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# Foreword

"Hawaii in the Contemporary Pacific," the theme for the Sixth Annual Pacific Islands Studies Conference was selected for a special reason. The spring of 1981 marked the first anniversary of the official founding of the Hawaiian Studies Program at the University of Hawaii, Manoa Campus. Hawaiian Studies came into being only as a result of many years of effort on the part of the Hawaiian community. One of the key figures in that effort was Abe Piianaia, the first and current Director of the Program. He and others had the vision and patience that was needed to launch the Hawaiian Studies Program that should long ago have been an integral part of the curriculum at the University.

Since its beginning, the annual Pacific Islands Studies Conference has been co-sponsored by the University of Hawaii's Pacific Islands Studies Program and the Pacific and Asian Affairs Council. With the first anniversary of Hawaiian Studies on the horizon, it seemed logical and appropriate to ask Hawaiian Studies to co-sponsor the conference and to choose a theme which concerned Hawaii today in the Pacific. Speakers at the conference shared their perceptions about the ways in which Hawaii can play a responsible role in the affairs of the larger Pacific region. A particularly interesting paper is the one contributed by Dr. Macu Salato, a citizen of Fiji and former Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission. He provides a view from the South Pacific that is too seldom heard in Hawaii.

We hope that individuals and institutions of all persuasions will join together in wishing the best of future success for the Hawaiian Studies Program at the University of Hawaii.

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