immigrant high school students:** Since 2006, the Kapi'olani CC ESOL program has offered a summer bridge program aimed at the Filipino immigrant from Farrington High School, Kaimuki High School, and Waipahu High School. The program is designed to introduce them to college, and to give them intensive instruction in academic writing. This presentation will give some background on the purpose of the summer bridge program, the thinking behind the curriculum of the program and some of the takeaways.

**Service-learning as a strategy for Filipino student success:** Since 1995, Kapi'olani CC has offered service-learning, a high-impact practice that integrates classroom learning and community service. This presentation will introduce Kapi'olani's Service and Sustainability Learning program, explain how it has supported student success and re-enrollment, and discuss the experience for Filipino students.

Presenter(s): Frank Noji / Francisco Acoba and Mayanne Turingan

Location: Olonā 202



**Title: Educate. Empower. Entertain.**

Description: This workshop focuses on a Tinikling Filipino Bamboo Dance activity. It also shares the presenter's journey of growing up as a local Filipino-American and creating a nonprofit, Tekniqlingz.

Presenter(s): Gabe Torno

Location: Olonā 205

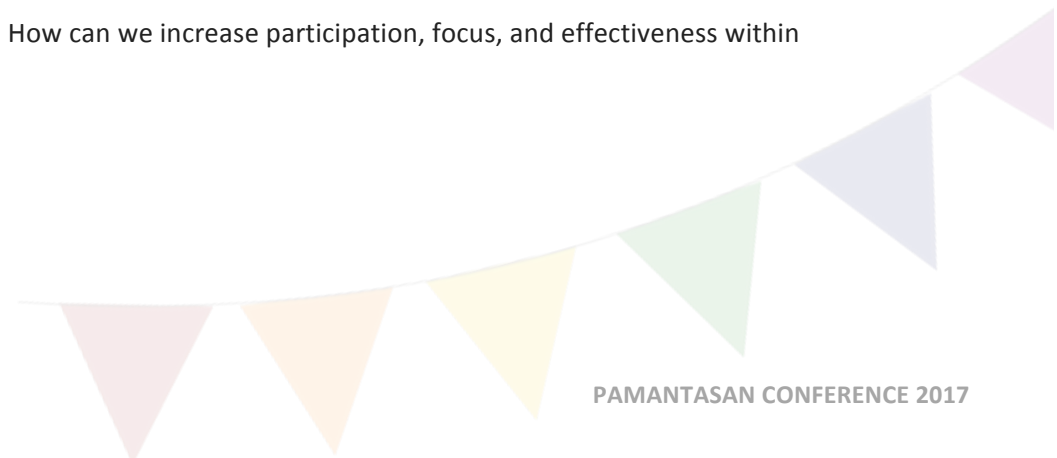


**Title: Pamantasan Council Meeting**

Description: Participants will discuss the following the question: How can we increase participation, focus, and effectiveness within the Pamantasan group?

Presenter(s): Pamantasan Council

Location: 'Ōhi'a Cafeteria



### **Session 3: 2:00-2:50 p.m.**

#### **Title: Filipino Students as Community Leaders**

Description: In this workshop, Raymund Liongson (Leeward CC) and students from both the Amianan Immersion Summer Study 2016 and KASAMA Leadership Initiative will discuss their experiences and leadership development in these programs. Ana Bravo (Kapiolani CC) and Maiana Minahal (Kapiolani CC) will discuss their work to support the revitalization of the Bayanihan sa KCC student club and the leadership development of the club officers in organizing this year's Pamantasan conference.

Presenter(s): Maiana Minahal, Ana Bravo, and Raymund Liongson

Location: Kalia 104



#### **Title: Weaving Dreams as Filipino Educational Praxis**

Description: Members of the Tinalak Filipino Education Advisory Council at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's College of Education will share their scholarship recently published in the nation's first themed-issue of Filipino education in "Educational Perspectives", an interdisciplinary research journal focused on education in Hawai'i. The workshop will provide participants with a foundation to critically understand our K-20 Filipino student achievement patterns and experiences, an expanded notion of Filipino identities through storytelling, and an experience with a mini-lesson highlighting new forms of culturally and linguistic pedagogies that we believe will ultimately serve the fabric of our Filipino community.

Presenter(s): Patricia Espiritu Halagao, Virgie Chattergy, Niki Libarios, Jeffrey Moniz, Raju DeSai, and Hannah Tavares

Location: Kalia 203



#### **Title: Advocacy for what you believe in: How to Write and Present Testimony**

Description: This workshop is designed to empower students to channel their journey of seeking higher education into compelling testimonies that can inform lawmakers of the importance of championing legislation to address disparities of income inequality and social justice for vulnerable communities.

Presenter(s): Charlene Cuaresma, Kevin Faller, Franalyn Galiza, and Debieh Miguel

Location: Olonā 202



Title: **Educate. Empower. Entertain. (Repeat)**

Description: This workshop focuses on a Tinikling Filipino Bamboo Dance activity. It also shares the presenter's journey of growing up as a local Filipino-American and creating a nonprofit, Tekniqlingz.

Presenter(s): Gabe Torno

Location: Olonā 205



## Panelists Biography

Growing up in Paia and Kahului has cultivated Senator **Keith-Agaran**'s passion for Maui and Valley Isle residents. Gil brings a wealth of experience from the practice of law, and work in county and State government to the Capitol.

With fewer agricultural and blue collar jobs for Central Maui working families, Senator Keith-Agaran believes focused training and key infrastructure construction and expansion are key priorities to bringing well-paying jobs closer to home. Specifically, he envisions a growing health and science campus building on the proximity of Maui Memorial Medical Center, the Kaiser Foundation facilities, the Community Clinic of Maui, and UH-Maui College. He also believes that the State, county and private sectors should partner to reserve and create quality affordable workforce housing.

Senator Keith-Agaran is a graduate of Maui High School. He has a BA in history from Yale College in New Haven, Connecticut and he is a graduate of Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley. Gil is a partner in the Maui law firm of Takitani & Agaran. He is married to Kallie Keith-Agaran.

Retired Hawai'i Supreme Court Associate Justice **Simeon R. Acoba, Jr.** is currently a lecturer at the UH Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law.

Prior to his appointment to the Supreme Court in May 2000, he was an associate judge on the Intermediate Court of Appeals from 1994–2000, a circuit court judge from 1980–1994 and a district court judge from 1979–1980.

Acoba started his career as a law clerk for Chief Justice William Richardson, before serving as special assistant to UH President Harlan Cleveland, a deputy attorney general and engaging in the private practice of law.

He is the founding chair of the Hawai'i Access to Justice (ATJ) Commission and is currently chair of the commission's Judiciary's Strategic Planning Committee. Acoba is also co-chair of the Judicial Administration Committee of the Hawai'i State Bar Association and director of the Hawai'i Justice Foundation and the Mediation Center of the Pacific.

A graduate of Farrington High School, Acoba received a bachelor's degree from the University of Hawai'i and his juris doctor degree from the Northwestern University School of Law.



**Amefil “Amy” Agbayani** was born in Manila during WW II. She was named "Amefil," for America and the Philippines. Most of her students and staff called her "Manang Amy." Agbayani came to Hawai'i in 1964 as an East West Center scholar in political science. Agbayani received distinguished alumni awards from the University of the Philippines (BA), the University of Hawai'i (M.A. and Ph.d) and the East West Center. Her dissertation was on black college student civil rights protests in the 1960s in the south.

In 1972, Agbayani co-founded Operation Manong, a program for Manoa college students to tutor Filipino and other immigrant students. Over time, she broadened her efforts to serve Native Hawaiians, African Americans, Pacific Islanders and other underrepresented groups, women, the LGBT community, students with disabilities, senior citizens and pre-school children. She secured millions of dollars for scholarships and student service programs. Her office expanded to become one of the most comprehensive student diversity programs in the nation. In 2016, after more than four decades at UH Manoa, she retired as the first Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Diversity, and Director of Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity (SEED). In addition to her work for student groups, Agbayani conducted research on Filipinos in Hawai'i and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in higher education. She advocated for civil rights, worker's rights, and those needing a voice on campus and off-campus. She was appointed by the Governor to be the first chair of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission, served as Chair of the Hawai'i Judicial Selection Commission, co-chair of Governor Abercrombie campaign and in 2008, was a Hawai'i elector for President Obama. She received awards from the Patsy T. Mink PAC, the Filipino Community Center, and was honored by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission as a "Living Treasure."

Dr. **Roderick Labrador** is Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. He is a 1.5-generation Filipino American—he was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the U.S. during elementary school, growing up in southeast San Diego.

Prior to joining the Department of Ethnic Studies, he worked for nearly a decade as the director of a university-based college access program in a low-income, urban Honolulu community. For the last several years, "Professor Rod" has also worked with various local businesses and promoters like The Got Rice? Show, Workhouse, In4mation, About The Goods, Lightsleepers, and PNOY Apparel to organize hip hop shows, events, workshops, and forums with local, national, and international hip hop artists, including "Inside the Ethnic Studies Studio" and "Pau Hana Sessions."

He is the co-author of *Filipinos in Hawai'i* (with Theodore Gonzalves, 2011), coeditor of *Empire of Funk: Hip Hop and Representation in Filipina/o America* (with Mark Villegas and DJ Kuttin' Kandi, 2013), and author of *Building Filipino Hawai'i* (2015). He is currently working on two book projects (with the University of Washington Press): "*Where the Hustle and Struggle Coincide*": *Place, Politics, and Rap in Filipina/o America* and *Town All Day: Scenes in Seattle Rap* (with George Quibuyen aka Geo of Blue Scholars and The Bar).

**Rachel Solemsaas** served as the vice president for finance and administrative services at Truckee Meadows Community College in Nevada. She previously served as vice president for administrative services at Bellevue College and vice president for finance and operations at Edmonds Community College, both in Washington. With more than 27 years of progressive public service experience that includes 12 years at community colleges, she also served as a chief financial officer, finance director and principal accountant in Washington.

Presently, Solemsaas is president of the National Asian Pacific Islander Council, an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges. Her leadership has guided Truckee Meadows Community College through a financial crises and has established a budget development process that is participatory and transparent. Solemsaas has led her teams through major construction project completion, on budget and on time with unique financing options.

“The community colleges play a critical role in meeting Hawai‘i’s workforce needs and opening up higher education for its citizens,” said John Morton, vice president for community colleges. “Dr. Solemsaas’ extensive experience and her passion for meeting the needs of underserved populations will help provide the leadership to enable Hawai‘i Community College to create these employment and education opportunities for all of the Big Island residents.”

Solemsaas earned a doctorate of education in higher education with emphasis on community college leadership from Washington State University and a master’s in public administration from the University of Washington. She earned a bachelor of science in accounting from De La Salle University in Manila.

**Michelle A. Tagorda** was born in Hilo, Hawai‘i and is a graduate of Kea‘au High School. She earned her bachelor of science in psychology and bachelor of arts in biology from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, while engaging in various student leadership activities. Tagorda served on the Campus Center Board while working on phases of the Campus Center renovation and expansion project including the opening of the Warrior Recreation Center. She worked to ensure that all service areas, facilities and activities of the Campus Center Complex were providing students with the out of classroom experience to gather, collaborate and enjoy student life.

As a master of public health student, Tagorda worked to help develop and support the new bachelor of arts in public health degree in her capacity as the Office of Public Health Studies undergraduate academic advisor. She dedicated herself to the service of both undergraduate and graduate students through academic advising, inspiring many students to pursue rewarding careers in public health and beyond. She served as an officer on the board for the public health student organization, Hui Ola Pono, and remains active in the Hawai‘i Public Health Association. Her research involved collaboration with the Center for Rural Health Studies at UH Hilo, and focused on measuring and understanding cultural characteristics related to health. She worked with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education, Mānoa Peer Advisor program as the program assistant and volunteered with the Hawai‘i Primary Care Association and Hawai‘i Department of Health to develop an educational toolkit for the film *O/a* which focused on bringing to light issues surrounding the social determinants of health. Tagorda was also part of the Health Behavior Change Research Workgroup’s Waipahu Health Action Research Training project, where she supported high school seniors in facilitating classroom activities on physical activity and healthy nutrition as preventative measures for obesity. Upon graduating with her masters of public health in social and behavioral health sciences, Tagorda was inducted into the Delta Omega Honorary Public Health Society, Gamma Chapter.

Tagorda currently works as a program coordinator with the Health Careers Opportunity Program in the Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity office at UH Mānoa. In her spare time, Tagorda enjoys playing basketball, running at Ala Moana Beach Park, reading and journal writing.

## Sponsors

Bayanihan Club sa Kapi'olani Community College

Kapi'olani Community College Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Office

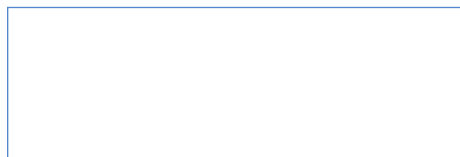
Wo Family Foundation

Kapi'olani Community College Student Congress

Kapi'olani Community College Community Relations

University of Hawaii Bookstore

Nanding's Bakery



WI-FI Access

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## Acknowledgments

Pamantasan 2017 Planning Committee

Bayanihan Club sa Kapi'olani Community College Executive Board & General Members

Kapi'olani Community College Chancellor's Office

Kapi'olani Community College Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs Office

Kapi'olani Community College Auxiliary Services

Kapi'olani Community College Center for Excellence, Learning, Teaching, & Technology (CELTT)

Kapi'olani Community College Culinary Department

Ho'okele Peer Mentorship Program

Kapi'olani Community College First-Year Experience (FYE) Program

Kapi'olani Community College Student, Faculty, & Staff Volunteers

