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Newsletter of the Ethnic Studies Program

University of Hawai'i at Manoa

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MAKA'ĀINANA

Manoa Faculty Senate OK's Ethnic Studies Request to Become Department

Director's Report

Ethnic Studies is doing well at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Our enrollment is still climbing (see graph on page 6); our students are moving along; lab leaders are doing a terrific job; faculty are publishing not perishing and are maintaining extraordinary commitments to community and program service; and our office staff doing a great job of keeping us in line, even as they move us ahead. Sandy Izawa has been training several generations of staff in the office - good thing, too, because Dana Iida is moving on to another job with the Dept. of Psychiatry (maybe she can get more training and come back to help the Director!).

The most significant and exciting news is that the Manoa Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve our proposal to move from a Program to Department status with the authority to grant our own BA degrees. The proposal will be forwarded by the Interim Vice-President's office to the Board of Regents for formal approval; we expect this to happen some time this summer, so we can welcome the first ES majors in the fall. There have been, of course, dozens of students who created an ES emphasis in a Liberal Studies major and paved the way for this new development. We are grateful to all former majors, certificate holders and lab leaders who have continued to support the Program while doing important work in the community.

We did get some help from Dean Dubanoski of the College of Social Science to staff the Resource Room part-time this spring. Mark Hamamoto has been a tremendous help, but he leaves at the end of May. We are hoping that the University returns at least one of the two positions it took from ES, so that the Resource Room can be permanently staffed. In time, we also hope to recover the second position which was a civil service one to help Sandy in the

office.

ES is receiving more attention as a unique academic unit that has developed a powerful way to involve undergraduates in their own education. While many academicians have been theorizing about "empowering" students by making them direct participants in their own education, ES has been doing this all along. The College of Social Sciences has embarked on a modest, but important program tying several units together so that a cohort of about 75 students can move through classes together, at least for a period of time. One of our introductory courses is affiliated with Geography and Psychology in the first venture scheduled for Fall 1993.

I think that the truly critical movement in our ES unit is the evolution of a fundamental internationalist perspective tied into local political analysis and advocacy. Every one of our faculty is closely linked to one or another area of the globe beyond the United States. For some, this ties the notion of a Hawaiian nation to movements in the Pacific; for others, it links us to grassroots concerns in the Philippines, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, the Middle East, Central America, Europe and other regions. This perspective of thinking and acting both locally and globally marks the emergence of a more mature group of faculty and the energy that comes from this work is contagious.

I will be on a sabbatical leave in 1993-94; Ibrahim Aoude will serve as Acting Director - he is to be thanked for assuming this responsibility. ES will be in good hands.

Ka Ho'okolokolonui Hawai'i - The People's International Tribunal August 12-21, 1993

On January 17, 1993, over 12,000 people marched and gathered at 'Iolani Palace in a groundswell of protest, commemorating illegal invasion and takeover of the nation of Hawai'i on January 1893.

In August 12 to 21, 1993, a Peoples' International Tribunal Hawai'i, *Ka Ho'okolokolonui Hawai'i*, will convene on three of the major Hawaiian Islands. International judges and observers will hear testimony on crimes committed by the U.S. against Kanaka Maoli.

The primary charges against the U.S. focus on its 1893 illegal armed invasion, and, since 1898, the illegal annexation and occupation of the homeland of the Kanaka Maoli.

These illegal acts are considered to be the result of a long-standing U.S. policy of exploitation of the indigenous people and their resources to serve U.S. commercial and military interests. This policy continues to the present.

The purposes of the tribunal are multiple: to assemble a comprehensive record of the crimes committed by the U.S. and its constituent parties, such as the State of Hawai'i; to analyze the causes, consequences and im-

plications of this history and to educate Kanaka Maoli, the U.S. and the International Community; to establish an historical, moral and legal basis for required remedies; and to propose effective strategies for righting these wrongs as world attention is directed in 1993, to the 100th anniversary of the illegal armed invasion and occupation of Hawai'i. The Tribunal will help to build unity among Kanaka Maoli and solidarity with other indigenous peoples and oppressed nations. Kanaka Maoli will reach out particularly to those fellow indigenous people who were also victims of U. S. imperialism in the 1890s: the Philippines, Guam, Cuba, Puerto Rico and Eastern Samoa.

Ka Ho'okolokolonui Hawai'i is listed as a key event in the U.N. 1993 International Year for the World's Indigenous People, and it falls within the 1990s Decade to End Colonialism.

Further information can be obtained by writing to *Ka Ho'okolokolonui Hawai'i*, 3333 Ka'ohinani Dr., Honolulu, HI. 96817, or by phoning (808) 595-6691.

ES 101 Students Put On Exhibit

On February 16-18, 1993, Greg Mark's ES 101 staff organized an exhibit of student projects at the UH Campus Center. The pictorial projects displayed focused on the families or ethnic backgrounds of former students. The projects served to generate an opportunity for students to learn more about their own history, and a means of relating to the course material. The exhibit was well attended and highlighted by a reception on the evening of February 16 that was attended by former students and their families, current students and invited guests.

This semester's exhibit also featured a unique performance by students who combined modern dance with traditional Japanese dance and Hawaiian hula.

It was the third exhibit put on by the ES 101 staff and students of Professor Mark. Each exhibit has improved over the previous ones and served as a model not only for the students of ES 101 but for others who saw the displays.

Mortar Board Award to Greg Mark

Ethnic Studies associate professor, Gregory Yee Mark, who teaches the courses on the Chinese in Hawai'i (ES 331) and one of the sections of introduction to Ethnic Studies (ES 101), was honored by the Mortar Board as an "outstanding faculty" at the UH Manoa. The UH chapter of the Mortar Board, a national honor society for college seniors, recently created the award to recognize faculty at Manoa who excelled in their teaching of undergraduate students. Dr. Mark is the first UH faculty recipient of the award.

To be recognized, the faculty member must be nominated by a Mortar Board member and is voted on by the general membership. The recipient of the award exemplifies the Mortar Board's ideals of scholarship, leadership, and service. Congratulations, Greg!

Update on ES Faculty

Marion Kelly

Last Spring, Marion Kelly attended the Association of Asian American Studies 1992 Conference at San Jose for which she had written a paper on "Foreign Investment in Hawai'i." That summer she team-taught ES 310, "Ethnicity and Community in Hawai'i" with Dr. Cyrus S. Stewart, of the Center for Integrated Studies, School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University. In October, she attended the International Tribunal of the Indigenous Peoples and Oppressed Nations in the USA held in San Francisco as an observer, in preparation for the People's International Tribunal (see article on p. 2 in this issue) to be held here August 12-21, 1993, and sponsored by the Pro-Hawaiian Sovereignty Working Group, *Ka Pakaukau* and other Hawaiian organizations.

Perhaps the greatest accomplishment last year was the completion of a video, Ahupua'a, Fishponds and Lo'i, that has taken three and half years to complete. The video was one of the films featured in the 1992 Hawai'i International Film Festival. Support for the video was received from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, the Hawai'i Committee for the Humanities, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, The McInerney Foundation and the Na Maka O Ka 'Aina. The video has been very well received and is being currently played on Public Access T.V. Also, in 1992, Kelly was the Principal Humanities Scholar and Moderator for the series of forums on Hawaiian Sovereignty: Myth & Reality, sponsored by the UH Center for Hawaiian Studies and the Hawai'i Committee for Humanities. Forums were held on each island and twice on O'ahu. The program was developed to educate audiences about the illegal takeover of the Hawaiian nation in January 1893, and to suggest how some of the wrongs that were committed then and since then might be corrected.

Kathryn Waddel Takara

Kathryn continues to teach the Afro-American Experience (ES 305-306) and Introduction to Ethnic Studies (ES 101) courses in the program. She also teaches a French course at Windward Community college. Kathryn is hoping to complete her Ph.D dissertation in political science over the next few months and graduate in August 1993, after many interruptions. She continues to write and read poetry, and has published locally in the *Hawai'i Review*, *Chaminade Review*, *Kaimana*, and *Rainbird*.

With the Black History Committee, she co-sponsored an "Evening with Taj Majal" and a lecture by Reinoko Rashidi. She gave lectures and poetry readings on Kaua'i, Hawai'i and Maui on African American histo-

tory and literature sponsored by the Hawai'i Committee for the Humanities. She is helping to organize a center for African American students at UH Manoa and is currently working with Clem Bautista, Amy Agbayani and Jon Okamura with the *Opele Task Force*. The task force published its finding last Fall. Next year she will work with UH Summer Session to organize an African American Visions program that will feature visiting professors, speakers, musicians, writers, and artists for Summer 1994.

Franklin Odo

Ethnic Studies 330, "The Japanese in Hawai'i," now enrolls nearly 200 students; almost as many as in the heyday of the Program in the early 1970s. We run 12 labs or discussion groups with lab leaders who are either paid or who earn credits as interns. They each have lab assistants so our staff meetings (once weekly) fill the Resource Room to overflowing. The pool of assistants if recruited from the best students in the course and selection is made through formal application and interview process. We continue to invite exciting guest lecturers; some of the recent ones have been Ben Tamashiro of "Harry and Myra" fame, Wally Fujiyama, Mike McCartney, Charles Toguchi, Ann Kobayashi, Ruth Ono, Karleen Chinen, June Shimokawa, David Hagino, Tom Okamura, Ted Tsukiyama, Akira Sakima and many others. I occasionally do one, too. One of the newer developments is the reliance on published books for reading assignments rather than photocopied handouts. This is due to the cost of copying so many handouts and, more importantly, the availability of quality books.

I have been deeply involved with the local Japanese American Citizens League activities securing redress for HI Japanese who were interned during WWII; we are also trying to support those who were removed from their homes and farms on the basis of ancestry. I now chair the Asia Committee of the YMCA of the USA's International Committee and continue to work closely with the staff of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

My writing is limited to a manuscript on the Varsity Victory Volunteers which should be completed this summer. Next is a book on the holehole bushi sung by the issei. Later (!) I want to complete a collection of translations of issei poetry, short stories and essays. In the meantime, the opportunity to integrate research, work and teaching in ES has been a blessing. (cont. on p. 4)

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Davianna McGregor

Davianna continues to be active with the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana and the Pele Defense Fund. With Jon Matsuoka of the School of Social Work and Luciano Minerbi of Urban and Regional Planning, she is working as a consultant to the Department of Health on the Health Environmental Risk Ranking Project and the Moloka'i Subsistence Task Force. These projects are identifying the natural resources that are important for the perpetuation of Hawaiian subsistence livelihoods and culture in the rural communities.

Davi is also on the advisory committee of HECO in the development of their first Integrated Resource Plan. In connection with the efforts to prevent negative impacts to the Puna community from geothermal development, she is documenting hunting, gathering, and subsistence use of the Wao Kele O Puna rainforest. Davianna is also the chairperson for the education committee of the Hui Na'auao Sovereignty Education Project. She continues to teach the Hawaiian course (ES 221) and a section of the Introduction to Ethnic Studies course (ES 101).

Noel Kent

Noel Kent has been up to all sorts of things. He is doing research in several areas including racial and political developments in the United States, the impact of economic decline upon Hawai'i's race/ethnic relations and ways to improve classroom teaching.

In March, Noel was at the Western Political Science Association meeting giving a paper on "The Republican Party and the Politics of Race." He has also been active around campus on lots of committees like the Program and Curriculum Committee, Office of Faculty Development, Dean's Focus Committee, etc. Noel's 1983 book, *HAWAII ISLANDS UNDER THE INFLUENCE* will be republished by UH Press this year. Noel is also very gratified to watch his "little man," Daniel, growing up.

Rodney Morales

Rodney Morales has continued to teach in both the Ethnic Studies and English departments. Since the last ES newsletter, Rodney was a co-writer of the *Kaho'olawe - Aloha 'Aina* video that was completed last fall and shown in the Hawai'i International film festival last December. In October, Rodney gave a public lecture (as part of the Columbus Quincentennial observation) at the Bishop Museum. His topic was on "Being Puerto Rican in the Local Community. This past April, Rodney partici-

pated in a panel discussion, "Writing About Home," at the Pacific Islands Literature conference at the Kapiolani Community College. Rodney is currently working on his second book of fiction, making it up as he goes along.

Ibrahim Aoude

In March of 1992, Ibrahim attended a conference at the Virginia Institute for Higher Education Administration and received a certificate in Higher Education Administration from the Curry School of Education. In May 1992, Ibrahim presented a paper entitled "The Housing Crisis and the State's Development Strategy" at the Association for Asian American Studies in San Jose, California.

In June, Ibrahim traveled to Egypt on a research trip and wrote a paper on Egypt's political and economic development. In November, he attended the 500 Years of Resistance Conference at Howard University in Washington D.C. where he presented a paper entitled "Hawai'i, Euro-centrism and Capitalist Transformation." In February 1993, Ibrahim authored a paper on the prospects for democratic transition in war-torn Lebanon. He is currently writing a paper on Islamic fundamentalism in Egypt and is scheduled to be the guest editor for a special issue of *SOCIAL PROCESS IN HAWAII* dealing with the political economy of Hawai'i.

Dean Alegado

In May 1992, Dean chaired and participated in two roundtable discussions - "The Struggle for Immigrant and Refugee Rights in the Filipino Community in the U.S." and "Filipino American Empowerment Through Politics and Culture" at the 9th National Conference of the Association for Asian American Studies in San Jose. In July, Dean attended the 4th International Philippine Studies Conference held in Australian National University in Canberra where he presented a paper on "The Demand for Filipino Workers in Labor-Importing Countries."

In the summer, Dean traveled to the Philippines as part of a Center for Philippine Studies team, which included Dr. Belinda Aquino and Alice Mak, to acquire materials on southern Philippines for the Philippine Collections at the Hamilton Library. The project took Dean, Lindy and Alice on a month-long visit to all the major educational institutions in Mindanao. In Fall 1992, Dean was half-time with the Center for Philippine Studies. He served as director of *The Age of Discovery: Impact on Philippine Culture and Society* project. Dean co-edited a booklet of the same title with Dr. Belinda Aquino. The project was funded by the Hawai'i Committee for the Humanities and the State Columbus Quincentennial... (continued on page 5)

cont. from page 4 . . . ES Faculty

Dean. . .

Committee. Public discussions and showing of a historical slideshow was conducted statewide. In December, Dean went to the Philippines where he served as a consultant for the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, the agency responsible for the conversion of the former U.S. naval base into a viable civilian-run commercial enterprise. Dean will be returning to Subic during the summer to continue his work as a volunteer consultant. In the meantime, he is trying to edit his dissertation on "The Political Economy of International Labor Export in the Philippines" for publication - when he is not playing tennis.

(ED Note: Ethnic Studies faculty members - Jon Okamura and Bill Hoshijo did not submit their lists of accomplishments for the year.)

Asia Trip

Spring break began early for several members of the Ethnic Studies Program staff. During the vacation, some ES staff members joined a tour that enabled them to experience a variety of cultures within a nine-day span. Things such as squatting toilets, the results of motion sickness, air pollution, over-development, under-development, and various urban and rural lifestyles, were common sights. Visiting Seoul taught tour members about the colorful and direct culture of Korea. In Chung Shan, China, many of the tour members were shocked at the exploitation of labor, the poor living conditions, and the low standard of living. Seeing children begging in the streets and filthy excretions in a river where villagers bathed and drank water were reminders of the deprivation prevalent in less developed nations. It was here in China that tour members came to appreciate many of the comforts that we enjoy in Hawai'i. It was obvious why many had emigrated to other parts of the world seeking a better life.

In stark contrast, the ultra-modern environment of Hong Kong made Hawai'i appear backwards in comparison. The fast-paced urban life-style of Hong Kong impressed many of the visitors. Clean and efficient means of transportation and breath-taking architecture lined many of the Hong Kong streets. With such shining examples of capitalism, it is difficult to imagine it's return to China in 1997.

Filled with our new-found knowledge, we returned home to Hawai'i anxious for the comforts of clean air, sunshine, soft water and the sights of tropical vegetation. We came to realize that although our roots may have been from Asia, our preferences are undeniably "local."

I HAVE KNOWN TREES (In memory of Langston Hughes) by Kathryn Takara

*I have seen pecan trees
taller than a house
that sheltered small children playing house and doctor
cradled in shade
with emerald leaf parasols
in Tuskegee backyards
large as football fields.*

*I have played in groves of pine trees
using cones like grenades in our wargames
I have lain in beds of pine needles
discovering wine berries and sweet love.*

*I have smelled magnolia trees on summer nights
and wondered of fingers clawing the air, the bark,
lost or forgotten lynchings
and humiliation of castrations
amidst jeering crowds
of ignorant, insecure people.*

*I have seen oak trees,
blown soap bubbles under flaming autumn leaves
like thousands of orgasmic explosions
of space meteors.*

*I have marvelled
at California redwoods thundering shoreward
like warriors,
witnessed black oaks meandering over the rolling hills
shimmering poplars and weeping eucalyptus
gracefully bowing
stoic cypresses choreographing the seacoast.*

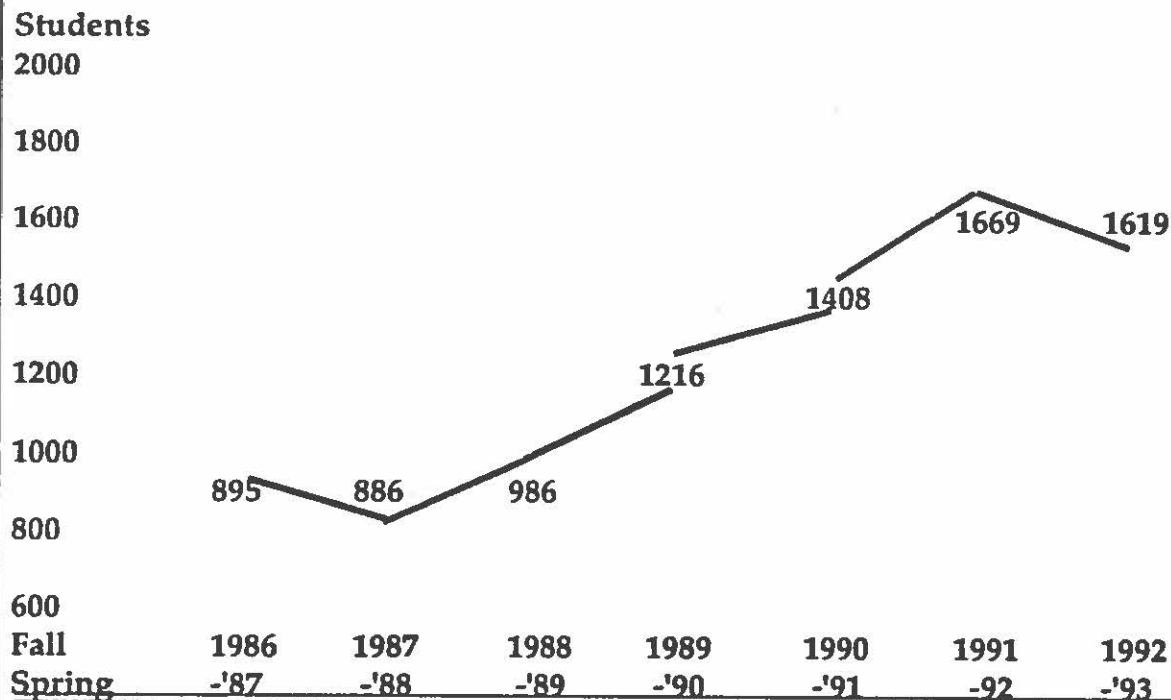
*I have imagined
myriads of leaves
fingering the air
indifferent intensities of touchings.*

*I have stood near baobabs
where anthills grew taller than adults
and women ground millet
to the rhythm of hand claps and pounding
whose branches were stunted with arid age.*

*I have grown mango, avocado, citrus and banana trees
picked fruits, and shared them
eaten them under the luxuriant boughs
Made lianas for my bushy hair.*

*Yes, I have known trees
like you, old man, have known rivers.*

Ethnic Studies Enrollment: 1986-87 - 1992-93



**The Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS)
Tenth National Conference, June 2 - 6, 1993
at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York**

This year's conference theme is: "SITE(s)"

For more information contact:

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